



USMA Class of 1961

“Second to None”



CLASS COMMITTEE MEETING

27 February 2016

MINUTES

Class Committee

President
Bob Glass

Vice President
Bruce Shroyer

Treasurer
Dick Buckner

Secretary
Ed Brown

Scribe
Marty Ganderson

Ex-Officio
Lucy Paone

1. The class committee met by conference call at 1000, 27 February. Members participating were Bob Glass, Bruce Shroyer, Dick Buckner, Ed Brown, Marty Ganderson, and Lucy Paone. Gary Hyde was invited to update the committee on the status of 55th Reunion planning. A synopsis of the committee’s discussions follows.
2. 55th Reunion:
 - a. Status report:
 - (1) 215 classmates or spouses are currently registered as “Yes” or “Maybe.”
 - (2) 85 classmates or spouses have responded they will not attend.
 - (3) 414 total guests.
 - (4) 222 guest rooms are currently reserved.
 - (5) Currently receiving more cancellations than new reservations.
 - (6) 41 have not submitted their new survey.
 - (7) Only issue is number of handicap rooms as the new survey increased the number over the initial survey. Rooms at a nearby hotel with shuttle service may be required if the number cannot be resolved.
 - b. Bus transportation status:
 - (1) Contract is with WP Tours – deposit has been paid.
 - (2) Buses are optional for all events.
 - (3) Final numbers will be based on survey inputs.
 - c. Finances:
 - (1) 151 deposits have been received – \$25,260.00 (some paid more than \$150 and will be given credit on their final bill).
 - (2) Only expense so far is bus deposit.
 - (3) Cost per person will be based on events selected – all events optional.
 - (4) Payment is by check only – pay by mail or at the hotel – finance team collects.
 - d. Class Meeting:
 - (1) Scheduled for Monday, 16 May, at 1730 at the hotel.
 - (2) Meeting room is the banquet room across the hall from the main hospitality room and will be set up by the hotel staff.
 - (3) Lectern, microphone, projector, and screen will be provided.

- e. Memorial Service:
 - (1) Bob Cairns and Scott Dillard are the leads for the service.
 - (2) The program is similar to past services.
 - (3) Bugler for taps needs to be requested.
 - (4) Reading names is under discussion. Feedback from another class suggests a booklet with names and not reading them (we have 199). There will be a memorial room at the hotel with a tribute page for each of the deceased and the tribute pages will also be at each grave site for those buried at West Point.
- f. Issues requiring Class Committee attention: None at the moment – only problem is getting people to complete their new registration surveys.

3. Personnel Status:

- a. Living Graduates: 388 of 534 (72.7%)
- b. Deceased Classmates: Grads – 146 (27.3%) – (Since 17 Jun 15 meeting – Raible, Dalgleish, Gants, Heikkila, Robertson, and Charles Burns)
- c. Living Grads with Addresses: 387 (Jimmy Connors is only “lost” grad)
- d. Living Non-Grads with Addresses: 48
- e. Deceased Non-Grads – 53 including 23 determined by comparing names and dates of birth with the Social Security Death Index – (Since 17 Jun 15 meeting – Lawton, John F. Campbell, and Anthony Brown)
- f. Classmates with Mailing Addresses – 543, includes widows and non-grads (60 do not have e-mail addresses)
- g. Widows with Mailing Addresses – 108
- h. E-Mail Addresses – 482
- i. E-Mail Addresses at the AOG – 429
- j. Widowers – 35

4. Widows Issues:

- a. Lucy updated the committee on widows’ activities.
- b. The widows appreciate having a point of contact
- c. Lucy will meet with the widows at breakfast on Monday, May 16, to discuss widow’s issues.

5. Treasurer’s Update: Current balances are:

- a. Admin – \$54,498.93
- b. Gift – \$328,372.38

6. Reconciliation Plaza:

- a. The committee authorized reimbursement of \$4,800 to Bruce Shroyer for the annual landscaping and grounds maintenance program. We need a proffer to cover these expenses for 2016 and 2017.
- b. The committee authorized up to \$15,000 for maintenance of the monuments by Rock of Ages Corporation. Bruce will get a proposal for the work and Dick will submit the proffer to the AOG for approval by USMA.
- c. The committee remains concerned about the need to repair the sidewalk and relocate the smoking area at the north end of the plaza. There were also concerns about DPW and

watering the area, especially after the class installed a sprinkler system for that purpose. Bruce agreed to draft a letter for Bob to send to the Superintendent.

7. Scribe's Report:

- a. Marty briefed the committee on his concerns about the availability of class notes.
- b. The AOG urges all grads to log into the AOG site. They will find a wide range of topics and updates. However, the AOG will maintain password protection of Class Notes in part due to their sensitive nature. After all, the Class Notes section is one of the most used – our own site has been visited about 415 times since Aug 15. So, by logging in, each grad gains total visibility of the Class Notes of all classes. Our USMA Class of '61 home page has a link that makes it easier to access our class notes but it does not enable access to any other class.

8. Class Officers Election: Bob will contact Pete Gleichenhaus to request that he establish a committee representing a cross-section of the class to select a slate of officers for the period 2016-2021 to be elected at the 55th Reunion Class business meeting. Current officers and the ex-officio officer are included.

9. Other:

- a. Memorandum from Superintendent: Bruce briefed the committee on the Superintendent's memorandum to the staff and faculty concerning a review of the memorials at West Point dealing with the Civil War.
- b. Bob agreed to call Bob McClure to get his thoughts on the memorandum and recommendation for any action the class should take.

The meeting adjourned at 1200.

Respectfully submitted,



Ed Brown