



USMA Class of 1957

Class Newsletter and 55th Reunion Announcement (Action Required)

Dear Classmates, Class Widows and Former '57 Cadets

It is hard to believe that we are rapidly approaching the 55th anniversary of our graduation and that the time has come to begin planning for the 55th Reunion. Our Alma Mater has set aside the period 20-23 May 2012 (Sunday-Wednesday) to honor those classes celebrating their 50th and higher reunions. Based on the feedback from and the success of the 50th Reunion, your class officers have agreed that the Class should accept the invitation of the Academy to meet at West Point in May 2012. This means that it is time to begin planning for what will be another exciting and memorable event.

This letter serves as the first announcement for our 55th reunion as well as an update on several actions that affect the class. Please take the time to read the whole letter and, to help us with the reunion planning, complete and return the attached reunion survey.

55th Reunion

We hope, through this letter, to get a preliminary count of those planning to attend the reunion and sound out the class on some possible reunion events,

Given that today people plan events years in advance, our first step was to grab a hotel that would accommodate the numbers we expect to attend. West Point's experience indicates that between 35 and 40 percent of living graduates return for their 55th Reunion. Based on the comments from the class at and after the 50th, we sought out a hotel on the west side of the Hudson that was closer to West Point and that would reduce the time spent on buses. With the help of Joan Emmer, who facilitated our 50th, we were able to block the rooms we believe we will need at the Hilton Woodcliff Lake. The Hilton is just off the northern end of the Garden State Parkway near Mahwah, NJ (<http://www.hiltonwoodclifflake.com/contact.cfm>). The Class of 1950 is using it for their 60th this May.

We have attached a tentative reunion schedule and a survey of interest. Our first event will be on Sunday evening, 20 May and the last at Wednesday morning breakfast on 23 May. Again, based on comments from the 50th, we are slowing things down a bit and making only one class trip to West Point.

We have blocked some rooms at the hotel for Saturday night for early arrivals and a full count for Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights, but need to ensure that we have the right numbers. We also need to begin blocking space for some of the events.

We are asking you to complete the survey and return it in the enclosed envelope to Paul Schwehm within the next 30 days. Please tell us if you think you will come to the reunion and how many people will accompany you. The survey will also be posted on the class web site (<http://www.usma57.org>) and you may complete it on line if you wish.

In August, after we have reviewed the surveys, we will come back to you for a more firm commitment and a small deposit.

We have asked you on the survey form to provide us your current email address. Since email is the fastest and cheapest way to communicate, we would appreciate getting this information. If you do not have an email account, we would ask you to consider giving us the email account of someone in your family who would be willing to get reunion information for you by email. However, we will communicate with you in the manner you prefer.

Election of New Class Officers.

Our Class Constitution calls for election of officers every 5 years. Late next year we will appoint a nominating committee to develop a slate of officers and then post the names of the candidates. As you will see in the reunion schedule, in accordance with the Constitution, we will conduct the election of new officers at the business meeting and then install the new officers (although they will actually assume their responsibilities 30 days after the election). Additional information about the election will follow in subsequent mailings.

1953 Football Team

Many thanks to the nearly 200 classmates who provided, within 48 hours of being asked, their agreement that the class should support the nomination of the 1953 football team to be inducted into of the Army Sports Hall of Fame. No doubt most of us recall that day at the Polo Grounds when the Corps in the stands and the cadets on the football field melded to produce a historic victory for Army. We have not yet received the results of the voting, but will let you know when the results are released.

2010 Blue Danube Discovery River Cruise

Sam Morthland reports that 74 classmates and their spouses, significant others and friends will cruise up the Danube and the Main-Donau Canal from Budapest to Nuremberg and then on to Prague in October. Sam also reports that there are nine cabins, 18 vacancies, remaining. This is a spectacular great value - MOAA just published a special Vacation brochure which listed our identical Avalon vacation starting at \$3700 per person whereas ours starts at only \$2700, a \$1,000 per person savings. Sam offers the cruise-only option starting at \$1710 - without the optional 2-Day Budapest or 3-Day Prague visits - that many of our classmates have already selected. MOAA does not. Avalon also has a \$300 per airline ticket price offset for bookings made by April 6th. If you are interested in filling any of the 9 cabin vacancies or backfilling any others that might arise, please let Sam know at (281) 480-9308 or SMorthla@aol.com.

Class Gifts to the Cadet Library

As you may recall, the class presented the Academy with a check for \$650,000 at the 50th Reunion. These funds were designated to support outfitting of the new Cadet Library (and to establish a maintenance endowment for the projects we have previously given to the Academy). As a result of our gift, the coffee shop on the first floor of the new library is identified as a gift of the class of 1957. In addition our gift funded the construction of a wood kiosk that has been installed on the third floor of the new library. The kiosk provides limited storage of books about ethics and honor and includes a continuously running video on the history of the honor code, prepared for us by the Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic, which operates under the Commandant. Ray Bell served as the project manager for the construction and installation of the kiosk and the initiation of its operations. Luis G. San Andres has generously provided a wood carving of the class crest for our use.

We intend to place class crests in the coffee shop and on the kiosk. When you're next at West Point, please drop in the library and look at these contributions. I would remind you that the bulk of our contribution went to the general support of furnishing the new library and not to the costs of either the coffee shop or the kiosk.

The Class of 2007

A few days after our 50th reunion, four members of our class stood at the base of the speakers stand in Michie Stadium during graduation to hand to each member of the class of 2007 a set of gold Second Lieutenant bars. This presentation was the final event in a four-year program to link our class with the class graduating 50 years after us. Members of the class participated in many Class of 2007 ceremonies throughout its four years at West Point.

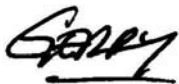
We are most sad to learn that three members of this class have already fallen on the battlefield in Afghanistan. As a result of these losses, the executive board decided to strengthen our relationship with that class. We will be informed of any casualties, and if possible, will arrange for a member of the class to attend the funeral and to offer condolences on behalf of the class. We will also establish closer liaison with their class officers. Bob Stevens has agreed to serve as our official liaison officer. The class of 2007 is our extension to the Long Gray Line and we hope they will continue our traditions as we leave.

Keep those in harm's way in your thoughts and prayers.

Grip Hands

Mark your calendars and get ready. We look forward to seeing you and your families at the 55th.

On behalf of the Executive Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerry", with a horizontal line underneath.

Gerry Galloway
Class President

Tentative Schedule - USMA '57 55th Reunion

Sunday 20 May 2010

Registration/Check-in	3:00-8:00pm	Woodcliff Lake Hilton
Hospitality Room Open	3:00-6:00pm	Woodcliff Lake Hilton
Welcome Supper	6:00-9:00pm	Woodcliff Lake Hilton

Monday 21 May 2012

Continental Breakfast	7:00-8:30am	Woodcliff Lake Hilton
Registration	7:00-10:30am	Woodcliff Lake Hilton
Class Business Meeting	8:00-10:00am	Woodcliff Lake Hilton
Election and installation of new class officers		
Remarks by Academy senior officer (Tentative)		
Ladies Networking	9:00-10:00am	Woodcliff Lake Hilton
Hospitality Room Open	10:00am-4pm	Woodcliff Lake Hilton
Free Time	10:00am-6:00pm	Golf, tennis, shop, tour
Lunch		on own
<i>Optional Bus to West Point, lunch and tour of West Point</i>		
<i>Bus tour of nearby Hudson Valley sights and lunch</i>		
Barbecue on Hotel Lawn	6:00-9:00pm	
(preceded by optional company gatherings)		
Hospitality Room Open	9:00pm -?	Woodcliff Lake Hilton

Tuesday 22 May 2012

Continental Breakfast	7:00-8:30pm	Woodcliff Lake Hilton
Buses to West Point	8:45am	Hotel to USMA
Assemble for March	10:05	The Plain
Alumni March to Plain	10:20am	The Plain
Alumni Exercises	10:50am	The Plain
Alumni Review	11:00 am	The Plain
Class Photo	11:30am	Parade Seats
Luncheon	12:15pm	Cadet Mess Hall
Visit to Honor Plaza, '57 Coffee Room and Honor Kiosk (Library)	2:00 pm	
Buses to Chapel	3:00pm	Thayer Statue to Cemetery
Memorial Service and optional visitation of grave sites	3:30pm	Catholic or Old Cadet Chapel
Buses to Hotel	4:00pm	Cemetery or Chapel
Reception/Dinner Dance	7:00-10:30pm	Woodcliff Lake Hilton

Wednesday 23 May 2012

Continental Breakfast and Farewells	7:00-10:00am	Woodcliff Lake Hilton
Reunion Adjourns		

USMA Class of 1957

55th Reunion Initial Interest Survey

Return to Paul Schwehm, 4352 Hickory Shores Blvd, Gulf Breeze, FL 32563-9109

Please return survey by April 25

Name _____

Cadet Company _____

Address Street _____

Address City, State, Zip _____

Email _____ *If you do not have an email, email of someone willing to receive email for you _____*

OR

Please continue to send notices by postal mail

1. As of today, I plan to attend the reunion _____
The total number of people in my party (including me) will be _____

I do not plan to attend the reunion _____

2. _____ I would be interested in taking my guest(s) on a tour of West Point on Monday OR

_____ I would be interested in taking my guest(s) on a tour of nearby Hudson Valley sights on Monday

Comments/Suggestions on Reunion Schedule/Activities

Please continue on reverse side of page