



# West Point Parents Club Of Greater Houston

<http://www.west-point.org/parent/wppc-greater-houston/index.htm>

Houston, Texas

February 10, 2008



## Next WPPCGH Meeting Sunday, April 6, 2008

2:00 PM at University of St. Thomas



1/21/08

Dear Friends,

As I write this I can hardly believe that Christmas was a month ago and the kids have all come and gone. Hope your cadets are tucked away for the "gray days" of January ! Now is the time to send boodle boxes – don't forget CD's and DVD's , Underarmour, etc. Every little thing is much appreciated as the temperature drops.

I want to thank everyone involved with the Joint Service Academies Military Ball which was a huge success . Many kudos to Barbara Conklin and Sandra Presnal and their committee for the great effort in putting on a memorable evening. The food, surroundings, DJ and music were all great. The kids and parents all danced more than I can remember! Special thanks go to Margaret Minton for her donation of her exquisite handmade patriot's quilt and to Phil and Bette Lehmberg for their donation of the Class of 2008 quilt. Both were treasures.

We have a busy spring coming up and many things to which we look forward: Army Women's softball coming to town, new cadet candidates and their families to get to know, mentoring program getting off ground, Hail and Farewell, etc. In the fall we have 2 Army football games in the area – Army vs Rice in Houston and Army vs Texas A&M in College Station. We will have lots of tailgating opportunities. (Don't forget the Texas Tamale Tailgate at West Point!!)

As a reminder, our meeting location has changed as of our next meeting on Sunday, Feb.10,2008. We will be meeting on the grounds of the University of St. Thomas in the Jerabeck Activity Center (Bldg 30, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor) at 2pm. Hope everyone can join us.

Happy New Year. Go Army!!

Sandi and Jim Lemming  
Mike '09

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Let's get ready to give the Black Knights Women's Softball Team a "Big Houston Welcome"!! The team will be in Houston from February 14-18 to compete in the University of Houston Tournament.

Four of our own Cadets will be in town with the team. Jessica Muckelroy ('10; Cy Springs), Jillian Galloway ('11; Spring), Jessica Garcia ('11; Brazoria), and Elaine Plato ('11; Oak Ridge) will help lead the Black Knights to victory.

All WPPCGH and WPSGH members are encouraged to come to some or all of the games and show these ladies our support. All of the games will be held on the University of Houston campus.

The West Point Society is sponsoring hotel rooms and breakfasts for the team. Anyone interested in contributing to this event is asked to contact Randy Pais at 713-444-5032.

#### Game Schedules:

Feb 14	Arrive Houston on Valentines at 8pm
Feb 15	Army vs. vs. A&M Corpus Christi @ 11am
Feb 15	Army vs. University of Houston @ 5pm
Sat 16	Army vs. DePaul @ 11am
Sat 16	Army vs. University of Houston @ 3pm
Sun 17	Army vs. A&M Corpus Christi @ 9am
Sun 17	TBD - visit Children's Hospital
Mon 18	return to WP

**Elaine Plato and Jill Galloway**



Softball team's Elaine Plato (left) and Jill Galloway at the West Point Christmas Dinner.

**Jill Galloway and Jessi Muckelroy**



Softball team members Jill Galloway (left) and Jessi Muckelroy at the Joint Services Military Ball.



## ***Class of '08 – NO MISSION TOO GREAT***

### **CLASS OF 2008 NEWS**

Very exciting times for the Class of 2008! Post Night, February 7th, is the next most anticipated event. Our soon to be 2nd Lieutenants will put in their requests and hope for their first choice. Then February 23rd is 100th Night, but who's counting? Our Firstie Son along with all the other Firsties! Graduation plans are the buzz on the parent forum. We have an excellent source of information available to us from the parents of the class of 07. They have and are willing to share their experiences and offer their suggestions. Hope to see you at the next meeting as we will be discussing graduation events.

#### ***Taylor Cox***



Taylor Cox escorted the lovely Colleen O'Brien to the Joint Service Academy's Military Ball.

Taylor Cox had a busy fall semester, but a good one. He served as the 2nd Regiment S1 (Adjutant) and was the trumpet section leader for the Cadet Spirit Band. Having completed the regimental position in the fall he is now back in his company (H2) as the Regs and Discipline officer for his last semester. He is rooming with two friends and seems to be enjoying his last semester at West Point.

While he was home for Christmas Taylor's girlfriend, Colleen O'Brien, came down from New Jersey to Houston and spent a few days with our family. She also attended the JSAMB with us, as shown in the photo. Last big thing, Taylor took delivery of his new Xterra truck just after he arrived home and drove it, along with his mom and sister, back up to West Point.

## **Brian Miraglia**

Brian Miraglia (class of '08) thoroughly enjoyed his long time away from duties and study over the holiday break. He slept late, stayed up until the wee hours of the morning and played Xbox 360 until his fingers were numb. This is the first birthday that he has been at home to celebrate in four years, so friends and family gathered at the dining table to watch him blow out 23 candles and pass around his favorite dessert - Hummingbird Cake.

Brian attained Dean's List status for the Fall semester. He is looking forward to his remaining few months at the Academy to pass quickly and successfully.

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## ***Class of '09 – FOR YOUR FREEDOM AND MINE***

### **CLASS OF 2009 NEWS**

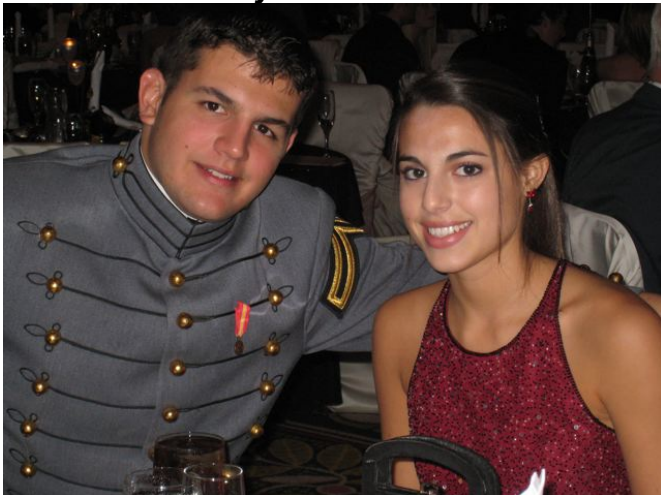
The Cows are well on their way! Exams were completed...finished! First Semester was in the bag! Christmas/Winter Break flew by and the Cadets are resettled at West Point. The Joint Service Academy Ball was a success and the Cows enjoyed it tremendously. They were grateful to the parents of WPPCGH for all their work to make it such fun for them and their families.

January 7th started 2nd Semester Reorg week. This time, they had more responsibilities leading the effort in reassembling the barracks. New classes began the 2nd week of January and the "Gloom Period" with those gray days was upon them. But fun is around the corner....500th night is the weekend of January 25th and they are looking forward to the celebration.

We are asking the Class of 2009 Parents to become more involved in this wonderful organization. Please try to come and participate. There is a really good group of parents here and it would be fantastic if all of the parents could come have some fun with us.

Deborah & Bill Treadway  
Class of 2009 Class Representatives

### ***William Treadway***



Will Treadway with his date, Anna Del Castillo

## **Stefanie Gaskill**

Cadet Sgt Stefanie Gaskill has had a good holiday over the Christmas break. She is pictured here at the Joint Service Military Ball with some of her friends from "E" company. She and another friend drove back to WP and seemed to have a good time on the trip. She is doing well in her academics and still has time for fun on the weekends. She will be going to Costa Rica over the spring break with the Spanish Club and she and other friends are going on a cruise to Jamaica as well. (What's up with this? I had to work in a Steel Mill all summer when I was in college.) You may be aware of the passing of Cadet Mitchel Tisdell, Class of 09. Stefanie's roommate, Stephiney Xie, (pronounced "Shay") knew him well as they were exchange students together in Viet Nam last semester. (Their young lives are so full, I admire and respect them all). Elvis lives! Go Army Pistol!



from left to right, Will Treadway ('09), Dimitri Del Castillo ('09), Stefanie Gaskill ('09), Jillian Galloway('11), and Collin Mooney ('09).



## ***Class of '10 – LOYAL TILL THE END***

### **CLASS 2010 NEWS**

The class of 2010 was well represented at the Military Ball. Cadets, Families and dates had a great time eating and dancing. It also appears that many cadets caught up on sleep and visited with friends and family. The cadets returned to New York on a reported warm day, but more snow soon arrived. Classes have started and some cadets are taking classes in their majors they declared in the fall. The Yearling Winter Weekend is coming up soon and the cadets will be learning and enjoying this event in early February.

#### ***Garrett Johnson***

We had a great time with Garrett over the Christmas Break. He started off his break by attending the AIMS meeting. We also attended the Military Ball. It was so well done and we had such a good time. Garrett is back at it and is involved and enjoying a club called Navigators. He is training for the Sandhurst Competition on May 3rd (we hope to attend) with other D4 team members. Garrett also completed the fall semester making the Dean's List.

David Garrett Johnson  
class 2010



Garrett answering questions at the AIMS meeting

### ***Hunter Williams***



Hunter was home for Christmas, visiting friends and family. The JSAMB was the big cadet event for the holidays. The photo is a candid moment from the ball (Hunter on the left). Hunter has reported he has two engineering classes this spring. He is looking forward to Yearling Winter Weekend and a Cav-Scout club exercise in February.

### ***Jeremy and Brittany Meeks***



Cadet Jeremy Meeks '10 earned recognition in the fall as SOQ (Soldier of the Quarter). At the Army-Navy game he was reunited with his recently re-deployed sister, CPT Brittany Meeks—they enjoyed a few hours together. During Christmas they swapped West Point and war stories. The Christmas break was fun for the whole family to be together.



## ***Class of '11 FOR FREEDOM WE FIGHT***

### **Class of 2011**

The Class of 2011 really enjoyed the winter break period. It was a great time to reconnect with family and friends and enjoy some unstructured time away from West Point. The next 2 months or so are critical for the Plebes as they put their break behind them, and get back into the swing of things.

Winter reorganization week was a challenge as the class needed to adjust to a change of command, new classes/instructors, many lectures on a variety of topics, and generally readjusting back to the West Point world. The next milestone will be the spring break period in March, then they will really start seeing that "light at the end of the tunnel". It will be important for the parents to stay connected with their cadets as they go through these 2 months before spring break in March.

### ***Richard Hood***

#### **"Observations" By Mother Hood**

Absence did make the plebe heart (that had not been home since R-day) grow fonder – expressing a desire that home must always remain the same. Perfect amounts of time given to family for visiting. Running at Memorial Park with old track buddies – and one day done in sunglasses and suits! Visits with former coach, youth minister, friends in civilian colleges and others still in high school. Movies, broom ball, Rockets game, skeet shooting, more running, working out at the Y, church, AIM meeting, Christmas, Military Ball, sleeping – but not as much as I thought would happen due to frenetic amounts of energy 'doing everything possible'. A certain disdain for those acquaintances who sleep till 11:00 with the statement "Do you know how much I do before 11:00? Cigars. Politics. Frank, important, & great conversation. Our still-yet-a-teen, our put-upon-plebe, our emerging thinking young man.



## ALUMNI NEWS

*We always look forward to hearing about the continuing adventures of our Graduates. Please send in photos, news and any correspondence from those who are deployed. We want to keep them in our thoughts and prayers.*

### ***Lt. Matt Hubbard***

Matt Hubbard ('07) continues training at Fort Benning, all the while enjoying his newfound post-West Point life with easily accessible car, being the house chef, and having multiple choices of TV channels. He graduated from IOBC in November and, as of this writing, is somewhere in the wet muck of Georgia in Ranger School. No news is good news at this point, and we've heard nothing! Army life seems to agree with him, and he's still convinced that he made the right choice of branch. He looks forward to completing training (in one piece) and being at Fort Hood sometime this spring.

### ***Cpt Brittany Meeks***

CPT Brittany Meeks '02, returned from her 15 month deployment to Iraq in November. Of course, we are all thrilled to have her at home. She is enjoying her new house in Killeen (she only lived in it 10 days before deploying in Aug. 2006) and being mommy to her little puppy. During the deployment Brittany took up running and began training for a marathon. Recently she ran the half marathon in the Houston Marathon, coming in 97<sup>th</sup> among the women. In February she will be running the full marathon in Austin. CPT Meeks is serving on staff with the 89<sup>th</sup> MP Brigade.



## 2008 CLUB OFFICERS

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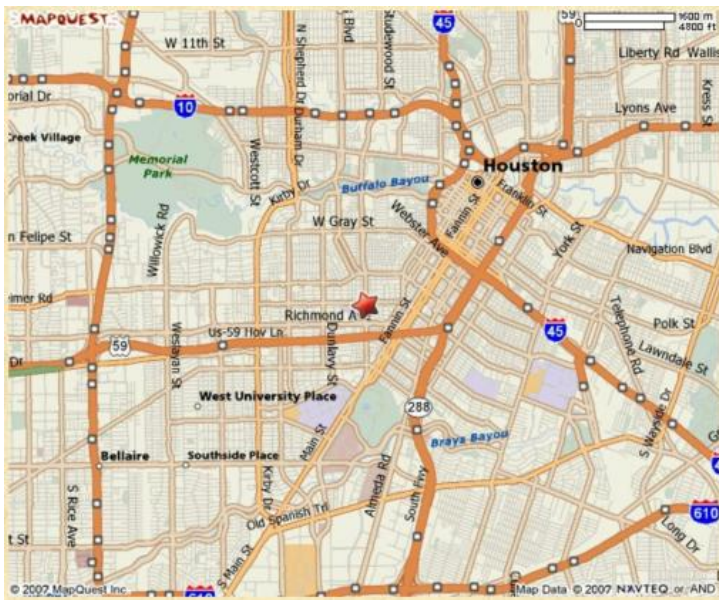
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## NEW MEETING LOCATION

Beginning with the February 10, 2008 meeting, WPPCGH meetings will be held at the University of St. Thomas – 2nd Floor of the Jerabeck Activity and Athletic Center (Building 30) located at 4000 Mount Vernon Houston, TX 77006. The University is centrally located in the Houston museum district. Parking is free and the meetings will begin at 2:00 PM and conclude at approximately 4:30 PM.

The best place to park at the University of St. Thomas is in the Moran Center parking garage at the corner of Graustark and West Alabama (the entrance is actually on Graustark). It is a short, 1 block walk to the Jerabeck Athletic Center and the Scanlon Room is on the second floor.

