



No. 25 April 2012

the pooper scooper

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





▲ Artist's rendering of the new Lacrosse Center from inside Michie Stadium



▲ Artist's rendering of the inside of the new Lacrosse Center, looking into Michie

RAY ENNERS AND MIKE NATHE TO BE HONORED IN THE NEW LACROSSE CENTER AT WEST POINT, THANKS TO BILL FOLEY

As some of you know, West Point and the AOG are in the midst of another comprehensive fund raising campaign to raise \$350 million in private donations for the many Margin of Excellence programs that greatly enhance cadet life, from brick and mortar facilities and endowed academic chairs to cadet semesters abroad, Corps Squad sports and cadet clubs and activities. There is virtually no aspect of cadet life that has not been enhanced by private giving. The current campaign began in 2009 and is still in the “silent” or “nucleus” phase. It is scheduled for public launch in early 2013, by which time we expect to have raised 70% of the goal. (as of 1 April we’ve raised over \$230 million)

One of the crown jewels in this campaign for Army athletics is a new lacrosse center to be built in the northeast corner of Michie stadium just below Ft. Putnam. Lacrosse is one of the most successful sports at West Point, routinely sending teams to the NCAA Tournament, and two years ago the team made it to the Final Four. Yet of all the major Corps Squad sports at West Point lacrosse was the only one without a decent state-of-the-art building and training center. Now that’s about to change - big time - and thanks to **Bill Foley**, it’s going to have a distinctly Class of 1967 personality.



▲ Bill Foley making remarks at the dedication of the Foley Athletic Center in 2007



▲ Ray Enners

Bill has pledged the Lead Gift for the construction of this new \$15 million facility and has the rights to name the building. In a marvelous act of generosity and selflessness, Bill has chosen to share the naming with two of our fallen brothers, **Ray “Iggy” Enners** and **Mike Nathe**. Precise details of the building name are still being discussed – one possibility being considered is the Foley-Enners-Nathe Lacrosse Center.

It is certainly fitting that Ray Enners be honored in the lacrosse building, and it has always been amazing to me that the West Point Athletic Department hadn’t formally recognized him. Ray was an All American lacrosse player and was killed in action in Vietnam, earning the Distinguished Service Cross in the process. The Raymond Enners Award is like the Heisman Trophy of lacrosse. Here’s what Wikipedia says about it: “The **Lt. Raymond Enners Award** is an award given annually to the NCAA’s most outstanding player in men’s college lacrosse. The award is presented by the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association and is named after Lt. Raymond Enners, who attended the United States Military, Class of 1967, and served in the US Army during the Vietnam War. He was killed in service on September 18, 1968. Enners received the Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart for extraordinary heroism in combat in South Vietnam. He was a member of the 1963 All-Long Island lacrosse team, a 1967 USILA Honorable Mention All-American, and was inducted into the Suffolk County, NY, Hall of Fame in 2004. The award was first given in the season immediately after his death. The Lt. Ray Enners Award, another award named after Lt. Enners, is presented annually by the Suffolk County Coaches Association to the outstanding high school player in Suffolk County, New York.”



▲ Mike Nathe

Mike Nathe is another of our brothers killed in Vietnam and, while Mike didn’t play lacrosse he and Bill were especially close as cadets, so Bill wants to honor his service and sacrifice as well.

Mike was killed in action on 29 August 1968 while leading a rifle platoon in the 25th Infantry Division. He was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star w/V and the Purple Heart for his valor and sacrifice.

(continued on page 2)

Here's what the new lacrosse center will do for West Point:

A Center for Champions. "Lacrosse is one of the most storied and successful athletic programs at West Point. Each year our cadet-athletes compete at the highest level of the sport. A new lacrosse facility is essential to provide our cadet-athletes, coaches and alumni with a first-class facility that represents our commitment to the program now and into the future," said Director of Athletics Boo Corrigan.

A new facility will give the program room to grow. Much of that growth will come from the program's ability to attract top lacrosse players to West Point, a task currently made difficult by the Truxton Center's poor construction and its relative isolation from other athletic facilities at the Academy. A new facility will elevate the lacrosse program to a prominent position among Army intercollegiate programs and will make it the premier dedicated lacrosse facility in the nation. Recruitment efforts would be greatly enhanced because a new facility would 'show a commitment to sustain a winning culture in Army Lacrosse,' says Joe Alberici, men's lacrosse coach.

Highlights of the new facility will include ample (and much-needed) office space for coaches, a team meeting room, film breakdown facilities, a locker room, a training room, and on-site equipment storage. Perhaps most important, players will have access to spaces for studying and informally spending time together, allowing them to build their relationships off the playing field. The West Point Lacrosse Center will better equip the team for success against all opponents."

Construction should begin in early 2013 and the building should be completed in time for the 2014 lacrosse season.

Hooaahh. Thank you once again **Bill Foley** for your vision, your leadership, your passion and generosity towards West Point, and for helping to keep the Class of 1967 a class to be envied, admired and emulated. *Unsurpassed!*

CLASS OF 1967 RING SHOWS UP ON E-BAY, RESCUED BY THE RING RECOVERY TEAM



▲ '67 ring recovered from e-bay



▲ Interior of the '67 ring, showing how the owners name has been obliterated

Here's a fascinating story of intrigue, perseverance, doggedness and good detective work.

Back on 21 December the following e-mail was sent to the class (more about the players and their organization later in this article):

"From: Jack Price <wp25244@west-point.org>
To: David McClellan <MCCLELLAN_DM@mercuer.edu>; usma1967@west-point.org
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2011 11:00 AM
Subject: usma1967: Re: Class of 1967 Ring

Class of '67,

Here is a class ring of yours that was probably stolen. Ring Recovery has recovered the ring, and seeks help in returning to owner. Please respond directly to David.

Jack Price '64 for Ring Recovery

On Wed, Dec 21, 2011 at 11:48 AM, David McClellan wrote:

Jack: When you have a moment, would you please and kindly send this request to the WP-ORG 1967 class list, if a list exists?

For members of the Class of 1967, ring recovery seeks assistance. On 13 November 2011, ring recovery recovered a Class of 1967 ring from an eBay seller at a cost of \$968.00. The ring was reported as having traces of letters still in its band and we were optimistic that we would quickly be able identify its original owner.

Unfortunately, our optimism has come up more than a little bit short in this case. On arrival of the ring, it was apparent that the engraving in the band had been heavily polished as part of a serious effort to remove its history, a pretty strong indication that the ring was stolen. We cannot read the name and we need to ask for assistance. At this url: http://www.west-point.org/wp/ring_recovery/RRP/RingPix/1967%20Unknown%20Ring/ is a fairly extensive set of photos of this ring. We ask for help in trying to identify its owner. Of particular interest will be those photos that include the string “Nm” indicating “name” in the photo identification. There are 20 such photos and those of the first part of the engraving, are photos of the most complete portion of the largely obscured text. In addition, each photo is duplicated in a closer “zoom,” identified by the string “Crp” for “crop” in the string.

If any members of the class has an idea what the text in the band reads we would be very grateful to hear from them. We can use strings of letters to narrow the list of candidate owners to a short list, instances. Questions happily answered. Assistance gratefully received.

On behalf of Bill O’Neill, ’92 and COL (Ret’d) Michael McGurk, ’85 and very respectfully,

David, ’01 father, ring recovery”



Well, this e-mail started a flood of responses. I was amazed at the number of classmates who have either lost or had their rings stolen over the years – it was astounding. Many of them chimed in with descriptions of their lost rings, but none of them matched the one that had been recovered.

Over the next two months the ether was lit up by e-mails from classmates far and wide who had either lost their rings or had ideas about what to do with this particular ring (Most popular idea: donate it to the Class for use in the ring melt program for our 50-year affiliation class, the Class of 2017.)

Before long **Jack Boyt**, who was chairman of our Ring and Crest Committee and responsible for contracting with Dieges & Clust to manufacture our rings, waded into the fray and contacted a gentleman named Don Swanson at Herff Jones, the ring company that bought all the dies and records from Dieges & Clust when that company went out of business. Very long story short: after many attempts by lots of folks to decipher what little writing was left in the ring, Swanson agreed to evaluate the ring against the original orders; i.e., type of stone, color of gold, size, type of back, etc., and also try to read the name that had been rubbed out.

David McClellan of ring recovery mailed Swanson the ring on 14 March, and the result was quick. Here’s the e-mail Don Swanson sent back to David on 20 March:

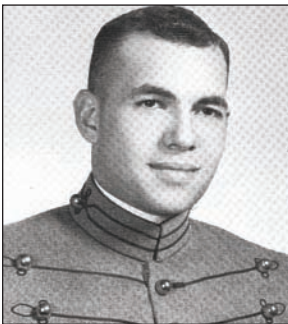
“From: Swanson, Donald J [<mailto:djswanson@herffjones.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:03 PM

To: David McClellan

Subject: RE: West Point Class of 1967 Ring

David, I received the ring this morning and have completed my search through the class of ’67 orders. Based on the specifications of the ring, I have identified just one possible owner. The name I have identified is **Robert J. Mengert**. The ring description: 1967 USMA men’s official class ring 14K yellow gold, plastic back construction dark antique finish Finger size 10.0 Set with a 12x10mm smooth top, faceted back fire blue spinel. Engraved inside “Robert x xxxxxx”



▲ Bob Mengert

Based on my examination of the ring and the order forms, with the exception of the finger size, all of the specifications are an exact match; there are no other possibilities. Please note that the ring at some point has been re-sized up to finger size 10. Based upon my examination of the ring, the increase in size is evident because a slightly different gold alloy was used to make the ring larger and it appears to be at least a full size increase. Mr. Mengert’s ring was originally manufactured as an 8.75.

(continued on page 4)

I hope you find this information useful. I will be returning the ring to you this week, along with a copy of Mr. Mengert's original order.

Best wishes, Don”



So, looks like a slam dunk: **Bob Mengert's** ring for sure. As most of you know, Bob was not commissioned due to medical disability, and was graduated as a disabled person. He died in Philadelphia on 1 July 1981. The next step in the saga was to contact Bob's widow, **Susan Clouser**, who now lives in Norristown, PA. Michael McGurk of ring recovery contacted Susan on 20 March to confirm that it was indeed Bob's ring. Here's an e-mail I received from Michael on 23 March:

“I just got off the phone with the NOK, Susan. I had the right NOK and children. She has kept the ring these many years. She believes she still has it. She is on vacation and will return in a couple of weeks. She will then check the storage location and see if the ring is still in the box where she keeps it. It may still be there (I hope it is) and we may have a wrong name. Either way we should have an answer NLT 10 April.

Finally, on 3 April I got the final report from Michael McGurk: “Believe we have the right one. Susan Clouser, Norristown, PA, widow of Robert. Last week Sue thought she had the ring at home in Pennsylvania (she was at winter home in Florida). Sue just called. Unknown to her the ring was missing from where it was stored, stolen along with her engagement ring. Theft by person/persons unknown. She has no real idea when or whom. We will start the back trace to see if we can help.

Michael, S-2 Ring Recovery”



So, who are these guys in the ring recovery group that are performing such a huge service for the Long Gray line? Here's a dated piece I pulled off the AOG web site that gives a pretty good description:

Class Ring Recovery Program

Over the past several years, there have been articles in various publications relating success stories related to returning class rings to their owners. It has been gratifying that a large number of rings have been returned by a variety of people who have been able to act as agents for the returns. About fifteen to twenty rings have been returned through the operation of our Class Support Program.

The current West Point Ring Recovery Fund operated by Bill O'Neill '92 was established sometime in 1999–2000 after a Class of '54 ring was offered for sale on e-bay. The sale came to the attention of members of the West Point Forum and several joined together to purchase the ring. A number of subscribers commented that it was a shame to see a WP ring being offered for sale. Bill responded that if they wanted to collect money and bid for the ring, he would put up the first \$20. The group asked Bill to collect the funds and submit the bid for the ring, and contributions came in steadily. What began as a one-time enterprise has recovered 32 lost or stolen rings through 2002. Several others have become involved with ring recovery. Bill's primary assistants now are LTC (Ret.) David McClellan (father of an '01 grad) who previously served on the faculty at West Point and LTC Mike McGurk '85.

This is an “out of pocket” operation relying on contributions from classes or individual graduates who want to help keep the program going. Reimbursement from the owner is never required, but will always be accepted. On several occasions, rings have been returned to a widow or other family member. Donations to the program can be made on the Ring Recovery site.

The listserver of the Ring Recovery Program is up and running and started with 60 initial subscribers. “Ring_Recovery” will be a forum for disseminating information, promoting discussion, and providing reports pertaining to the recovery of Military Academy rings and their return to the Academy community. If any member of a class is interested in the recovery of Military Academy rings, they can complete the “Subscribe Now” form at www.west-point.org/wp/ring_recovery/join.cgi or write to owner-ring_recovery@west-point.org.”

As you saw, this piece was written back in 2002; a lot has happened since then and these good folks continue to do great work. Here is their report for CY 2009:

This is the wrap up report for Calendar Year 2010. Summary of Calendar Year 2009 recoveries:

Ring of David Harlan Fleece 1987 44169 \$600 to graduate
Ring of George Edward Mitchell 1922 6916 \$735 to Class Ring Memorial Program
Ring of Richard Bradley Struss 1955 20278 \$1000 to Class of 1955 thence to USMA Museum
Ring of Robert Roy Beimler 1976 33975 \$904 to graduate
Ring of William Sackville April 1917 5671 \$1400 to Class Ring Memorial Program
Ring of Beverley Saint G. Tucker 1918 6203 \$898.11 on hand in ring recovery
Ring of Robert Edward 1920 6698 No cost to Class Ring Memorial Program
Ring of Sam Houston Wiseman 1932 9501 \$1404.98 to USMA Museum
Ring of William Bryan Conrad 1980 37313 \$1025.00 to graduate
Ring of Mayer Abraham Braude 1932 9472 \$1300.00 to Class Ring Memorial Program
Ring of John Kimball Brown, Jr. 1935 10231 \$910.00 to Class Ring Memorial Program
Ring of George Millard Simmons 1937 11013 \$1325.00 to graduate's son

Recap: In 2010, 12 rings recovered at a total cost of \$11,502.09 for an average cost of \$958.51 per ring (excluding the no cost 1920 Robert Edwards ring).

By comparison: In 2009, 12 rings recovered at a total cost of \$11,508.98 for an average cost of \$959.08 per ring.

Ring recovery remains an expensive endeavor and we again most humbly ask for donations (tax deductible) that will allow us to continue our efforts. Your donations would be most gratefully received and can be made via credit card at this link: https://secure.west-point.org/ring_recovery/ or by check that may be mailed to:

West Point Ring Recovery Program
c/o WP-ORG Inc.
3800 Buffalo Mountain Road
Willis, Virginia 24380

We would be ever so grateful and we will be able to continue our work to recover and repatriate West Point class rings. Questions will be happily answered. Please send them!

Next report will be for first quarter of Calendar Year 2011. During the year 2011, 16 rings were recovered.

If you wish to join our ring recovery list, which now includes 340 names, please ask via: usmarings@west-point.org

This is easy to do and it is equally easy to leave. We promise not to fill up your email inboxes.

End of report.

On behalf of Bill O'Neill, '92 and COL (Ret'd) Michael McGurk, '85 and very respectfully,

David, '01 father
ring recovery"



Great story, great bunch of folks doing heroic work.

In Memoriam

BE THOU AT PEACE

Tragically, we have lost two classmates and a class son since the last issue of the *Pooper Scooper*.

✧ CHRISTIAN FRANK VISSERS ✧



▲ Chris Vissers

Here's the message I received from **Al Seyfer** on 21 December:

"Our classmate **Chris Vissers** passed away this past weekend after battling pancreatic cancer. He was a good friend and our families were quite close. He will be sorely missed by his great family: **Emily**, his wife, whom he met at WP; Daughters Susie and Danielle; and son Chris junior; and his grandchildren."

Here is Chris's obituary that appeared in the Baltimore Sun on 20 December:

VISSERS, Christian Frank On December 19, 2011, Christian Frank Vissers, beloved husband, father, and grandfather, passed away at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore after a year-long battle with pancreatic cancer. Born on June 19, 1945, in New York City, Chris graduated from the United States Military Academy (West Point) in 1967 and also completed training at the US Army Ranger, Airborne, and Armor Officer Schools that year. A combat veteran of Vietnam (1968-69), he served with the 11th Armored Cavalry. He earned his Juris Doctor (with honors) from The George Washington University Law School (1973) and was an honors graduate of the Judge Advocate General's Corps Officer Basic and Advanced Courses. A member of the US JAG Corps, he was admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, Supreme Court of Virginia, United States Court of Claims, and the United States Court of Military Appeals. He then served as an Appellate Attorney with the US Department of Justice before joining Baltimore

Aircoil Company, retiring as General Counsel after 26 years of service. A long-time member of the Maryland Defense Force, Colonel Vissers was Chief of Staff until stepping down in 2010 due to illness. He volunteered with Pets on Wheels and the Loch Raven Veterans Administration Community Living and Rehabilitation Center in Baltimore with his devoted sidekick, Boomer, a yellow Labrador retriever. Chris is survived by his wife of 44 years, Emily; daughters Susan Vissers Lisa (Anthony) of Sudbury, MA and Danielle Vissers Schug (Kevin) of Southlake, TX; and son, Christian Frank Vissers, Jr., M.D., of Nashville, TN; seven precious grandchildren (Theodore, Charlotte, and Ben Lisa; Bennett, Lucas, and Wesley Schug; and Madeline Vissers). His sister, Mary Lee Church, of Easton, MD, also survives.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Chris' honor to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (2141 Rosecrans Avenues, Suite 7000, El Segundo, CA, 90245; www.pancreaticcancer.org) or the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins (401 N. Broadway, Suite 1210, Baltimore, MD, 21231-2410; www.hopkinskimmelcancercenter.org).



▲ Chris Vissers

Chris was buried at West Point on Friday, 27 January, a rainy, sad day. **Al Seyfer** made the trip up from Maryland for the funeral, joining Freed Lowrey in representing the class.

Doug Pringle's Stepson Mickey McGary

I received the following tragic news from **Doug Pringle** on 4 April: **Sheri Pringle's** 35 year old son, Micky McGary, died suddenly from heart failure on February 6th. He was the proud father of 5 children aged 18 months to 17 years. He will be remembered as a hard working and loving family man.

In Memoriam

BE THOU AT PEACE

✧ ROBERT JAMES LENZ ✧



▲ Bob Lenz

Here's an obituary prepared by Bob's family and posted by Oxley-Heard Funeral Home, along with a place where comments and messages can be added. The link is <http://www.oxleyheard.com/obituaries.php>

"Mr. Robert J. "Bob" Lenz, LTC, U.S. Army ret, age 68, of Fernandina Beach, FL, passed away on Wednesday morning, March 28, 2012 at Baptist Medical Center – Nassau.

Born in Canby, MN, he was one of six children born to the late William and Marjorie Bliss Lenz. Growing up in Mankato, MN, he was a graduate of Mankato High School, Class of 1961. After high school, he attended Mankato State College where he studied Engineering. In 1963, he received an appointment from the 2nd Congressional District in Minnesota to the United States Military Academy at West Point. He graduated and was commissioned into the Infantry in 1967.

His active duty career spanned twenty six years and included many various domestic and international assignments and appointments.

He completed the Infantry Officer Basic Course and Ranger School and was assigned to C Company, 3d BN, Berlin Brigade, where he was a Platoon Leader for two months, a Company Executive Officer for two months, and then assumed command of that company while still a Second Lieutenant.

After completing command, he volunteered for assignment in Vietnam.

Attending Airborne School enroute to Vietnam, he was assigned to 2nd BN, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division in July of 1969. He served as the Battalion S-3/Air and then commanded Company B, 2/8th.

After two successful commands in his first three years of service, LTC Lenz returned to Ft. Benning, GA, to attend the Infantry Officer Advanced Course and the Nuclear Weapon Targeting Course.

In 1971, he remained at Ft. Benning as one of the four Captains designated to teach the Advanced Course. He taught a 16 hour block of instruction on Airmobile and Airborne Staff Planning. In that position he also served as a Readiness Command umpire for U.S. Forces involved in worldwide airborne deployments.

Bob attended Purdue University in 1973, receiving a Master's degree in Industrial Engineering (Operations Research) in 1975. Then he reported directly to Ft. Leavenworth, KS to attend the Command and General Staff College in the Bicentennial CGSC class, graduating on the Commandant's List in 1976. He was assigned to Combat Operations Analysis Directorate at Ft. Leavenworth as an Operations Research/ Systems Analyst and worked on missile simulations leading to production of the TOW II guided missile.

Next, Bob was selected to attend the British Army Staff College in Camberley, England, in 1979, graduating in 1980. He returned to the U.S. as the Battalion Executive Officer of 6th BN, 1st Infantry Training Brigade, FT Benning, GA.

After that, Bob became the Chief of Analysis, U.S. Army Infantry Board, at FT Benning, GA from 1982- 1984, where he was responsible for the Soldier Tests on such items as summer-weight BDUs, the speed-lace boot, the 9mm pistol, and the AT-4 antitank weapon.

From June of 1984 through June of 1988, he was the Professor of Military Science and head of the ROTC Battalion at IUPUI at Indianapolis, IN, taking cadets to camps at FT Bragg, FT Knox, and FT Lewis. He then reported to the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY where he spent two years as the Chief of Military Training (CBT & CFT) and three years as the Deputy Director of DMI.

(continued on page 8)

During his illustrious career, LTC Lenz was awarded the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device and two Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal, Army of Occupation Medal, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, Vietnam Service Medal with four Bronze Service Stars, Army Service Ribbon, Oversea Service Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Bronze Star, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Specialist Badge First Class, Combat Infantryman Badge, Ranger Tab, and Parachutist Badge.

LTC Lenz retired in 1993. In a matter of a few months, he rejoined the Academy in a civilian status as the Director of Class and Annual Giving for the Association of Graduates. For the next thirteen years he led fund raising endeavors for AOG until 2007. He and his wife moved to the sunny and warm climate of Fernandina Beach in 2009. Since settling there, he has enjoyed biking and walking the beach and pursuing his passion of model trains.

As a young man, Mr. Lenz was active in the Demolay in Mankato which enabled his membership in the Masonic Lodge and Scottish Rite Bodies.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by a brother, Billy Lenz.

He leaves behind his wife of 45 years, Veronica Gunther "Roni" Lenz, Fernandina Beach, FL, their son, LTC Robert J. "Bob" Lenz, Jr. (Tara), Ft. Hood, TX, their daughter, Penelope "Penny" Glackin (COL James "Jim" Glackin), Fairfax Station, VA, two sisters, Janet Nikisher, Aransas Pass, TX; Gwen

LeBeau, Carbondale, IL; two brothers, Jay Lenz, Circle Pines, MN; Dean Lenz, Georgetown, TX; six grandchildren, Katie and Abby Lenz and Joseph, Matthew, Darby and Tressa Glackin, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be at 10:00 am on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 from the Most Holy Trinity Catholic Chapel on the grounds of the West Point Military Academy. LTC Lenz will be laid to rest with full military honors in the Post Cemetery, West Point, NY.



▲ Bob Lenz

His family will receive friends from 6:00 – 8:00 pm on Monday at the William F. Hogan Funeral Home, Highland Falls, NY.

Please share his life story at www.oxleyheard.com

Bob was buried at West Point on 10 April, surrounded by family, classmates and friends from all over the country. Rest in peace, classmate. Job well done, life well lived.



▲ Bob Lenz's funeral at West Point



▲ Classmates with Roni Lenz and her family at the reception after Bob's funeral

DYER DOODLES, or a message from Tom Dyer, aka the Class Prez

It is hard to believe that we are just days away from our 45th Reunion. For **Paige** and I it can't be any more timely.

There is a lot happening as **Freed** has captured here and so much planned for our time at West Point. **Jeff Madsen** and his Reunion Committee Team have worked tirelessly to put together a schedule that will provide ample activities to keep us all interested while protecting quality time to catch up with Classmates. Please take advantage of this special opportunity to reconnect with each other.

Another "Classic" by Freed ought to get you all in the spirit of all things West Point as well as rekindle some memories with the stories in this issue. Thanks Freed, again we will all enjoy your work!

The Class continues to be the shining example of all that is so special about West Point. The generosity of Classmates and the Class as a whole is without comparison. The cohesiveness and compassion all have for each other is heartrending. The continued accomplishments of so many and the unparalleled willingness to serve know no bounds. Tragically, we are experiencing the loss of our Brothers. This is a march we cannot control. However, what we can control is how we spend our time going forward. We have so much more to offer, so much time to share and so many more lives to touch.

You are the most remarkable group of Men ever assembled.

Paige and I wish all of you a very Happy and Joyous Easter. Travel safely back to our Rockbound Highland Home. What a blessing it will be to see you all.

God Bless this Class and this great Country.

Unsurpassed.....



FREED'S FULMINATIONS, or Miscellaneous Gibberish from Lowrey

Kudos to the Class Given by the Head of the Physics Department

I received the following e-mail from COL Ed Naessens, successor to **Ray Winkel** as Head of the Physics Department at West Point. It's very laudatory. Pop up your scrawny little chests, you're all *Unsurpassed*. Yes, even you **Dewey**.

"Sir,
The Department of Physics and Nuclear Engineering (PANE) hopes that your upcoming class reunion is a wonderful and fulfilling experience. In my years of observing your class through BG and Sally Winkel and through my Founders Day speeches I can honestly say I know of no other West Point graduating class as cohesive and as proud as yours. PANE is also very appreciative of the endowment left to our Department. I can assure you we are good stewards of the endowment. So far, we have used it to pay the salaries and classroom support for several endowed chairs in physics. Those filling the endowed chair position have been instrumental in developing our junior faculty, inspiring our cadets, and developing new courses that we are looking to make permanent in our curriculum. The value they have added to the Department is immeasurable.

We offer to conduct a Bartlett Hall building tour during your reunion weekend, as a token of our continued gratitude for the generous Class of 1967 Endowment in Physics Fund. Tours will be conducted from 1100-1300 on Friday, 27 April. Class members and their guests desiring a tour should come to the north door of Bartlett Hall (across from the main door of the new library) to meet a Department tour guide. Each tour will be 30 minutes in length, and a new tour will start every 10 minutes. The tour will include a look at the new construction and some of the old Bartlett Hall to include a look at our Hall of Honor and our newest acquisition...a pelletron accelerator! If you are interested in this, could you inform your class of this opportunity? It would help if we could get numbers and times of when your classmates would like the tour; however, we will be very flexible to meet the needs of your class. We do not want to add any burden to your planning.

(continued on page 10)

Also, Dr Brian Moretti and I are very willing to come to your banquet location and provide demonstrations and talk with your classmates before you have your banquet dinner (like we did during your last reunion). Would you like us to do this?

Please let me know if you have other ideas for us to express our gratitude. The bottom line is we would like your class to know that we are grateful, and we continue to be great stewards of the endowment.

v/r

Ed

Edward P. Naessens, Jr., PhD

Colonel, US Army

Professor and Head of the Department of Physics and Nuclear Engineering"

Help is Still Needed Writing Class Memorial Articles

Randy Pais has asked, as we get ready for the 45th reunion, that this issue be raised again. In light of the number of classmates we've lost in the last couple of years, it is certainly timely. Here's a note from Randy:

Dear all,

With the forthcoming 45th Reunion quickly approaching, I wanted to note that the Class currently has 21 Memorial Articles in need of final preparation for those listed below. Since some of you have retired within the past few years or may have more available discretionary time to commit, I am hoping that we will have some volunteers step forward to prepare and finalize a Memorial Article on one of the Classmates listed below. The goal is to submit the Article to the AOG for publication within the next 12 to 18 months. This is not going to be an easy task, having assisted on several articles in the past, but it is one which we, as a Class, can take pride in knowing that a fitting tribute has been published on each one of our deceased Classmates. It likewise demonstrates our commitment to the surviving family members that the Class shares in their loss. In addition family members will deeply appreciate what has been done to honor our Classmate.

At the Reunion Class meeting, there is going to be a brief discussion on the new AOG procedures for Memorial Article publication. I will also answer any questions about the process before, during or after the Reunion. Best contact information is 713-369-9770 and email randy_pais@kindermorgan.com

Below is a listing our Classmates who have not had a Memorial Article published by the AOG.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Place of death</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Cullum #</u>	<u>Volunteered to write</u>
1. Doug Gray	VN	9 Dec 69	27093	Gooding
2. Larry Marlin	DC	26 Aug 72	26830	Wood
3. Gary Hyde	WI	29 May 76	26842	Misurek
4. Bob Mengert	PA	1 Jul 81	27029	Siket (Need help)
5. Dick Platt	VA	15 Jul 97	27116	Jinks/Sister
6. Arnie Cano	Panama	26 Jul 00	27170	Strong/Lima
7. Edwin N. Jordan, Jr.	NE	1 Mar 03	27186	Sullivan
8. Larry Izzo	TX	25 Oct 03	26683	White/Pais/Spinello
9. Michael Nii	HI	15 Dec05	26905	Mike Kush
10. Hank Uberecken	TX	3 Oct 06	26945	LaRaia/Lowrey
11. Bob Wysocki	CT	24 Jan 08	26948	D. Hale/
12. Bob Miller	TX	11 Jun 08	26690	TParr/Adams
13. David Powers	VA	20 Dec 09	26731	Need Help
14. Marvin Tieman	TN	23 Apr 09	26890	Need Help
15. Brian Mahoney	MA	1 Nov 10	27179	Need Help
16. Tom McManus	VA	11 Mar 11	26886	Need Help
17. Jim Ruhl	MN	22 Aug 11	27051	Need Help
18. Ray Winkel	MD	30 Aug 11	26682	Need Help
19. Bob Begin	NH	21 Aug 11	27199	Need Help
20. Chris Vissers	MD	19 Dec 11	26805	Need Help
21. Bob Lenz	FL	28 Mar 12	27163	Need Help

Update on the Class Documentary Film

OK, there is some exciting news to report here. On 7 April I received a phone call from Jordan Kronich, producer of the class documentary film *Into Harm's Way*, with the news that the film had been accepted by the GI Film Festival, the only film festival devoted entirely to films about the military. Not only has the film been accepted, it has been given the significant honor of leading off the festival as the first one to be screened, on the opening night. This is very cool. The Documentary Group, who made the film, are treating this as the official world premiere.

The GI Film Festival is in Washington, DC. It starts with a Congressional Reception at the Capital and then the opening film is screened. This annual reception normally draws a large crowd consisting of Washington luminaries. Showing "*Into Harm's Way*" afterward would make the evening even more attractive for potential attendees since the evening will be devoted to honoring Vietnam veterans. For more info on this particular festival check out their website at gifilmfestival.com

There are still details to be worked out, but I wanted to let you know this news now so you can mark your calendars. The only down side from the class's perspective is the timing – the reception and screening of the film are scheduled for Tuesday, 15 May. That's awfully close – only two weeks – to the end of our reunion, and I suspect that will affect the ability of some folks to travel back to the East Coast so quickly. Stay tuned for more details.

The film is still being aggressively marketed to other film festivals all around the globe. Right now there are high hopes it will be accepted this summer for the SilverDocs Film Festival in Washington, DC, and the Seattle Film. SilverDocs is one of the premier festivals in the world specializing in documentary films.

In the meantime, a copy of the film on DVD was mailed on 29 March to all classmates and SFMs for whom I have good addresses, so you should have received your copy and watched it by the time you're reading this literary carrion. Hopefully you liked it. You'll have your chance to express your opinions and ask questions of the producers, who will be at our class business meeting at the reunion (COL Lance Betros, Head of the USMA History Department; Todd Brewster, Director of the Center for Oral History; and Jordan Kronich of The Documentary Group, producer of the film).



CLASS HAPPENINGS:

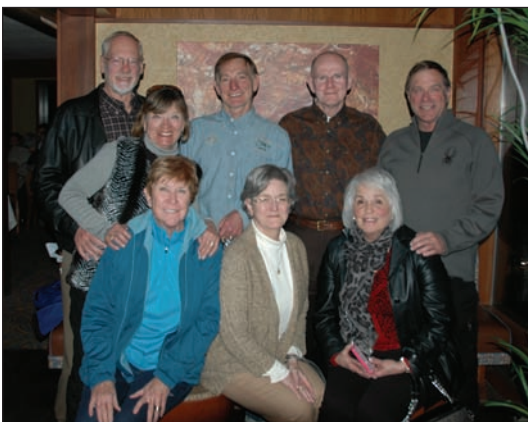
We're Still Having More Fun Than We Deserve



Ski Reunion, 2012 Edition

Well, there actually was one this year, after a one year hiatus, but compared to previous years, this one was pretty tame. Here's the report I received from **Carolyn Donnell**:

"The ski reunion was definitely "mini" this year, but we had some wonderful days in beautiful Lake Tahoe. Hosted by **Carol & Chuck Swanson** and **Bill & Regina Groman**, we were treated royally and the B&B was the best in town with cooked breakfasts every morning, and lots of wine at night. In attendance were **Tom & Joannie Parr** and **Carolyn & Alton Donnell**.



The first day we skied Diamond Peak for free with our military IDs. The second day we skied beautiful Heavenly Valley and they don't name the ski area that for nothing. The views from the top are heavenly and Chuck, who teaches at that area, guided us around the mountain hitting all the good slopes. We took Sunday off to relax and watch the Super Bowl at Bill and Regina's beautiful new home in Genoa.

(continued on page 12)

◀ Ski reunion crowd: Parrs, Gromans, Donnells and Swansons



▲ The ski reunion crowd at a fine dining facility, not to be confused with an Army Dining Facility



◀ Alton Donnell with his through his skis

Monday it was back on the slopes again after stopping at **Doug Pringle's** Disabled Sports USA facility and taking a tour of the wonderful things they do for our wounded warriors. Check it out at www.disabledsports.net You, too, can donate to this worthwhile cause. They will be hosting 25 disabled wounded warriors at a winter sports camp the end of March.

<http://www.active.com/donate/abilitychallenge2012/DPring11>

After a quick trip to Squaw Valley for lunch and skiing, we drove the rest of the way around Lake Tahoe and back to the Groman's to finish off leftovers from the Super Bowl extravaganza. Photos attached were taken of our group and, yes, Alton stuck his head through the skis and offered to host everyone at Angel Fire, New Mexico next year. He blames it on Bill's wine.

Thanks for a great few days... the weather was perfect, the scenery unbelievable, the snow just OK, but the friends we were with "unsurpassed."

Well, I must say I'm a tad disappointed by this report: no Ed Dewey Purple Butt Award! What's a ski reunion without the Purple Butt Award? Hopefully they'll get their act together next year and make sure someone gets hurt. With any luck, Dewey might show up again; he's a shoo in.

Plans for the 2012 Class Golf Reunion and Debauch Are Well Underway

Here's what I have on the 2012 iteration of this annual blowout, courtesy of **Regina Groman**, who along with **Bill** is hosting the affair this year at Lake Tahoe:

"The preparation for the Outing has been well underway for the past few months.

There is a block of rooms reserved for the class at Carson Valley Inn. The maximum rates are as follows for July 15th through July 22nd

Standard rooms: \$75.00 Sunday through Thursday
\$95.00 Friday and Saturday

Deluxe rooms: \$92.00 Sunday through Thursday
\$112.00 Friday and Saturday

Suites: \$149.00 Saturday through Thursday
\$149.00 Friday and Saturday

All of these rooms are on a nonsmoking wing. The Inn is part of a Casino. Phone reservations are made on an individual basis by calling: 800-321-6983, Ext. 1. The group number is 503003. You are responsible for your own reservations. Again, the website for further information is www.carsonvalleyinn.com

Please remember that there is no shuttle to our area from the Reno airport.



Golf:

The practice round on Monday will be held at Sunridge Golf Course. **Chuck & Carol Swanson** have graciously agreed to host this round. The cost for the round and lunch will be \$35.00. Arrangements will be handled through the Swansons. I understand there will margaritas served along the way.

The Tournament will be held at the Genoa Lakes and Resorts Golf Courses. The cost for 4 days will be approximately \$300.00. This includes: green fees, cart, range balls, a box lunch, and a golf shirt. The tee times have been blocked out for Tuesday through Friday on alternating courses of the Lakes and Resorts from 8:30 through 10:00.

There will be a shuttle available for transportation between CVI and the Genoa courses. I will provide a box on the matrix (later) to check if you would like the shuttle provided.

Check out the website: www.genoalakes.com

Nongolfers:

Carol Swanson has agreed to provide information for those of you who prefer other activities. There will also be coupons available.

Remember, we are only 20 minutes to South Lake Tahoe and 45 minutes to Reno.

Again there is also the Celeb-Am Golf Tournament which is held at South Lake Tahoe the same week.

I will be sending out a matrix which Macy provided listing the individual information where you will provide your own itinerary. I will also be providing you with the places I have reserved for the dinners. That will be coming your way soon. **Macy Brown** has provided valuable support and advice. Thanks, Macy.

I want to thank Bill Henderson of Carson Valley Inn and Kevin Sommerfield, the Tournament Director at Genoa Golf Courses for working closely with me to provide the best support possible. All three of us have been working on the outing for the last few months.

Please forward to anyone that I may have left off the email list and have them contact me @ RGROMAN@aol.com.

Thanks, Regina”

Plans for a Class Mini-Reunion and Cruise in Hawaii in 2013 are Afoot

I first mentioned this a couple of issues ago. The Army football team is playing Hawaii out there in November of 2013, and **Mike Yap** has decided this is a perfect opportunity for a class mini-reunion and cruise. He actually came up with this idea years ago and has spent most of his waking hours since then developing The Op Plan. On 27 February I received the most recent version of the Operations Plan, a several hundred page, bound volume complete with intelligence annexes, MOPP Posture, fire support plan, daily menus (with calorie counts for each item), phase lines, intermediate objectives, etc. etc. I'd reprint it all here, but paper, printing costs and postage are soaring, so I'll just give you the salient features. After all, it's bound to change in the next 18 months.

1. The overarching concept is to plan a Class of 1967 mini-reunion around Army playing football at the University of Hawaii. This game is scheduled for Saturday, 30 November 2013. We are letting classmates know early so they can save the date and put aside the necessary resources.
2. The mini-reunion will be centered at the Hale Koa. The Hale Koa is an Armed Forces Recreation Center like the Shades of Green at Disneyworld. The name stands for the “House of the Warrior”, so it is quite appropriate. I have talked with the Hale Koa general manager and he is quite determined to make it a wonderful mini-reunion. He has agreed to relax the sponsoring ratio so that those of us with ID cards can sponsor a few of you without military ID cards.
3. Overview of the mini-reunion:
 - a. Timing of the football game makes scheduling an issue. Thanksgiving is Thursday, 28 November 2013. I am not yet sure how full the Hale Koa will be. Initial indications from Hale Koa management are that

(continued on page 14)

it will not be a problem. However, air travel will likely be difficult. There are two options: 1) Include Thanksgiving in your travel plans. Or 2) Ensure you make air travel arrangements as soon as the airlines will accept them for 29 November 2013.

- b. We can also include Thanksgiving as part of the mini-reunion. An alternative is let classmates make their own arrangements. One thing for sure, if you want to have Thanksgiving dinner at the Hale Koa, you have to make reservations early. I understand they sell out early.
 - c. The basic plan is to arrive on Friday, 29 November 2013. We will set up a welcome room where you will get a copy of the latest schedule, administrative instructions, activity options and a reunion bag. We will have a set of reunion wear such as his and her aloha and/or polo shirts. The West Point Society of Hawaii also has an aloha shirt for the football game. We will probably also arrange for some sort of hat. Joyce Doheny is already working on the alternatives. Joyce Lighthill will be her local LNO.
 - d. On Friday, 29 November 2013, the West Point Society of Hawaii has arranged for a football game rally in the Luau garden. Rabble Rousers will be there. The Class is invited. Costs have not yet been determined.
 - e. Saturday, 30 November 2013, is game day. The local classmates say that the West Point Society of Hawaii puts on a great tail gate so I am inclined to join them. Mike Lighthill is coordinating. Freed Lowrey is exploring arranging for a block of tickets. (Right now, AAA will not even think about 2013 until this season is over.) Of course, we will arrange for a bus service to the tailgate and game and the return to the Hale Koa. Last time, the game was in the late afternoon. Thus the tailgate is expected to be scheduled in the early afternoon. The tailgate site is close to the stadium so we should be able to walk to the game from the tailgate. As the game will be in the afternoon, no formal victory party is indicated. However, I am sure that many will congregate in the Warrior Lounge at the Hale Koa.
 - f. Sunday, 1 December 2013, will be highlighted by the brunch at the Hale Koa. It is quite a spread of food. Breakfast and lunch items and local cuisine as well. Hale Koa management indicated that due to the potential size of our party, they may move us to a separate ball room with a similar menu. In my view, that will be fine. The rest of the day will be a down day. Some may want to play some golf, participate in another activity or tour. The main planned event will be shopping. We will set up busses to the NEX. It is the largest PX in the world. Its jewelry counter is as big as some PXs. For those without access to a PX, there are free trolleys that will take you to Ala Moana Mall. Before the Mall of the Americas, it was the largest mall in the US. The Ward Center is also on that route ... it is a mall of small boutique shops. There is a small PX in the Hale Koa where guests can also shop. Those without ID cards will be given access to the PX in the Hale Koa.
 - g. Monday, 2 December through Thursday, 5 December 2013 will be tourist days. There's lots to see and do.
 - h. Saturday afternoon, 7 December 2013, there will be an interisland cruise ship that visits the outer islands. It returns on Saturday morning, 14 December 2013.
 - i. Flights back to the mainland leave through the day. There are many "red eyes" that will depart HNL that night.
4. Note there is an option to arrive in Hawaii on Friday, 22 November. Then board the cruise line that Saturday, 23 November. It entails being at sea over Thanksgiving. It will also mean missing the football rally Friday night at the Hale Koa. Classmates would likely disembark on Saturday, 29 November and bus directly to the tailgate. If it can be arranged, classmates would disembark and travel to the Hale Koa, register, go to their rooms to freshen up and then board busses to the tail gate. This would have to be worked out.
5. My intention is to put various options in a questionnaire that we will send out after the 45th to get a handle on participation and interest levels.

One of the things I like is the number of things that Mike has decreed "obligatory!" No doubt about who's in charge of this operation. Stay tuned, sports fans.

Classmate Comings and Goings

Ed & Janet Dewey Eat and Drink Their Way Through the South Pacific



▲ Ed & Janet Dewey with their floating bar in Tahiti

I got the following cyber fart from **Ed Dewey** a couple of days before Christmas: "We went to Tahiti for 2 days and then an 11 day cruise of Cook and Society Islands. It was only GREAT. Sun, sand and snorkeling. Ate and drank way too much so it was most successful."

Highlights were a submarine adventure down to 180 feet. Saw school of sharks and hundreds of other various fish. Reason they hung around us is that they dispense food to them and fish have learned.

Other was a 'lagoon walk.' Put on a glass helmet that sets on your shoulders with an oxygen hose coming into it. You walk around on the mainly flat lagoon floor about 15-25' below the surface. We got to feed and touch Sting Rays and again a number of other fish. We opted for this trip instead of last winter's trip to London and getting caught in their winter storm of the century."



John & Gael James Tour Down Under

Back in 2011 **John & Gael James** did a two month tour of Southeast Asia, much of it in Vietnam. I reported on that phase of the trip in the August '11 PS #23. However, they also spent two weeks in Australia, and John recently sent me a neat photo of them at the Sydney Opera House.

◀ John & Gael James at the Sydney Opera House down under

Alton & Carolyn Donnell Celebrate Their 40th Wedding Anniversary in Costa Rica

I gleaned this tidbit and the photo from their Christmas letter, along with the news that Alton has taken on a part time consulting job (for what??) and Carolyn is still working nearly full time at Weem's Art gallery in Albuquerque.



▲ Alton & Carolyn Donnell celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary in Costa Rica

Army Navy Game Parties

I received several reports of classmates either attending the Army Navy game in DC or gathering with others to experience the pain.

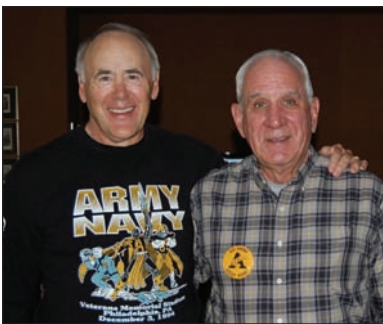
Here's a photo I received from **Bob Nolan** of him with the **Dohenys** and **Sullivans** at the game.



▲ Mary Sullivan, Joyce Doheny, Bob Nolan, Bob Doheny, and Ed Sullivan at Army-Navy

Army Navy Game Parties (continued)

I also got the following note from **John Severson**: “Freed, I have attached a photo of me and Skip O’Donnell, USMA 1965. I watched the Army-Navy game with him and two of his classmates this past weekend. Skip was my Beast Barracks squad leader-second detail. I ran into him at a Veterans affair here in NV last year. I recognized him from across the room and thought he was my old squad leader. His name tag confirmed it. I introduced myself, and we had a nice chat. I assured him that all of us in the squad regarded him highly. Of the eight in our squad, seven graduated. Squad members were me, **Ray Winkel**, **Lee Smith**, **Greg Crawford**, **Bill Herring** (left after plebe year), **Carl Bowen**, **Bob Laraia** and the always exciting **Ed Dewey**. Bob and Skip got together earlier this year in Texas. John”



◀ John Severson with his Beast Barracks squad leader Skip O'Donnell '65

Apparently the Huntsville, AL, crowd also gathered for the Army – Navy game, because someone sent me a photo of the party, but no narrative. Well, you know the saying: A picture is worth ten words.



▲ Huntsville, AL, Army - Navy bash

Since we're on the subject of the Army – Navy game, this is a great place to share some wonderful vintage photos provided by John Severson of Army – Navy spirit back in our day, when giants walked the earth and women were our dates and not our classmates. John included this note: “Beat Navy! The highlight of each cadet year, the Army-Navy game. We lived for this day, for this chance for victory, for this day of glory. Yes, those were the days. Let us wish the Army Team the best of days and best of games as they face mighty Navy on the field.”



◀ Army – Navy mess hall rally back in the day

► Spirit banner in Old South Area



◀ Sending the team off to Philly for the Navy game. Those were indeed the days.

Rog Arango Infiltrates Enemy Headquarters & Captures Their Commander

Here's the after action report I received from **Roger Arango** on 21 December: “I went to Annapolis for the international sailboat show. USNA was a short walk away so I said what the hell--I went to USNA in our cow year for the academy exchange visit. Could not resist having my picture taken leaning up against the goat statue.”



▲ Roger Arango with the Chief of Naval Operations at Annapolis

Pettit & Izzo Families get Together in NYC

I received the following e-mail and photo from **Terry Izzo** on 29 March:



▲ The Pettit and Izzo families together in New York

“Hi Freed - I wanted to pass along this picture taken recently in NYC. From left, **Maryanne Pettit**, Jill and Chris (Jr) and baby Chris III in stroller, Mara, Boston and Larry and myself. Maryanne and I find it amazingly interesting that our two boys are now working in the same organization, NY Giants. Chris is a scout and Larry an assistant special teams coach. We enjoyed a get together and reminisced about our loved ones lost, **Larry and Chris**. Thought you might find a place for this in the next issue of Pooper Scooper. Thanks, Terry”

Mike Hood Links up with his Ranger Interpreter from Vietnam

Now this is really a very cool, feel-good story. Back in November **Hood** received the following e-mail out of the blue:

From: Q D [<mailto:linhquen@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2011 4:02 AM
To: Hood, Mike
Subject: How are you??



▲ Mike Hood, 3d from left, with his Vietnamese Ranger Buddies

Hello Hood,

How are you and your family?
 It took me quite a long time to looking for you and finally I've just received your email ID from a friend today...Don't

want waiting any second more that's why I'd like to write to you right away!

Dear Hood,

Don't be surprised !

I'm the man who stand next to you on the left...

And it's almost 40 years, wasn't it??

Write me if you want to...I'm eagerly looking to hearing from you soon.

God bless you and you family!

Yours, Quyet”

Well, this started a back and forth dialog between Hood and his old Vietnam interpreter, and on 30 December they had a joyful reunion in Rotterdam, Holland, where Quyet has been living since escaping from Vietnam. Very, very cool indeed.



▲ Hood and his Vietnamese Ranger interpreter reunited in Rotterdam

► Hood with Quyet and his family in Rotterdam



Mike Delleo & Mike Seagraves Hike the Wilderness, Live to Tell the Tale

I received this photo and short note from **Mike Delleo** on 9 April:

“**Mike Seagraves** and I hike in the McDowell Peak area east of Phoenix every month. Here is a photo from today's hike. Mike and I, along with about six to eight classmates, meet for lunch quarterly to discuss old times, as well as current events. If you find yourself traveling to Phoenix, please let me know so we can get the gang together.”

► Mike Delleo and Mike Seagraves in the McDowell Peak area east of Phoenix



Doug Pringle Takes His Mission to Help Wounded Warriors to Vietnam

This is really very cool. I received this cyber fart from Doug on 13 December:



▲ Doug Pringle

Happy Holiday to you all!

I'm working with international nonprofit organization East Meets West Foundation (EMW) to help provide greater access to sports for people with disabilities in Vietnam. EMW has just launched their **Inspire Sports program** in Quang Tri Province, working with local sports clubs to promote participation by people with disabilities.

I hope to support this new initiative by leading a team of clinicians to train coaches and instructors in five communities and give lessons to people with disabilities in a half dozen paralympic sports.

I've never been back to Vietnam. Now I have a reason to return. What a great way to return to Vietnam!!! Maybe some of you will be interested in joining me. I'd love to tell you more about it. (The timing of my trip depends on raising enough funds, so no date set yet.)

Doug

p.s. To find out more about Inspire Sports, please visit <http://www.eastmeetswest.org/inspiresports>.

Doug Pringle, President
Join the fun at Ability Challenge
details at www.disabledsports.net
Disabled Sports USA Far West
6060 Sunrise Vista Suite 2540
Citrus Heights Ca 95610
916 722-6447 extension 102
916 722-2627 fax
doug@disabledsports.net
"If I Can Do This, I Can Do Anything!"

Of course, this isn't the only thing Doug has been up to; In January he sent the following e-mail to the Class:

"Disabled Sports changed my life after I lost my leg in Vietnam and, still today, it positively impacts the lives of people with disabilities. Recently a wounded warrior disabled in Iraq said to me, 'you've given me a reason to live'.

At the end of March we will host 25 disabled wounded warriors at a winter sports camp, The Ability Celebration, designed as a part of their rehabilitation and community re-integration. You can find more about it at www.disabledsports.net

I ask you to join me in giving wounded warriors disabled in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan a reason to live, a way to heal and a future full of possibilities. Specifically, I'm asking you to join my Ability Challenge team by making a donation. Seriously, I need your contribution. Oh, and I have a foundation that will match your donation.

I would appreciate it if you would go to my team webpage and make a contribution."
<http://www.active.com/donate/abilitychallenge2012/DPring11>

Thank you, Doug (aka The Fat Daddy!)

I'm happy to report that the response from the class was fantastic, and the camp was a huge success, as these two photos show.



◀ Adjusting Wounded Warrior's equipment during snowboard lesson

► Wounded Warrior Juan Dominguez ready to go cross country skiing



▼ Juan Dominguez playing goalie in a sled hockey game



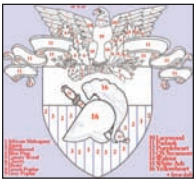
Here's what Doug had to say: "March 22-31 Doug Pringle's organization Disabled Sports USA Far West hosted 20 wounded warriors disabled in Iraq or Afghanistan at a winter sports camp in the North Lake Tahoe area. Among the attendees were four double leg amputees, several single leg amputees, a visually impaired warrior and one triple amputee. He participated in all the activities: biathlon, sled hockey and he learned to snowboard on short artificial legs."

Well done, sports fans. You're all heroes. *Unsurpassed!*

Rob & Judy Herb Continue to Labor Tirelessly for the Benefit of the Class



▲ The USMA crest intarsia Rob Herb has made to be auctioned at our reunion



▲ The different woods used in the intarsia

You're all aware of the marvelous work **Rob & Judy Herb** have done over the years making wood-burning plaques of our Class crest for our Surviving Family Members. Now Rob has ramped it up a bit, and has made a beautiful intarsia of the USMA crest, to be sold at auction during our reunion. The intarsia is 16 inches high and 18 inches wide and all the colors are natural, no stains. Rob wants the funds raised from the auction to be donated in **Bob & Roni Lenz's** name to the Class gift fund. Here's a diagram that shows all the different woods used in the construction of the plaque.

Rob offered the following detail about the construction of the intarsia: "This is still a work in progress. I've spent about

160 hours so far on the West Point Crest intarsia, but I've also been working on an "Old Country Sawmill" intarsia for the Hudson Valley Make-A-Wish gala on the 27th. That one's in honor of the 50th anniversary of my High School graduation from Saugerties "Sawyers" High School.

The Crest contains roughly 175 individual pieces and has 15 different varieties (species) of wood that I've used. As with most of the intarsias I've made, I've included a few pieces of purple heart wood to honor our brothers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom, and some white ash (earth to earth, "ashes to ashes", and dust to dust). I don't use any stains, just a matte polyurethane finish. The colors that you'll see are all natural. I'll need to spend several more hours on the WP Crest, but should have it finished in about two weeks."

More News of Classmates Who Actively Support a Wide Variety of Charities

I started this discussion back in PS 23 in an attempt to highlight all the many great things classmates and their families do to help others. The initial response for input was phenomenal. Here's some more input, courtesy of **Ed Marion**.

Ed Marion – Perth Amboy Salvation Army (PASA)

I have been a member of the Perth Amboy Salvation Army Board of Advisors/Directors for the past 8 years. When I joined in late 2003, at the age of 58, I was the youngest member of the Board by many years. There were 7 other members – all pushing 80. The Board members had no initiative or sense of purpose and the Board meetings rarely had a quorum rendering the Board ineffective. In addition,

none of them were of Hispanic origin or spoke Spanish, while the city of Perth Amboy (a small, low income town in New Jersey) was 95% Latino. I volunteered to be the Exec VP and Recording Secretary so we would at least have a record of our meetings. After a few frustrating months and after consulting with the Salvation Army Officers, I took charge of the Board. I began bringing in new Board members and nicely making all the existing Board members, except the President, "Honorary Board Members" in an "emeritus status" with the ability to attend Board meetings, but not being a part of the quorum.

Over the next year, I brought in two key Latinos (from local banks) who helped me bring in other leaders from the local Rotary, Kiwanis and Chamber of Commerce as well as other bank officers. Within two years, we had 11 new Board members: 6 Latinos, 4 Caucasians, and 1 African American. The 82 year old president voluntarily stepped down, but remained an active part of the Board. Now that we had a Board of professionals, who lived and worked in the community and were motivated to improve it, it was time to start making the Perth Amboy Salvation Army more functional.

The Mission of the Perth Amboy Salvation Army is four-fold:

- (1) To operate an "Emergency Shelter" for homeless men, including many Viet Nam Vets, allowing them to spend the night on cots in the basement and get a hot shower and meal and a warm place to sleep.
- (2) To operate a "Soup Kitchen" feeding lunch to some 350 to 400 people during the last 10 days of each month.
- (3) To operate a "Food Pantry", which provides food to some 200 to 250 families each month, depending upon the donations from local grocery stores, restaurants, bakeries and large food companies, i.e. US Foods. Special baskets of food are given to these families for Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- (4) To operate a small thrift store which sells donated clothes and coats to members of the community at very low price as well as giving them to the very poor families.

The building that the PASA occupies was once a large funeral home and mortuary with a large basement and a very large garage. The "Emergency Shelter" starts operating in late October and continues thru March depending upon the length of the winter. The number of men who nightly seek refuge in the shelter varies greatly from 15 to 45 men depending on the temperature that night. Approximately half of these men are "Viet Nam Vets" and my heart goes out to them – having served their country and now destitute on our streets. I was instrumental in forming a committee to

(continued on page 20)

build a permanent shelter for the homeless men in the large garage, which was abandoned and largely unused. There were numerous obstacles to overcome: zoning regulations, building codes, correcting structural problems, objections from some local businesses and the most difficult – to obtain funding. With the connections and persistence of the Advisory Board members, we prevailed with the Mayor's office, the county Board of Freeholders, the zoning board and finally the local businesses and people. The NJ State and National Salvation Army Headquarters were impressed with our vision, our goal and our relentless tenacity. They got involved by placing one of their officials on our Board to help us to generate grants and funds from HUD, the Veterans Administration, NJ State funds and some national Salvation Army funding.

To shorten the story, we constructed a very nice permanent shelter, named "The Care House" with 10 semi-private rooms, 20 beds, private showers, a laundry room and a TV lounge. Our vision was to provide more than a shelter for these men, but to assist them in re-entering the mainstream of life. With the help of The Salvation Army Headquarters and a local bank, we developed a rehabilitation program which is as follows:

- (1) A case worker was hired to work with and counsel each man as well as to hold group meetings and sessions to help rehab these men.
- (2) The case worker, the Corps Officers and some Board members, like me, helped the men find temporary and then hopefully permanent jobs.
- (3) An escrow account is established for each man in a local bank of one of our Board members. Ninety percent (90%) of each man's salary goes into this escrow account. He can survive on 10% as we provide breakfast, dinner, housing and free clothing from our donations.
- (4) If the men are not permanently employed, they are required to assist in the cleaning of the Care House, the "Emergency Shelter", offices, bathrooms and the kitchen which reduces our maintenance costs. On Saturdays, they clean the outside of the building and the parking lot.
- (5) On Sundays, they are encouraged, but not required, to attend the Salvation Army church services within the building.
- (6) We have a "Zero Tolerance Policy" for alcohol and/or drugs. If a man tests positive for drugs or alcohol during the daily examinations, he is immediately discharged and cannot return – no "turn backs"
- (7) After 6 to 8 months, depending on the individual's progress, the staff helps him to find an apartment and to transition back into the real world. His escrow account is used to pay the first two month's rent, security and some initial groceries and furnishings.
- (8) Once a man "graduates", another man is taken into The Care House and the rehabilitation process begins with him.

I try to eat dinner with the men a couple of times each month, attend the Veterans Coffee House, which was established to meet once a month, as well as assisting to run the monthly Board meetings and getting involved as needed on any special projects or with men experiencing any difficulties. The Care House does not replace our "Emergency Shelter", which continues to provide nightly assistance to all who request it. As the economy continues to worsen, our financial situation continues to suffer. Since we are not in an affluent area, our corporate donations are minimal. If any of you are so inclined to help a fellow Viet Nam Veteran, please send your donation to "The Perth Amboy Salvation Army, 433 State Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861 Attn: Care House. In addition, if you respond to the annual and holiday mail appeals from the Salvation Army, you can designate your donation to the Perth Amboy Salvation Army Attn: The Care House as well.

I must say that my involvement with the Salvation Army has been very rewarding - especially being able to help Viet Nam Vets. I encourage each of you to get involved with your local Salvation Army and to try to develop a rehabilitation program like ours. If I can provide any assistance or information, feel free to contact me at 732-305-6486 or email: edusma@msn.com. You will never be sorry for helping the Salvation Army to "Do The Most Good".....

God Bless, Ed Marion
Jan 28, 2012

P.S. I manned one of the Salvation Army Kettles at Christmas at a rest stop on the NJ Garden State Parkway and collected \$111 per hour. People can be very generous in helping the needy.....

HIGH ROLLER ROLL CALL, OR CLASSMATES IN THE NEWS *(or on Police Blotters?)*

Tom White Named to the Board of the US Army Museum



CALL TO DUTY

Newsletter of the Capital Campaign for the National Museum of the United States Army

The Army Historical Foundation • 2425 Wilson Boulevard • Arlington, Virginia 22201 • www.armyhistory.org

FORMER SEC ARMY WHITE CONTRIBUTES, CHAIRS ADVISORY BOARD



▲ The Honorable A-Man, Tom White

Former secretary of the Army Thomas E. White, who over a decade ago announced his selection of Fort Belvoir, Virginia, as the location of the National Museum

of the United States Army, recently pledged a major gift toward construction of the Army's future national landmark.

"The Foundation takes special pride on behalf of all of its members and founding sponsors when a former Army leader like Tom White comes forward with such a generous personal contribution to this project," said Army Historical Foundation President General William W. Hartzog (USA-Ret.) upon learning of White's gift. "It confirms for all of us Secretary White's unwavering resolve to see this tribute to our Soldiers and Army moving forward toward fruition on the Fort Belvoir landscape."

In addition to his Circle of Distinction-qualifying gift, White has agreed to chair the newly established Campaign Advisory Board whose members will provide advice and counsel to the Capital

Campaign staff, help raise national awareness of the Museum project, and assist in enlisting the support of major benefactors.

"I'm proud to have been called upon to contribute to and to assist in supporting this exceptionally worthy and long overdue tribute to our Soldiers and the commemoration of the United States Army's legacy," White said in announcing his gift. "The Museum will reacquaint visitors with our magnificent Army and help this and future generations of Americans better understand the Army's core values and critical importance towards the advancement of our nation."

White's decision on October 15, 2001, to build the Museum at Fort Belvoir ended almost two decades of speculation concerning the ideal location for the Army's capstone museum. In announcing the decision, White stated that after a careful review of various potential sites, "Fort Belvoir emerged as the best place to display the Army's historical artifacts for generations of visitors." Since that time the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Act has impacted the Museum planning and design process, causing the actual location to

change on two occasions—from its originally planned site near Pence Gate to the Engineer Proving Ground to the current official site approved earlier this year by now-Secretary of the Army John McHugh.

Secretary White began his public service career as an Army officer. He graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1967; served two tours in Vietnam where he earned the Combat Infantryman Badge, Silver Star, two Bronze Stars with V, Distinguished Flying Cross, and two Air Medals with V; and attained the rank of brigadier general before retiring in July 1990 to join the Enron Corporation.

As the 18th Secretary of the Army between May 2001-April 2003, White was responsible for all matters related to Army manpower, personnel, reserve affairs, installations, environmental issues, weapons systems and equipment acquisition, communications, and financial management. He led a workforce of over one million active duty, Army National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers and 270,000 civilian employees.

Former Secretary White is currently associated with DKRW Energy LLC of Houston.

Bill Foley Continues to Make a Big Splash in the Wine Vats of New Zealand



▲ Bill Foley, wine mogul and philanthropist extraordinaire

When he's not busy giving money to West Point and many other worthwhile causes, Bill continues to make a huge impact on the global wine scene. Here's a recent article about him from New Zealand.

William Foley - the billionaire in our vines
The Dominion Post 12/12/2011
(Fairfax, New Zealand)

The new laird of Wharekauhau wails. "I wish I had more depth!"

American billionaire William P Foley II (Bill to pretty much everybody) has been fielding those annoying little questions that writers of profiles (this one, anyway) like to ask.

What do you enjoy reading? "Military history - I've just finished *The 900 Days* about the siege of Leningrad."

Favourite music? "Country and western, especially female singers like Patty Loveless and Gretchen Wilson."

It's the last reply that brought on the depth wish. "Country and western! Why not Beethoven's 6th or something?"

He's joking, or is he? After talking to Foley for a couple of hours, I'm left feeling he's quite comfortable with who he is. Also that he's utterly unpretentious (Exhibit A: the white T-shirt under the old V-neck with a few stains on the sleeve) and speaks his mind. At one stage, he says: "I'd love to be a writer. I've got a book I've been fooling with forever."

I do think he harbours some small regret that all those years of sitting at America's corporate poker table left parts of him unexercised. If so, that awareness itself reflects a degree of depth. What's more, Foley is now cashing in his very large of stack of chips. No, he's not about to enrol in a Beethoven appreciation course; he's found himself another gaming

table - a far more convivial one, though not without its own tough odds.

Wine is what Foley is increasingly about these days. He's collecting wineries, with collateral dabbings such as his purchase last year (with two other parties) of Wharekauhau, the South Wairarapa luxury lodge. It was reported at the time to be worth more than \$24 million.

The club of wealthy Americans who have invested in the New Zealand wine industry is small and discreet. It includes Las Vegas casino magnate Glenn Schaeffer, who is behind Nelson's Woollaston Estate, and Wall Street tycoon Julian Robertson, who owns Wairarapa's iconic Dry River winery and Hawke's Bay labels Te Awa and Kidnapper Cliffs.

Foley gained membership only recently. His first acquisition was the New Zealand Wine Fund in 2009. Previously a private investment vehicle for wealthy individuals, the entity houses a cluster of Marlborough brands including Vavasour, Dashwood, Redwood Pass, Boatshed Bay, Goldwater and Clifford Bay. For good measure, Foley also bought a 50 per cent stake in the seasoned New Zealand wine distribution company EuroVintage.

This year, he added to the portfolio pioneering Martinborough winery Te Kairanga, and now runs all his New Zealand operations from the Te Kairanga office. And he's not finished yet.

"There'll be some more opportunities. I'm looking for appellations or locations. Martinborough is perfect - it has a great history for pinot noir. So that's covered. I would go to Central Otago, but I'm all about not stressing out trying to get somewhere. In Marlborough I would keep on going. I'd buy more vineyards - if there was a good brand available I'd buy that and really try and build up my production base, get the company doing three-quarters of a million cases in New Zealand so we've got some size and mass. And maybe add some more distribution horsepower. So that's sort of my idea for New Zealand."

At this time of pain and price cutting in the New Zealand wine industry, that manifesto seems barely credible. Here is someone who wants to invest where others have been losing their shirts, where scared banks are calling the shots on highly leveraged operations, where half of Marlborough, New Zealand wine's beating heart, seems up for sale.

That's the way Foley likes it.

He first came to this country in 2001, intrigued by the quality of the New Zealand wine he had tasted in California. He started the trip in Central Otago and took in several wine regions. In the Wairarapa he found much to admire, though not the journey over the Rimutaka Hill ("I much prefer to come in by chopper"). Smitten by the Ata Rangi pinot noir

- which remains his Desert Island New Zealand Pinot - Martinborough's aptitude for the grape excited him. Foley's goal now is for Te Kairanga to produce a pinot the equal of (or better still, superior to) Ata Rangi.

On that tour he stayed at Wharekauhau for the first time, loved it, and idly thought what fun it would be to own the lodge with its accompanying sheep station. He also talked to several wineries about investment possibilities. His chequebook, however, never left his pocket. He already had a wine foothold in California, and was interested in establishing an annex in New Zealand but Bill Foley was in no hurry.

That changed after 2008. That year's monster vintage burdened New Zealand wine with a massive oversupply, while the global financial crisis added "complex notes" of its own. Once proud brands were relegated to discount bins. The rush to get in had become a rush to get out. The stage was set for Foley to go bargain hunting. "Some people say I'm cheap. I'm always trying to find a value purchase and get some assets. It's a good time to buy."

Foley's own introduction to wine came in the mid-1980s, relatively late in life. A friend suggested they have a white Burgundy and Foley, a wine ignoramus whose glass usually contained scotch or vodka, found his interest piqued. He began tasting, talking and learning. "I knew nothing, it was news to me that white Burgundy was made from chardonnay and red Burgundy from pinot noir." A visit to Burgundy followed and his interest spread to Californian (and eventually, New Zealand) versions of those grape varieties.

Besides his enjoyment of wine and a conviction that done properly it can make good business sense, there are other reasons for Foley's late midlife (he's 67) sideways plunge into vats and vineyards.

He was, he says, ready to move on from the businesses that had elevated him to the super-rich category.

Fidelity National Financial Inc (FNF) is a provider of title insurance, a form of insurance commonplace in America that covers you in case something dodgy emerges in regard to the title of a property you own. It was a small acorn when Foley, who was practising law at the time, bought into it in 1984. Under Foley's leadership (he was CEO between 1984 and 2007) it burgeoned, as the noted "deal addict" made one canny acquisition after the other. It is now No 398 on the Fortune 500, a list of America's largest companies.

For Foley's part, in 2004 he was placed fourth on Forbes magazine's list of CEO compensation, earning a total of US\$179.56m (NZ\$240m) that year. He remains chairman of FNF.

Over the years his interests spread into other spheres.

Generally, they have been businesses that have weathered the recent global financial tempest well.

"In the mid-90s, when I was learning about wines, I said: 'I'm going to retire - the title business is kind of boring, the market's no good, and I've got to get my kids out of school in Orange County' . . . They were public schools and my kids weren't learning anything. So we moved to Santa Barbara. That's where I got into the wine business."

The step from consumer to producer came in 1997, when what was to evolve into Foley Family Wines was formed and acquired a winery in the Santa Ynez Valley in Santa Barbara County.

As he gained experience in producing and selling wine, he was beating an orderly retreat from other businesses.

The big wine push began in 2007, when further purchases came in rapid succession. Most of them have been made in California's glamour regions, Napa Valley and Sonoma, and include cult brands such as Chalk Hill and Merus. By production volume, he now ranks among the top 30 wine producers in the US. In January, Foley was named Man of the Year for 2010 by the American magazine Wine Enthusiast.

"I love land," Foley cries, gesturing to the open vista before Wharekauhau, beyond which the waters of Palliser Bay look typically restless. It's a happy cry, a cry of liberation even. "I grew up on a cattle ranch in west Texas. I love wide open spaces . . . I love going in to the vineyards with our viticulturists and winemakers, looking at the grapes . . . It's a high for me. I get immediate gratification."

"The high of doing a successful business deal spikes up and then once you're done you have to find the next one. In the wine business, every day there's something to be done. It's a process. And of course, I get to be a deal guy too."

Family is also a significant factor in the wine equation. Foley and his wife, Carol, met in the late 1960s when she was a United Airlines flight attendant. They were married 42 years ago near her hometown in the state of Washington. They had four children (two boys, two girls) in rapid succession.

They are a tight family, and wine is bringing them closer. One son, Rob, runs the tasting room at Chalk Hill, and Foley is confident daughter Courtney and the youngest, Patrick (aka William P Foley III), will take up roles with Foley Family Wines.

"Courtney has been on the sales side at Young's Market (a West Coast wine and spirit distributor). I want to figure out a path for her. I'm lobbying Patrick to get that graduate diploma in oenology at Lincoln, then work harvests in New Zealand. Trouble is, he's got to learn how not to drink all the product."

(continued on page 24)

"My kids are all workers. None feel entitled, but I want to make sure the people around them don't think they're entitled. They have to work their way up and learn the way everybody else does."

A ring on Bill Foley's right hand gives a strong clue to the inner man. It's his class of 1967 graduation ring from the storied army academy, West Point.

Foley was a reluctant cadet. He was in "goof-off" mode as the clock ran down on his senior year in high school and his father suggested he apply for a place in a military academy. Partly to irk his dad, a career air force man, Foley replied: "I would only go to West Point that's where tough guys go." He secretly hoped, and expected, he would never get in, but an astonishing run of bad luck for those ahead of him on the waiting list saw him enter the gates of West Point as a "plebe" (freshman) in 1963.

"The dream of most of the class was to be there. I wasn't even interested. Once there, I hated it. All I wanted to do was get out, but it was easier to stay than quit. So I was in a group whose attitude was 'I'm here, but I'm going to do everything I can to rebel and not do what they want me to do'."

One compensation was military history, a subject at which Foley excelled. A semester spent studying Napoleon absorbed him. Later, he would name one of his companies Cannae, after the clever, strangling victory achieved by Hannibal over Rome in the Second Punic War.

After West Point, he was spared the horrors of Vietnam after failing a physical ("I couldn't fly because my eyes weren't good enough"). Thirty of his 582 classmates lost their lives in the conflict; the others remain a close group. "I have great friends. I can call any classmate anywhere and ask for

something and they'll do it and I'd do the same for them. It's a four-year bond that's hard to describe. And my class was a very successful class.

"West Point honed me. It got me thinking the right way - how to lead guys into combat and make instant decisions. I can prioritize, I can multitask. I do a good job of identifying a problem and seeing things in three dimensions.

"It also taught me how to delegate. In my businesses, I delegate people not only responsibility but also authority. Then people have to perform. If they perform, they survive, they achieve and they're rewarded. So I'm all about team-building and letting people be masters of their own destiny. West Point taught me all that but at the time I hated it."

Foley donates regularly and generously to West Point. He has done similarly to the Republican Party over the recent past, though doesn't feel so inclined at present. "Right now, I really don't support much of anybody in politics. I'm disgusted with all of them."

I tell him Robertson and Schaeffer, his compatriots and confreres in New Zealand wine investment, have given generously to the arts in New Zealand. Does he feel a similar philanthropic urge coming on?

"Give me a while. I would probably do something related to business, maybe help with the business school at one of the universities. I hate to say that because I know what's going to happen now 'Bill, we just read about you and we have a naming opportunity'."

For Bill Foley, you get the feeling the opportunities are just going to keep on coming.

George Dials Earns Top Nuclear Waste Management Award

"Lexington KY

(March 5, 2012) -- Babcock and Wilcox Conversion Services is proud to announce that **George E. Dials**, BWCS president, has been honored with the annual Wendell D. Weart Lifetime Achievement Award given by the Waste Management Symposium.

The award - the top honor in the field of nuclear waste management - is presented each year to a single recipient in recognition of long-term commitment to solving major nuclear waste challenges. Sponsored by Sandia National Laboratories, it is named for Dr. Wendell D. Weart, a retired Sandia scientist who served for 25 years as the Scientific Program Manager for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).

"If ever someone lived up to 'lifetime' and 'achievement,' it is you," Weart said in correspondence to Dials. Weart was present as the award was made Feb. 28 at the WSM annual conference Honors and Awards Luncheon.

Dials was also a plenary speaker at the conference.



▲ George Dials and Wendell Weart

“George Dials is known for his many executive management positions in the nuclear industry,” said Sandia’s Andrew Orrell in presenting the award. “But his marquis accomplishment is the leadership he brought as manager of the DOE Carlsbad Area Office, where he devised and executed the strategies that led to the successful opening of WIPP and its acceptance by the State of New Mexico and the Environmental Protection Agency. George carried the day and was the keystone in making WIPP a reality.”

“You might ask how he did it. As George has instructed a generation of our waste management colleagues, he will tell you to focus on solving the problem, not just discussing the issue,” Orrell said.

Dials is also known for other leadership positions in the industry:

Commissioner of the West Virginia Department of Energy
 President and general manager of the M&O contractor for the Yucca Mountain Project
 President and CEO of the Louisiana Energy Services enrichment plant
 President of Waste Control Specialists
 President of B&W Y-12

In his plenary presentation, Dials challenged the audience to focus on “the elephant in the room,” the need to define and implement a solution to the nuclear waste repository problem. “We can do this in 15 years,” he said, “given that the technologies are proven, suitable sites have been identified and characterized, and the regulatory process is well known.”

He currently serves as president of B&W Conversion Services, LLC, and project manager of the DUF Project for the Department of Energy.”

Pop up your scrawny little chest George, you done good. Take big bites.

BALL & CHAIN NEWS, *or Blood, Sweat and Tears*



Bob & Jan LaRaia’s Son gets Hitched

Here’s the micro-burst I received from **Bob LaRaia** on 16 December: “These photos are from my youngest son Paul’s wedding in August (the 27th to be precise). He married a wonderful girl, Jordan Isom. They are both lawyers here in Houston.”

► Joannie & Tom Parr doing the stomp at the LaRaia wedding



► The LaRaia family at their son Paul’s wedding

▼ Tom Parr, bride & groom, Bob LaRaia and Gordie Socher



Randy Moon's Son Collin Ties the Gordian Knot of Matrimonial Bliss



▲ The Moon wedding party

Not exactly a hot scoop, as this wedding actually took place back in the fall of 2010, but **Randy** didn't get around to reporting it until January 2012. Here's the cyber fart I received from him on 22 January: "My youngest son Collin recently got married to Elizabeth Moran in Breckenridge, Colorado. When I said recently, this is a relative term, since they actually got married in the fall of 2010. Cavan, his older brother was the best man and there are some pictures of Cavan and my youngest grandson Connor also attached. Collin's bride Elizabeth is a registered nurse and just completed her Masters degree in Nursing. Collin is employed as a firefighter with the city of Des Plaines, Illinois.

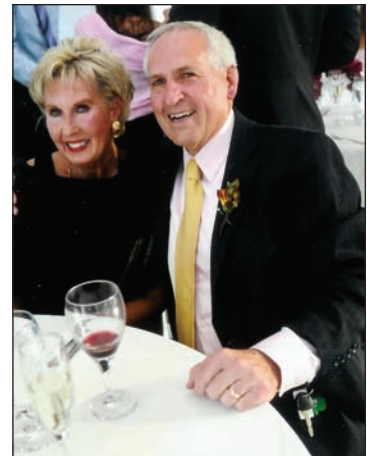


▲ Collin Moon & his bride with his brother Cavan and a couple of young lovelies



◀ Cavan Moon and his son Connor

► Jill & Randy Moon celebrating at their son Collin's wedding



He and his brother Cavan own a business, Elevated Safety.Com, which sells equipment and provides training for individuals working at height or hard to access spaces. They recently provided training to one of the engineers who inspected the Washington Monument for damage after the recent earthquake. Randy"

◀ Cavan Moon on the job

MISCELLANEOUS RAMBLINGS,

or short bursts overheard while waiting to buy worms for the start of trout season

OK, here are some bits and pieces that have come my way since the last issue.

Class Birthdays

OK, here's a new feature of this rag. Thanks to the massive database maintained on all of us by the AOG, I realized I could very easily find out when everyone's birthday is. If I continue to puke this rag out every four months, I can spread the cheer for all those lucky birthday boys between each issue. Assuming this thing hits the street sometime in April, here's whose parties you can crash (or throw one for) between April and August. This will give you plenty of time to buy just the right card and present, or plan the perfect prank. Enjoy.

Name	Month	Day	Year
MAJ J. M. Ducharme II, USA, Retired	4	4	1942
LTC Robert A. Haeffner, USA, Retired	4	5	1942
Mr. Thomas P. Condon	4	4	1943
LTC Carrol J. Howard, USA, Retired	4	11	1943
COL Palmer J. Penny III, USA, Retired	4	18	1943
LTC Frank H. Kreger III, USA, Retired	4	20	1943
Mr. James L. Milliken	4	22	1943
LTC John A. Frink, USA, Retired	4	26	1943
LTC Michael L. Barney, USA, Retired	4	1	1944
Mr. Ernest R. Natalini	4	3	1944
Mr. Thomas R. Hill	4	9	1944
Mr. Robin A. Walker Sr.	4	11	1944
Mr. Ferdinand L. Schwartz Jr.	4	17	1944
LTC Dennis M. Mikale, USA, Retired	4	21	1944
Mr. James D. Fowler Jr.	4	24	1944
LTC Norman B. Mekkelsen Jr., USA, Retired	4	27	1944
Mr. Randall L. Kinnard	4	28	1944
CPT Myron S. Steere III, USA, Retired	4	29	1944
Mr. Clark A. Stave	4	30	1944
Mr. Burk E. Bishop	4	1	1945
LTC Gerald G. Threadgill, USA, Retired	4	3	1945
Mr. William W. Sharkness	4	4	1945
COL Kenneth W. Smith, USA, Retired	4	4	1945
Dr. Robert N. Davie Jr.	4	5	1945
LTC William A. Pittenger, USA, Retired	4	5	1945
COL Charles S. Thomas, USA, Retired	4	6	1945
LTC James E. Roberts, USA, Retired	4	6	1945
Mr. Gary L. Frazier	4	6	1945
COL Peter G. Hanelt, USAR, Retired	4	9	1945
COL Harvey G. Taylor Jr., USA, Retired	4	11	1945
LTC David R. Mosser, USA, Retired	4	11	1945
LTC Richard D. Releford, USA, Retired	4	11	1945
Mr. Thomas R. Francisco	4	13	1945
COL Michael T. Spinello, USA, Retired	4	14	1945
Mr. Steven W. Kujawski	4	15	1945
Capt. Richard H. Rice Jr., USN, Retired	4	17	1945
Mr. William A. Norton	4	17	1945
MAJ Gordon M. Brown II, USA, Retired	4	20	1945
COL James R. Siket, USA, Retired	4	21	1945
Mr. Robert L. Portney	4	21	1945

Name	Month	Day	Year
Mr. Joseph S. Hardin Jr.	4	21	1945
Mr. Donald W. MacPherson	4	22	1945
LTC James H. Saine, USA, Retired	4	24	1945
COL Randall M. Pais, USAR, Retired	4	24	1945
Mr. Andrew J. Nusbaum	4	25	1945
Dr. Darrell L. Mooney	4	25	1945
Mr. Tidal W. McCoy	4	25	1945
Mr. Andrew Komblevitz	4	26	1945
CPT Elwood M. Eme, USA, Retired	4	28	1945
Mr. William P. Moore III	4	29	1945
Mr. Parker T. Anderson	4	30	1945
MAJ Steven T. Kurtyka, USA, Retired	4	19	1946
COL Albert J. Nahas, USA, Retired	4	27	1946
Mr. James F. Jackson	5	2	1942
COL Reginald G. Moore Jr., USA, Retired	5	1	1944
COL Michael Norton, USA, Retired	5	4	1944
Mr. Gerald S. Misurek	5	5	1944
BG William G. Held, USA, Retired	5	7	1944
MAJ Michael E. Dunn, USA, Retired	5	7	1944
Dr. William L. Wilby	5	10	1944
LTC Charles H. Swanson, USA, Retired	5	11	1944
COL George E. Newman III, USA, Retired	5	12	1944
LTC Kent E. Kraus, USA, Retired	5	16	1944
Mr. James R. Balkcom Jr.	5	19	1944
LTC Robert K. Griffith Jr., USA, Retired	5	22	1944
Mr. Dale J. Hikes	5	22	1944
Mr. Frederick H. Thomas	5	23	1944
Mr. Bruce B. Hedrick Jr.	5	31	1944
Mr. John T. Boyt III	5	31	1944
Mr. Anson S. Ramsey	5	31	1944
Mr. Robert A. Kunselman	5	2	1945
Mr. Garth L. Fowler	5	2	1945
Mr. William R. Morrell	5	3	1945
Mr. Gregory W. Smith	5	6	1945
Mr. Robert F. La Raia	5	6	1945
Dr. Carlton G. Savory	5	8	1945
Mr. John P. Canevet	5	8	1945
Mr. William R. Lynn	5	9	1945
Mr. Michael E. Alverson	5	11	1945
Dr. Thomas J. Parr, M.D.	5	11	1945

(continued on page 28)

Name	Month	Day	Year
Mr. Lodwick K. Alford	5	12	1945
Mr. Louis J. Colella	5	15	1945
Mr. Paul M. Cline Jr.	5	15	1945
Mr. Frederick J. Barofsky	5	16	1945
Mr. George A. Schaefer Jr.	5	17	1945
Mr. Gary W. Atkins	5	17	1945
Mr. Ed L. Marion	5	18	1945
Mr. Joseph P. Stock Jr.	5	19	1945
LTC Jim N. Brantner, USA, Retired	5	21	1945
1LT John H. Jorgenson II, USA, Retired	5	22	1945
Mr. James P. Jones	5	22	1945
Mr. Thomas R. Still	5	23	1945
Mr. William F. Petruzell	5	24	1945
Mr. Daniel W. Jinks	5	26	1945
Mr. John B. Landgraf	5	26	1945
LTC William R. Pennington, USA, Retired	5	27	1945
BG Raymond T. Roe, USA, Retired	5	30	1945
LTC Mark W. Miller, USA, Retired	5	31	1945
COL Giuliano M. Toneatto, USAR, Retired	5	3	1946
COL Andrew W. Maron, USAR, Retired	5	17	1946
Mr. Ralph G. Mohler	6	2	1943
COL George P. Hubert, USA, Retired	6	9	1943
COL Virgil W. Stone, USA, Retired	6	15	1943
LTC Edward V. S. Moore, USA, Retired	6	28	1943
LTC John D. Hart, USA, Retired	6	30	1943
COL Sealon R. Wentzel Jr., USA, Retired	6	4	1944
LTC Robert E. Keenan Jr., USA, Retired	6	14	1944
Dr. Craig D. Butler	6	20	1944
Mr. Martin M. Cassity Jr.	6	20	1944
Mr. Derek L. Younkin	6	23	1944
Mr. Dana M. Groover	6	25	1944
COL William W. Obley, USA, Retired	6	26	1944
LTC Jon S. Behrens, USA, Retired	6	28	1944
Mr. Gary L. Hall	6	2	1945
COL Everett D. Lucas Jr., USAR, Retired	6	5	1945
BG Richard A. Black, USA, Retired	6	5	1945
BG Walter E. Mather Jr., USA, Retired	6	6	1945
Dr. John E. Marshall Jr.	6	6	1945
Mr. David M. Snyder	6	8	1945
Mr. David D. Horton	6	12	1945
LTC Richard C. Adkins, USA, Retired	6	14	1945
Dr. Milford B. Hutchinson III	6	14	1945
Mr. James L. Walden	6	15	1945
LTC Thomas H. Jackson, USA, Retired	6	16	1945
LTC Kenneth A. Rice, USA, Retired	6	16	1945
GEN Paul J. Kern, USA, Retired	6	16	1945
Mr. James E. Stewart	6	18	1945
Mr. Robert L. Segal	6	19	1945
Mr. Michael M. Cain	6	20	1945
Mr. Charles L. Baker	6	20	1945
Mr. James O. Haas	6	20	1945

Name	Month	Day	Year
Mr. Dennis W. Huyck	6	21	1945
Mr. John R. Ouellette	6	21	1945
LTC Karl H. Jacobs, USA, Retired	6	22	1945
Mr. Robert P. Hagen Jr.	6	22	1945
LTC Brian E. Hayes MD, USA, Retired	6	24	1945
Mr. William Hoagland	6	27	1945
LTC William L. Brigadier, USA, Retired	6	30	1945
Mr. Roger J. Purcell	6	30	1945
Dr. Mario A. Loyola	6	1	1946
Dr. Michael C. Kempf	7	4	1941
MAJ Michael S. Lighthill, USA, Retired	7	30	1941
MAJ Thomas J. Waraksa, USA, Retired	7	14	1942
Mr. William A. Pollitt	7	2	1943
LTC William H. Eggering, USA, Retired	7	4	1943
COL Robert K. Williams MD, USA, Retired	7	11	1943
LTC William L. Haines, USA, Retired	7	16	1943
COL Richard A. Grube, USA, Retired	7	30	1943
LTC Joe M. Dietzel Jr., USA, Retired	7	8	1944
Mr. Douglas E. Cole	7	9	1944
Mr. Michael T. Segraves	7	14	1944
MAJ George L. Harmon, USAFR	7	19	1944
Mr. Todd L. McConnell	7	26	1944
COL Glynn W. Hale, USA, Retired	7	26	1944
LTC Charles R. Meyer, USA, Retired	7	29	1944
LTC John E. Mikula, USA, Retired	7	1	1945
Mr. John M. W. Graham	7	3	1945
MAJ Joseph Visconti Jr., USA, Retired	7	3	1945
Mr. Paul B. Haseman	7	6	1945
Mr. David J. Bucchieri	7	6	1945
LTC John C. Gale, USA, Retired	7	6	1945
Mr. David L. Baggett	7	6	1945
Mr. Michael C. Wimert	7	10	1945
Mr. David M. Partridge	7	10	1945
Mr. John P. Charters	7	12	1945
Mr. Gary M. Chambers	7	13	1945
RADM Michael W. Shelton, USN, Retired	7	15	1945
LTC James B. Allen, USA, Retired	7	16	1945
MG Paul E. Lima, USAR, Retired	7	17	1945
Mr. William W. Horn	7	18	1945
Mr. Frank J. Fabish	7	20	1945
Mr. Davis H. Loftin	7	23	1945
COL Francis L. Smith Jr., USA, Retired	7	24	1945
Mr. Wilbur S. Jones Jr.	7	25	1945
LTC Robert S. Metzger II, USA, Retired	7	25	1945
Mr. Rand K. Shotwell	7	26	1945
LTC John E. Newton, USAF, Retired	7	26	1945
Mr. Joel T. Matulys	7	27	1945
Mr. Carlan J. Kraft	7	28	1945
Mr. John H. Douglas	7	30	1945
LTC William T. McMahan, USA, Retired	7	31	1945
COL Joseph G. Terry Jr., USA, Retired	7	18	1946

Bob Murrill Helps Unfurl the Flag at the Army – Navy Game

I received this neat e-mail from Bob on 9 December: “I am honored to be on the field during the A-N Half-Time Ceremonies with my uncle to help unfurl the American Flag. He fought in WWII in North Africa and then Iwo Jima. It’s wonderful to still have some of the Greatest Generation around.”

Update from John Smith

Here’s a short blurb I received from John back in September and somehow forgot to include it in the December issue (my apologies): “I’m still practicing with the same law firm for 36 years. Just last month, I worked on a construction lawsuit with the help of **Bart Bohn**, and later this week will be attending a California High Speed Rail seminar with which Bart is involved.

I last saw **Cole Minnick** a couple of years ago, when he and **Barbie** visited us here in Fresno. We went to Kings Canyon/Sequoia, and conferred with General Grant (or, at least under his tree).”

Update from Mac MacPherson

I got the following cryptic but thorough cyber-update from Don “**Mac**” MacPherson on 16 Dec:

1. Thanks much, and glad to hear about our Into Harm’s Way film; when can we expect a copy?
2. Please mail pooper scooper to MAC MAC PHERSON, 2005 BURTON STREET, #26, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, 92111.
3. Spending more time over here rather than Phoenix, especially given I have in California two of my three sons, and 5 of 8 (with ninth due in June) grandchildren.
4. Oldest son Scott is attorney in Redondo Beach, youngest Nathan is attorney with me in Encinitas, just north of San Diego, after 4 years with largest law firm in Germany. He met his wife, Lara, in Germany; she is from Brazil.
5. Son Ryan has PhD in history from Notre Dame and teaches at a college in Minnesota.
6. I came out of semiretirement to spool up TMG, the MacPherson Group, because of Nathan wanting to settle in San Diego area. We handle civil and criminal tax, white collar criminal defense, and home foreclosure defense.
7. Still flying the ‘63 Cessna 205, with 800 BEAT IRS on tail, and www.BEAT-IRS.com on side.
8. Recall, in the airborne tradition, we used to say, “most exciting thing you can do with your pants on.”
9. And jumpmaster school was plenty exciting, not to mention, of course, getting shot at in VN with the herd.
10. But try: single engine, over Colorado Rockies, at night. Or, to Catalina island. Gets your attention.
11. Highway to the danger zone.
12. Forget jumping, but, re flying: *<long un-pronounceable expression of screaming>*

Class Kids**Little Larry Izzo is Still Involved with the NFL, Along with Chris Pettit’s Son Chris, Jr.**

I touched on this earlier when I reported on the get together in NYC of the Izzo & Pettit families. Larry is now the assistant special teams coach for the NY Giants, and this year added a third Super Bowl ring to his jewelry box. Young Chris is a scout for the Giants. Until this past year they had never met, now their offices are right down the hall from each other. Very cool.

Ray & Bernice Roe’s Daughter Returns from Iraq

Here’s part of an e-mail I received from Bernice on 28 March: “Middle daughter LTC Karen Roe will be returning from Iraq in April and taking command of the 53rd Signal Battalion in Colorado in June. Life is good!”

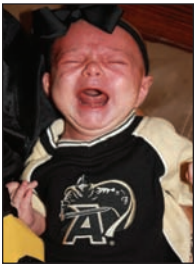
Class Grandkids

Alton & Carolyn Donnell are Proud Grandparents

Received the following from Carolyn Donnell on 16 Dec: "Avalin Piper Marie Donnell was born on November 8th to Tyler and Dena Donnell. Please see attached photo of Tyler with Avalin as they were watching the Army/Navy game and Avalin was in her new little Army outfit that her Nana sent her. Tyler was wearing **Ray Winkel's** PAIN football jersey that **Sally** gave him...neither helped. They, like all of us, were hoping for a win this year but what a good game it was – next year. As you can see from the photo, Avalin was not pleased with the outcome of the game. (Freed note: neither were any of the rest of us. Phooey)



▲ Tyler Donnell with his daughter Avalin



▲ Avalin Donnell reacting to the Army's performance in the Navy game. Join the crowd, kid

I got to meet Avalin a couple of weeks ago when I flew out to Monterey to baby-sit while Tyler and Dena went to a Military Winter Ball – we will all be in Monterey for Christmas – Ashley flying in from Houston as well."

Freccia, Balkcom & James Grandkids

Here's a few more grandkid photos that have come my way recently, probably in Christmas letters.



▲ The Freccia grandkids



▲ The James grandkids



▲ The Balkcom grandkids

Class Transitions

Update on Sally Winkel's Comings and Goings

Courtesy of Carolyn Donnell in December: "Good Morning All – I have had several inquiries about where Sally is and therefore a quick note to everyone this morning. I hope you are doing well and I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and the best in 2012.

Sally is now in Alna, Maine close to her sister Lucy. She has rented a furnished place and is enjoying the balmy weather of Maine....so far!! She still has her apartment in Leisure World and plans on moving to Albuquerque sometime May/June time frame. She found an apartment she liked when she was out here in September. Everyone was giving her a hard time about spending winters in Maine and summers in New Mexico. Well folks, it's been warmer up there than down here. We have had several snow storms and cold weather so maybe Sally had an inside hint, from someone we all know, that she should be in Maine this year.

She spent Thanksgiving in Cape Cod, with her sister Lucy, and her brother will be coming in for Christmas in Maine. Sally is doing OK but has only **now** been able to read all your sympathy cards/letters that were sent. She is slowly getting Christmas greetings out to everyone so that you know where she is. Being in Maine, and having the comfort of your wonderful cards and letters is all helping in her healing and being able to move on. The holiday season will be hard but surrounded by family and Alna sounds like a charming place – a small town in the middle of nowhere. Sally is getting out and meeting the locals and even doing flowers for the local church.

Her address in Alna until April is:

Sally Winkel
c/o Lucy Hadju
2235 Alna Road
Alna Maine 04535

Mail is forwarded from her Maryland Address -
3200 N Leisure World Blvd., #1015
Silver Spring, Maryland 20906

We are hoping for a new address in Albuquerque sometime in June. See her email address above."

Tony & Angie Nida have Moved from New Orleans to Greenville, SC

I'm not sure when this happened, and I suspect Nawlins – at least the restaurants and hair colorists – are still in a state of mourning over the departure of Angie, long the doyen of The Big Easy. Tony is still shleping along as an engineering project direct for the FLOUR Corporation. Don't ask me what they do; I think it has something to do with engineering.

Tom Murphy is Looking to Ride off Into the Sunset; Seeking Help with That

This cyber fart from **Tom Murphy** slipped past my spam filters and virus protection software on 15 February; I don't know if he's managed to figure it out yet.

"Classmates, Need your sage advice/wisdom.

I own Murphy Consulting, Inc. (www.MURCON.com). We are a very small 16 year old custom database development and internet marketing company. No hard products. Services only.

It's time for me to implement an exit strategy. I have too many valuable customers to simply close the doors and walk away. I am asking your advice on selling the business, looking for merger candidates, partnering to turn the company over to that partner, or other such alternatives.

Any help would be appreciated.
Thanks, Tom"



▲ Carroll Howard,
real estate mogul

Carroll Howard Joins Fuller Sotheby's International Realty

I received the following news release on 11 January:

An Extraordinary New Addition...

Carroll J. Howard

has joined Fuller Sotheby's International Realty
as a Broker Associate at the Denver Tech Center office



Carroll Howard has been involved in real estate construction and sales for 17 years, in Boston, Massachusetts and in the Denver metro area. In 1998, Carroll became an on-site Sales Director, most significantly for the Custom Homes at Lowry and The Estates at Buffalo Ridge in Castle Pines North. Carroll spent a successful career in the US Army before becoming a real estate professional. He is a graduate of the US Military Academy and spent 26 years as a commander and a manager in a variety of positions in Europe, Asia and the United States. He also attended graduate school at the University of Denver.

Carroll J. Howard • 303.224.2761
carroll.howard@sothebysrealty.com • fullersothebysrealty.com

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INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Bill Hoagland's Company Competes for the Department of Energy's "America's Next Top Energy Innovator" Award

The following e-mail from Bill hit the class ether net on 26 January:

Hello to Everyone!

I've been reading our class list-serv every day for years, but rarely post anything. Now I need your help with something very exciting.

Element One, Inc., a company which I founded, is one of 14 start-up companies in the U.S. selected to compete for DOE's "America's Next Top Energy Innovator".

The top three companies will be selected by a panel of experts, but their selection will be based in part on public voting. Just being selected for the competition is good for our company, but if we are among the top three, Element One will be featured at the upcoming 2012 ARPA-E Energy Innovation Summit which would jump start the company. Our company is comprised of veterans of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and we've created some really important new technology. For more information on Element One, go to www.elem1.com.

I'd really appreciate your going to the web site below and check out our submission which includes a 1-minute video I did myself. If you like us, vote! It doesn't say that you can't vote more than once, and apparently others are doing so. It looks like some companies are mounting campaigns for votes, so I hope you can help keep us in the running.

<http://energy.gov/americas-next-top-energy-innovator-challenge>

Please forward this email to all those who might vote for us!

News item: <http://www.ecnmag.com/News/Feeds/2012/01/blogs-the-cutting-edge-online-voting-begins-for-americas-next-top-energy/>

Voting closes February 6th. I'll keep you posted on how we're doing.

Susan and I looking forward to seeing everyone at the 45th!

Thanks!
Bill Hoagland

www.elem1.com

Here's some more info:

Online Voting Begins for "America's Next Top Energy Innovator"

Americans Will Pick the Most Innovative Start-Up Companies Using Laboratory Inventions to Create New Businesses, Products

The America's Next Top Energy Innovator Challenge, a part of the Startup America initiative, makes it easier for start-ups to use inventions and technology developed at the U.S. Department of Energy's 17 National Laboratories and the Y-12 National Security Complex.

The companies highlighted below have signed option agreements allowing them to license valuable, cutting-edge technologies from one of the labs.

Check out the profiles of the startups below and cast your vote by 'liking' the company you think could make the greatest contributions to the country's economic and energy future. You may 'like' more than one company. Your 'likes' will help determine which companies are selected to attend the 2012 ARPA-E Energy Innovation Summit, the premier annual gathering of clean energy investors and innovators around the country.

Voting closes Monday, February 6 at 8:59 a.m. EST. So go ahead and get started! <http://energy.gov/americas-next-top-energy-innovator-challenge>

Well, I'm here to tell you, the class rallied around this like you wouldn't believe. Some people spent all day long voting, from the minute they fell in for reveille at 0500 until taps at 2400. Other guys spent hours figuring out to confuse their computers into voting faster. When all the smoke had cleared here was the result, as reported by Bill in a 9 March e-mail:

"Thanks again to everyone for the great support for Element One in the recent "America's Next Top Energy Innovator" competition.

I just want to let everyone know how we came out.

After the review by experts, Element One was named as runner up, and came in the public voting with 43,000+ after they adjusted them, although the voting site shows 191,524 for Element One. The rating criteria included the potential and economic and social impact on the country which is hard to calculate for an enabling technology such as ours.

Some good things have resulted. The DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy is now very interested and will include an article on us in an upcoming newsletter. More importantly, we've been invited to give a DOE webinar on our low cost distributed sensing technology. From what I gather, it's uncommon to invite a private company (especially a start-up) to give a webinar. The last webinar had more than 400 participants registered, and the webinars remain available online after the presentation... very good for us as we start to look for the capital we need.

Hope to see everyone at the reunion, although I'm still trying to work out conflict with a business commitment in Europe.

Bill Hoagland"

Christmas and other Family Photos

As usually happens in the April issue I have lots of delightful photos people include in their Christmas letters or other correspondence, many of which deserve a place in this cat's box/bird cage liner. Here they are. Enjoy.



▲ Millie & Bill Freccia

► The Dave Rivers clan, 2011



▲ The Gromans and Swansons, Christmas 2011



◀ Mac & Janice Hartley, Christmas 2011



▲ The Saines and their tribe



▲ Roni & Bob Lenz enjoying the cherry blossoms in DC



◀ Donna & Bill Pittenger and their dogs



► Freed Lowrey & Fred Schremp, all dressed up and ready to party!



▼ The Tom White family reveling



*OK, it's flashback time, one of **Paul Haseman**'s delightful stories of cadet life, back when men were men, cadets marched in four parades a week, the Hellcats included piccolo and flute players, women were our dates, not our classmates, and uniforms were made of wool thick enough to stop a caliber .50 round.*

The Lost Fifties

The barracks at West Point were varied in 1965. There was New South over by the old hospital, Old South behind (and over) Grant Hall, Central Area, East Barracks, North Area and the furthest from class and everywhere else were the famous "Lost Fifties" beyond North Area. My company, D-4, occupied the End of the Earth, the 53rd, 54th, and 55th Divisions.

Although we walked the furthest to class, which during the long gray winters was indeed no fun, the Lost Fifties had its good points. It was, of course, close to the gym and the "tunnel" under the gym offered quick access to the rear door to the Weapons Room. With this isolation came a false sense of security of being furthest from the Central Guard Room and the vigilant eyes of Tactical Officers bent on keeping all cadets on the straight and narrow and the O.C. (Officer in Charge) whose stealthy nighttime inspections were the bane of every cadet with a penchant for R'Fing (general messing around – usually loud and physical). As it was, each O.C. felt compelled to go to the farthest corner of barracks to catch the unwary in some misdeed. So O.C.'s were all-too-common visitors to the Lost Fifties. Nonetheless, the Lost Fifties seemed to amplify a cadet's spirit of adventure. This was particularly so for Firsties, who had less interest in hitting the books as they approached graduation. And this was true of the D-4 Firsties! Oh, yes!

One memorable experience was living on the top floor of the 53rd Division with

Bill Donohue. We must have drawn the short straw because I know of no other Firsties living on the fifth floor anywhere. But we did and that meant up and down five flights for reveille, going to breakfast, going to class, etc. etc. Our vertical climbs toward Heaven would cause us going up the last flight to sometimes sing, "Nearer My God to Thee" or "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder." And on the last few steps we would announce, "God, Get Ready – We're Almost There."

But from a military perspective, this was good battle terrain – we held the high ground, an all-important defensive feature in periodic water fights. The attacking villains in these epics were always **Davey Jones, Ron Naples** and **Bill Gooding** marching up the stairs in repeated sorties in robot fashion as if they were the broom-like automatons from *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* cartoon hoisting nearly full (and heavy) trashcans of water. As they stoically marched up the last flight, Bill and I doused them from above with our own gray (naturally) trashcans of water as we tried to tip their buckets before they reached our hallowed room, 5351, at the top of the stairs. They got soaked and the stairwells ran with water an inch deep as it cascaded down the black metal steps five flights to the sinks and a drain. The underclassmen would stand in their doors in dumbfounded disbelief as the water flew – usually during "Release From Quarters" from 9:30pm to 10:00pm (2130 – 2200 for Gray Hogs).

Another long forgotten Lost Fifties prank was hatched by Dick Gooding

(who else) with Davey Jones as an accomplice. Bill Donohue was off to the Computer Lab to run a six-inch stack of punched computer cards through the computer. This was frustrating work because one keystroke error at the punch machine in punching one of your two-hundred cards not only would cause your program to fail but also you went to the end of the line for the punch machine and the computer card reader to try, try again. The infancy of computers in 1967 was a long way from Pentium 4 chips. Anyway, we decided to "cheer up" Bill on his return. We dismantled his metal bed in his alcove and reassembled it eight feet up atop the alcove divider. And to bring a little light on the action, we created a two-foot pile of loosely wadded Kleenex to be set ablaze in the darkened room as Bill steps through the door. Sure, enough, five minutes to Taps (9:55pm), Bill is spied approaching. The lights are doused and Bill comes in. KaFoosh!! The mini-bonfire goes up in bright blazing flames just as Bill turns on the light. There we all stand grins-aplenty as Bill does his best imitation of Rumpelstiltskin jumping around the room in fury. Must have been a real bad day at the Computer Lab. Bill is not cheered. He can barely contain his anger as black ash flutters in the air. Through gritted teeth he declares, "I'll be back in 10 minutes and I don't want to see a single damn ash in the air!" Oops! Bill is really mad. So we hop to it. First, we suspend the Taps Inspection for a few minutes while Bill cools down somewhere and we madly scramble around the room with flapping wet towels trying to capture every last wispy ash. Bill returns. Taps Inspection

is made. And my co-conspirators had the good grace to return. (Somehow, I ended up blameless in all this.) Bill points to his gray wool Long Overcoat and asks, "What am I going to do about the singed bottom?" As he goes on to other ranting, we take down and reassemble his bed, while Gooding manages to find a pair of scissors and elegantly cuts a half-inch off the singed bottom of Bill's coat. The long strip of singed wool somehow does not please Bill but with his bed reassembled, Bill hit the sack and to find slumbering solace from the cruel Computer Lab and his friends attempt to cheer him up.

So Bill pondered his surprise bonfire for a month or so and finally hatched a plan to get back at Gooding, who roomed with **Jerry Knowles** in Room 5521 (1st room, 2nd floor, 55th Division). With the quiet of study time (Call to Quarters) between 7:30pm and 9:30pm (and therefore a time likely to generate the fewest witnesses) we went into action. It was a well-conceived two-part battle plan straight from the annals of Military Art (KISS and MOSS

MOUSE – all that). Napoleon had nothing on us. Part One of the plan was to jam their door shut. In the Lost Fifties the door and frames were (and still are) sturdy metal. Place a folded New York Times next to the doorframe and yank the door closed on the paper. Voila, you wedge the door shut and imprison the occupants until some sympathetic passerby responds to the interior pounding and shouting and literally kicks or body slams the door open from the outside. No other way to get it open. So we snuck up to their room and executed a perfect door jamming – that is right after, as Part Two, we threw in a red smoke grenade!! As we ran for our room, all Hell broke loose in Gooding's room. We got back to our room unobserved and ran to our window to see the last of the red smoke billowing out of their window and seconds later a nearly empty grenade emitting its last "Sphitt! Shpitt!" of sputtering smoke as it arched limply through the air. With what passed for "high fives" in 1967, we dived for our beloved "brown boy" comforters with the lights out pretending to be typical

Firsties getting in some early rack time. Moments later, Company Commander, **Mike Barney**, stuck his head in and seeing two sleeping classmates, went on his hurried way in search of the culprits.

But we were eventually found out by direct questioning (we couldn't tell a lie) and were spared official punishment (which would have been considerable). Nonetheless, days later found us on our hands and knees in Dick's room vigorously scrubbing the several "red spots" on the tile with toothbrushes. All the while in false contrition, we barely contained our laughter as our eyes followed the red path of the grenade as it was maneuvered toward the door (large red spot reflecting the panicked frustration of yanking fruitlessly on the jammed door with hot gas spewing at their heels) and then a smaller trail toward the window where it was finally ejected.

Yes, the Lost Fifties definitely bred the very finest in RFing.

MORE BLASTS FROM THE PAST

Well, it's not really a blast from the past – at least not from our day – but from this photo you can see that some things are timeless: Gloom Period really sucked in our day, and it still does.



WEST POINT

Where Hell Froze Over

DEAD FISH & ANIMAL FLICKS



The first three photos came from Chuck Costanza accompanied by these notes: "I've enjoyed the pictures of the hunting and fishing trophies our classmates have sent in over the years, but never had anything worth submitting myself - that is until now. Maren and I retired to South Padre Island in South Texas. We live with the Gulf of Mexico on one side and the Laguna Madre on the other. Some of the best redfish and trout fishing in the Gulf area is in the Laguna. Anyway, I went out yesterday (11 January). Second cast I got a hit and had some luck. This boy was 34" and weighed in at about 15 lbs. Took me 10 minutes to get him in the boat. He put up a heck of a fight. I looked down at him



and figured he belonged in the water and not a pan. I released him. Biggest damn redfish I've ever caught. Here's also a picture of my grandson - David Costanza, age 13. He and his father (our middle son - Bill) were fly fishing in Northern Arkansas. On 1/14/2012, he caught this 23" brown trout. They did release it. David gets his fly fishing skills from his Dad. I'm mostly a bait chunker."



About a week later I received this e-mail from Chuck (who is obviously trying to put me into a deep funk since I haven't had a fishing rod in my hands in months): "OK, Freed. One more try. A few years back my middle son and I went fishing in Guatemala - sailfish fishing. The first day, we caught 17, yes - 17. All just about like this one. All catch-and-release. I'm the guy on the right. The other guy is one of the deck hands. This boy was back in the water about 5 seconds after this picture was taken. In a 3 day trip, we caught right at 30 sailfish, 1 blue marlin (about 225 pounds), and 6 or so dorado. The dorado we could keep. Cooked them up that night. They were great."



I received the following note from Brick Anderson on 7 April: "We went fly fishing on the beach last weekend and caught some sea perch and two sharks. First time doing that."



▲ Brick Anderson with a shark he caught fly fishing on the beach near Santa Barbara



▲ Brick's daughter landing a 3 ½ foot shark she caught fly fishing on the freakin' beach

The “we” in this case was Brick and his daughter. Now keep this in mind: they were surf fishing on the beach. Brick’s daughter was using a 6 weight fly rod, which means she was casting, at best maybe 100 feet. And she lands a 3 ½ foot shark. 100 feet off the beach. Really makes you want to swim there, doesn’t it.

A month or so ago I was looking through my photos of Great Adventure #1, the class fishing trip/death float down the River of No Return in Idaho, and I found this photo which I hadn’t published before. I e-mailed it to the other members of the fishing platoon, and almost immediately received this reply from Bob Murrill: “Awful news, Freed! I asked my wife if she could pick me out and she pointed to Randy!”



▲ Moon River, from Great Adventure fishing trip #1

EPILOGUE

OK, sports fans, that’s it for this stool specimen. Hope to see you all at the reunion; it promises to be a great party, as always.

Keep your information and photos coming; I’m not as good at making this stuff up as I used to be, and I’m a lot lazier these days, too. I’m really disappointed that there was no Athletic Achievements section this time. I want to resurrect the Shameless Commerce section that I started a few years back, providing a place for you all to advertise goods and services, so give me some poop – whether it’s time shares to rent, retail info, you name it. I’d also really like to start a medical advice column written by some of the doctors in the class. Give it some thought.

Keep our magnificent Soldiers in your thoughts and prayers, they are truly *Unsurpassed*.

Freed



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