



The United States Military Academy



West Point, New York



Dear Society Members, Parents of West Point Cadets and Graduates, and West Point Friends,

Hello again. It's been a three year hiatus since my last Society update, and a lot has happened since then. West Point is older. We all are older. We've had some stellar young Americans from New Mexico graduate from the United States Military Academy and move into their chosen branches at duty stations around the world. We have much about which to be proud.

Not only have I been on hiatus, during which time the Class of 1967 here in the local area stepped in like champs, but so has our West Point Leadership Program. Some health issues and some job conflicts placed the Leadership program in a hold pattern the last two years. George Greenlee (USMA 76) and Dan McCormack (USMA 80) have graciously agreed to join forces with Jim Lee (USMA 66) on that program, so the leadership lunches will begin again in the spring of 2017. You'll remember, I hope, that it was our leadership program that first intrigued Erin Mauldin to consider the United States Military Academy as her college option. Erin graduated from West Point in 2014 after being named a Rhodes Scholar. She is finishing up her last year at Oxford now, and she'll be coming back to the United States this summer right about the time her younger brother, Ian, who will graduate this May from West Point, will be heading over to England after being named a Marshall scholar.

Our guest speaker at this year's Founder's Day celebration will be Captain Beau Hilland, USMA 2010, freshly back from a nine-month deployment to Korea. CPT Hilland has truly experienced that adage: "Join the Army, see the world." In his six years on active duty, he has received all-expense paid trips to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Korea. Before leaving Korea on February 11th, he traveled to many US Forces Korea outposts speaking to the commanders of those outposts. Those of you who attended our local Founder's Day gathering in 2014 will remember CPT Hilland as our youngest grad in attendance that year.

In our quest to hold Founder's Day in many different locations in the greater Albuquerque area (I'm still hoping to do the event in Santa Fe sometime), we will be celebrating this year's event on Saturday, March 12th at the Rio Rancho Country Club (a.k.a. Club Rio Rancho, 500 Country Club Drive SE, Rio Rancho, NM, 87124). The view of the Sandia Mountains from our banquet room is stupendous, and the chef has promised us a lavish dessert bar. Cocktail hour will start at 5pm – note: this is earlier than in previous years for our attendees who want to avoid late night driving. Dinner will begin at 6pm. Uniform: Business casual.

Please note the URL of our society webpage (www.west-point.org/society/wps-nm) where we post all of the documents which are sent out in snail mail and other pertinent news items.

Let's continue to keep the men and women who are serving in harm's way in our thoughts and prayers. See you at Founder's Day. Go Army! Donna Alesch White (USMA 80)

West Point Society of New Mexico

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