

Class of 1957 Class Notes 31 Jan 2016

As previously presented, first some Class business, then current news, and end with a review of Class losses since the last notes.

Class Business: As reported in the last notes, **Paul Schwehm**, working with Alexis Davis of the AOG signed a Thayer Hotel contract for the 60th. Paul sent several letters to the Class, and the most recent one has details, a tentative schedule and a survey, and Don Sadler has put all the information on the Class Website. Don is also collecting and compiling the data from the survey. We need to have an idea of how many will attend and what they would like to do. **If you have not already done so please respond to the survey ASAP.** The URL is

<https://docs.google.com/a/aisj.co.il/forms/d/1nhv2sxQ1A1UauNjfbAPChNV3PitRD4lSxAXUDoGpcwU/viewform?c=0&w=1>

As a reminder, from Paul's message: "we will meet April 27-30 of 2017, the headquarters and lodging is The Thayer, the AOG will be the facilitator and correspondence and finances will be mostly electronic. The Thayer room rate will be \$190 plus a "facility fee", which compares favorably with the \$195 rate paid by '39, '44, '49 and '54, not to mention the \$289 '59 paid on a non-football weekend. Reunion registration and hotel reservations (which you must make directly with the hotel) will open in June; the AOG will provide details in due course." Please bookmark our reunion information website:

<https://www.westpointaog.org/1957reunion> and our Class website:

<http://www.usma57.org/> Paul will send more updates, and Don will keep the Class website current, as information becomes available and deadlines are established.

Class Bricks: As you may recall the AOG offered us the opportunity to purchase bricks for Herbert Hall and I have included a photo my son, Jacob '80. took of our Class bricks. I regret that the photo doesn't include all since it was centered on my brick, but we can get a better one at the 60th.



Thayer Room Dedication Program: This may be of interest to some of you.

Our Class was contacted by Mr. Dan Rice, USMA 88, who is both the Chairman of the

Thayer Leader Development Group (TLDG) and a Principal of the Historic Hotel Thayer, about the Thayer Hotel Room Dedication Program. The Thayer Hotel initiated the room dedication and manages it. Note that you can also get some information at the following Thayer Hotel link.

<http://www.thethayerhotel.com/Accommodations/Room-Dedication-Program>

Basically, the room dedication program is a sponsorship of a room in honor of a distinguished graduate who has led an exceptional life. The dedicated rooms have a plaque out front in honor of the graduate and their accomplishments as well as a sponsorship plaque. The program has been supported by some corporations, West Point classes, and families who have dedicated rooms in honor of their graduate. The sponsorship is not tax deduct-able and the Thayer Hotel is privately managed and is a for-profit organization. Sponsorship is a one time \$25,000 fee and \$35,000 for an Executive Suite. There are no long-term fees. Each sponsor picks the ceremony and the usual cost is around \$5,000 for 100 people (depending on food, beverage and time). The plaques, the framed photos in the room, and the memorabilia are permanently displayed. After reviewing the program, the 57 Executive Board (EB) decided that this should not be a Class project and the Class would not submit any nominations, but that the Class should be notified of its existence. If you have any interest please contact Mr. Rice directly. A nomination should be sent to Mr. Rice, who will bring it to the committee who reviews and decides to approve. As a matter of interest, a room has been dedicated to our classmate, **Dana Mead**.

From the AOG: I'm including this because I have received multiple questions about the Register. "We have had a lot of calls about the 2015 *Register of Graduates* and when people should expect to receive it. It is currently in production and **the edition should be shipping by January 2016**. We are unable to guarantee a December delivery. Also, remember that the cost is set to increase on December 1st from \$90 to \$105. (Shipping will remain the same at \$13.95.) To purchase a 2015 *Register of Graduates*, contact our Gift Shop at 800.426.4725 or order online at WPAOGGiftShop.com."

Joe Tedeschi: Joe attended the funeral service for **Bud Miller** at WP and sent the following message. I am including all of Joe's note since it is really beautifully written and is addressed to you all. "Dear Classmates, On Saturday, 5 September, I attended the funeral Mass for our classmate, Bud Miller. It was a wonderful, sun-splashed day, and the view of the Hudson Valley from the deck of the Most Holy Trinity (MHT) Chapel was especially beautiful. Bud's family was fully in attendance, and what a tribute it was to Bud's legacy and the Long Grey Line, to see Sue Miller, daughter Catherine, son MG Scott Miller, their families to include his grandsons and granddaughters all in splendid uniforms there. Prominent among them and seated separately were Bud's grandson Christopher Canty, a First Class Cadet and a squad of his classmates. The Dean of Academics, Brig. Gen. Timothy E. Trainor USMA '83, was also in attendance. I arrived at the MHT Chapel early and observed the MHT Chapel pastor, Father Ken Nielson, CH(Maj), preparing the altar and readings, and "from somewhere," I was inspired to ask him if he needed any assistance at the funeral Mass since I was a deacon in the Diocese of Trenton, and a friend and

classmate of Bud Miller. Fr. Nielson readily and graciously agreed, and the search began for an alb and a deacon's stole to vest me (no deacons at MHC Chapel, hence no deacons vestments readily available). As we were searching, I became aware of a third person, a priest, in the sacristy and realized that Fr. Nielson would not be celebrating the Mass, and that this other priest would be. I was introduced to Fr. Paul Hurley, MG, Chief of Army Chaplains, USMA '84. There followed for me a mixture of admiration, awe and respect for rank (both ecclesiastic and military), recognition of what a special thing was being done for our classmate, and (I allowed myself) a sop to "old grad" status (geez, I was well into my Army career when this guy was born!). This is where it all came together – the bonds that truly unite us – where rank and old grad status mean nothing and all those incredible words in our Alma Mater and The Corps really matter, and hit home and mean something. I could not have been more comfortable with an old time friend and colleague for the remainder of Bud's funeral Mass than I was with Father Paul Hurley. This is what "collegiality" means in the purest and most spiritual sense of the word. We truly "celebrated" Bud's life, and in my role as Deacon at Mass, I was honored and privileged to have a "front seat" and to be part of it all. We recited the ancient liturgy and rituals with scripture readings, prayers and words that give us hope and promise of eternal life. Bud was eulogized by both his cadet grandson, Christopher Canty, and by his general officer son, Scott, and in his homily, Fr. Hurley relied upon verse 3 of our Alma Mater to say what we were all feeling about Bud: "Well done (Bud). Be thou at Peace." Finally, at the very conclusion of the Mass liturgy, as Deacon of the Mass, I had the honor and sad duty to announce to all there, "In peace, let us take our brother to his place of rest." With those words, we proceeded from the MHT Chapel and motored to the West Point cemetery just a short distance away. The committal ceremony was done with all the dignity and the exact military precision we can all hope to expect. My share of military funerals attended may be on the high side, but may I never be in the least inured by the appropriateness and the solemnity of the ceremony. So it was with Bud's funeral. The solemnity was only lightened by Bud's son-in-law, Paul Canty, when he placed a "BEAT NAVY" pin on top of Bud's urn. The new columbarium is wonderfully sited and a welcome addition to the West Point cemetery. Scott Miller is a true son-of-the-son of the Class of '57, and we readily agreed that we needed a photo taken of us at the Class of '57, black colored, water fountain located just outside the main gate of the cemetery. I attach a photo of MG Scott Miller, his mother Sue, and myself at the fountain. The day ended with a reception and lunch at Herbert Hall. A power point slide show of Bud's life and times played throughout, and a table was laid out with memorabilia of Bud alongside a collage of Bud's life on an easel and, of course, the Black '57 flag. ... I was privileged to be part of this tribute to Bud's life, and to now be able to report it to you, my classmates. Well done, Bud. Joe Tedeschi" I have included the photos of Scott, Sue and Joe at the fountain and of the Class Flag that was used. On 4 Oct I received another note from Joe that was on a more personal subject. He wrote, "Today is the 49th anniversary of the airplane crash in Vietnam which through the grace of God I survived. For the past 48 anniversaries, I always called Col. Bob Ray who was sitting next to me on the airplane and also survived, but he passed on this last year. I still have this need to remember the event, so I'm sharing some of the

later information (2 accounts from witnesses) I've since found out about the crash. The first 2 pictures were taken in 1970 – 4 years after the crash in 1966. I'm guessing the others were taken shortly after the crash. Still trying to find meaning and purpose to it all, but as each day dawns, I still remind myself, “Everyday is Christmas!” Joe” I have not included the accounts (they deal with the cause of the crash) or photos. Joe also posted some comments to the Forum about his views on women in combat and his memories of the Miller family, and I can provide them individually to those not on the Forum who want them.



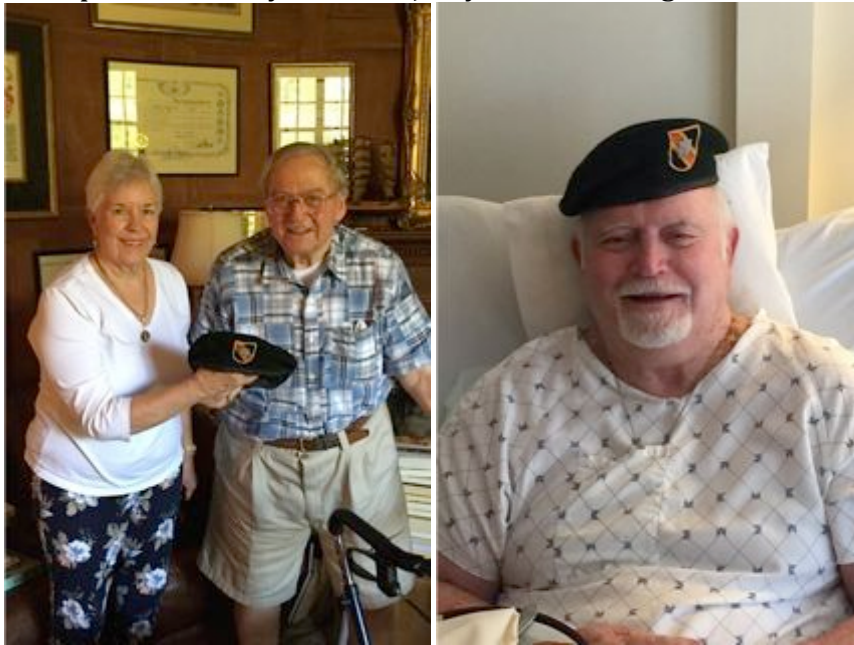
Burn Loeffke USMA Friendship Fund honors Bud Miller: Burn sent the following back in September, but I failed to forward it to the Class. My apologies. From Burn; “The chief of Chaplains gave the service at West Point for Bud Miller who was buried last Saturday. Bud's son is Major General Scott Miller CG at Ft Benning. The Friendship Fund (go to www.helpingotherstoday.com and click on Friendship Fund) is the fund that has designated a Cadet to be the Colonel Miller cadet in 2016. Nancy Calhelha from the AOG will forward the certificate that was given to General Miller designating his son, and that explains the Friendship Fund. Thought the class would be interested in the existence of this fund that sends cadets to China in the summers to teach preventative medicine in schools. Dana Mead last week donated \$10,000 to the Fund while Ellis Parker who was in our class but did not graduate is on his way to donating \$100,000. Airborne Regards to all. Burn Loeffke. I have asked Don Sadler to provide access to the brochure on the Class website.

Jack Vickers: In Oct Jack sent an amusing note very typical of Jack, complete with picture. “Dear Height-Disadvantaged Classmates, I have discovered a new use for our slide rules: to open and close the louvers of air-conditioning diffusers.” In Dec, he sent a great family picture taken at his 80th birthday. It was the first time in some 20 years that he had his entire family (2 sisters and brother, their spouses, a niece, a nephew, Jack and Barbara’s children with spouses and grandchildren) together. Per Jack, “as they say in “Rhode Island Speak”, it was wicked-awesome!”



Judy Keating's Green Beret Caper: You may remember the photo of **Jerry Scott** wearing his Green Beret in the last column, and this provides the detail of how that happened. "Jerry Scott and **Mike Keating** were classmates at the Air War College in 1972-73. Early in the year, John Napier, a faculty member, who has a extensive collection of military memorabilia, asked Jerry if he might consider donating his Green Beret to the collection. Jerry agreed and parted with his Beret. The years passed and after both had retired from the military Jerry is in the hospital section of Spring Harbor where his room is decorated with his military mementos dating back to his days at West Point. It is indeed a tribute to him and his distinguished military career. However, Judy noticed there is one thing missing from this testimonial and that is his Special Forces Green Beret he gave to John Napier back in 1972. Judy recalled several years ago, Jerry had mentioned that he wished he still had his Green Beret. That recollection spurred a thought that this might be a excellent time to see if she could retrieve the beret. ... Napier endorsed the idea and Mike and Judy subsequently picked up the beret the following day. With beret in hand, Judy immediately called Jody and Jody's sister, Molly, to report "the package has been secured!" and arrange for a convenient presentation date and time. It was decided to be the next day at 1330 hrs. For Mike and Judy it was an emotional 90-minute drive to Columbus. At 1330 sharp, Mike banged on Jerry's door like an inspecting Beast Barracks First Classman and along with Judy burst into the room. Jerry's startled look was priceless as they had just been there just two weeks before. Judy smartly marched to Jerry's side and handed him a black gift bag from the West Point Gift Shop. Jerry was still attempting to process what was happening when Judy insisted he open his present. Jerry complied but still had a confused look on his face as he removed one sheet of tissue paper at a time, enjoying the anticipation. Finally, he feels the beret and with calming satisfaction pulls it out and mutters "Oh, my God!" with disbelief in his voice. He puts it on in silence as each one could feel a deep seated emotional sigh of contentment and accomplishment." Great story. I've included a photo of Mike and Judy Keating when they got the Beret

and a photo of a very satisfied Jerry Scott wearing it.



Dave Schorr: Dave is our Class Rep to the AOG and attended several events on which he provided some personal comments. " ... **Ted and Toddy Vorhees, Patty** and I attended the Thayer Award Parade and Ceremony. It was an absolutely gorgeous fall day at West Point. Hard to imagine a more beautiful spot on the planet! The entire Corps Passed in Review and I must say they didn't look all that bad. [Gary] Sinise was visibly emotional, to include tears in the Mess Hall, and the Corps responded, very moving. The next day, another gorgeous day, the Vietnam "Travelling Wall" was on display, right behind the reviewing stands on the Plain. The Classes who fought in the war were asked to have rep's there to share some thoughts with the Cadets on their Classmates whose names were on the Wall. **Jack Vickers, Jack Farris** and I were proud to represent '57. There was a steady stream of Cadets who visited the wall during the day and we had the opportunity to share some thoughts with the Cadets about our 12 Classmates whose names were on the Wall and talk about "Black 57's" role in the war. It was an emotional day for us. And it reminded us just how proud we all should be about what our Class did in Vietnam, despite the outcome. A side story, and one that made my day one I'll remember for a long time. I had talked to **Len Hanawald's** daughter earlier in the week and she hoped to make it up to West Point. She lives only an hour away. Patty and I were standing by the panel that had Len Hanawald's name on it. I spotted a young lady from a distance walking towards Lenny's panel. And as she got nearer, I said to myself - "It's Lenny's daughter." I had never seen her before, but I just knew it was Lenny's daughter. She picked up on the fact that I recognized her and broke into a run and gave me a big hug with tears in her eyes. Needless to say there were tears all around. Jennifer was 9 months old when Len was killed. We visited the Honor Plaza had lunch in the '57 Cafe in Jefferson Hall, and not sure who enjoyed my stories about Len more, Jennifer or me. As I said it was an emotional day and one that made me, once again, feel so proud and lucky to me a member of the Class of

'57. We take a lot for granted. Grip Hands and Go Army!" In a subsequent message, Dave provided some additional information about Jennifer. " I knew Len well and spent the day sharing stories about Len with Jennifer, which she loved! We invited Jennifer and her family to join us for the Army-Tulane game, and her husband, Warren, and one of their two daughters joined us. Len would be so proud of them!" Thank you, Dave. I've included a photo of Dave, Jennifer and Patti, and one of the Travelling Wall section with Len's name.



Bob Tener is inducted into the NAC: Extracts from a NAC press release (Bob's career includes a lot of positions and awards and I tried to include most) ; "Austin, TX – The National Academy of Construction (NAC) has elected Robert K. Tener, one of the nation's leading civil engineers and academicians, as a new member of its 2015 class. He was inducted October 23 at the NAC Annual Meeting in Charleston, SC. The 2015 class includes 26 new inductees. More than 250 industry leaders were considered for the NAC's rigorous nomination and election process. Tener served the U.S. construction industry through significant leadership contributions of national scope in construction management and research in the public, private, academic and non-profit sectors. A West Point graduate, he earned both master's and doctoral degrees in structural engineering from Iowa State University. He taught on the civil engineering faculty at West Point, where he introduced early applications of computer systems into structural engineering analysis and design. In 1977, he graduated with distinction from the U.S. Naval War College. ... Following Army retirement in the grade of colonel, Tener took on a unique role as President of the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden in Dallas, Texas. ... From there he moved to executive manager roles in the North Texas regional technology commission and then, with Sverdrup Corporation, in the program management consortium that developed the U.S. Department of Energy Superconducting Super Collider Project in Ellis County, Texas, until 1994. In 1990 he was elected Engineer

of the Year for Dallas by the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. In 1994, Tener joined the Purdue University construction engineering faculty, ... Having introduced design-build into Purdue's Construction Engineering curriculum, in 1995 he was one of the first two academics nationally to become a Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA) member and later a Designated DBIA Professional. He was voted Professor of the Year four times by his Purdue students in Construction Engineering, and was elected to university honoraries Tau Beta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi, Beta Tau, Chi Epsilon, and Mortar Board. Following retirement from Purdue, Tener moved to Claremont, CA, and in 2005 was recruited as the charter Executive Director of the newly established Charles Pankow Foundation. ... He was a registered professional engineer in three states from 1963-2013. He is a Fellow and Life Member of ASCE. Among his numerous awards and recognitions are Iowa State University's Professional Achievement Citation in Engineering (PACE Award) in 2008. In 2012, he was awarded the DBIA Brunelleschi Lifetime Achievement Award, the highest honor that DBIA bestows.

Tom Olson: Tom sent a photo of the 3 M-2 classmates on a Mississippi River cruise from St. Louis to St. Paul. They are, from left to right: **Don O'Neal, Nancy O'Neal, Jack Kilpatrick, Carolyn Kilpatrick, Ann Olson** and Tom Olson. Thanks, Tom.



Frank Gross: Frank sent a cryptic note about a recent encounter with Classmates in Philly, 'Went to luncheon at Phila WP Society. **Len Marrella** gave a very good speech. About 60 Attendees. **Dave Schorr** was only other classmate there. It came up that Len was the guy that threw Willie Mays out at home plate. Was at the Chart House and directly across the Delaware River was the Battleship New Jersey.' Thanks, Frank.

John Hocker: **Nick Monaco** sent a note about John's presentation at a Veteran's

Day Ceremony in Gaithersburg, which Nick helps to set up, and included a great photo of attending classmates. "John Hocker was the keynote speaker at the Gaithersburg, MD Vet Day ceremony on 11.11.15, and did our Class proud with an excellent presentation. Several Classmates and wives were in attendance as John's support team. Nick said that for him one of the most poignant passages of the speech was John's characterization of what military service means to him. "Many people think of the word SACRIFICE, as the one single word that underpins military service. I believe that it does require sacrifice and that many have sacrificed far more than I have. But, when I think back it isn't the one word that defines what it feels like to serve. If I were asked to share one word with you today, it would be: BONDING." John's speech is on the Class website, and two photos from the ceremony are included here. The first is of John on stage flanked by Gaithersburg's current Mayor, Jud Ashman and immediate past Mayor, Sidney Katz, and the second is of the classmates and wives who attended L-R; **Tom Adcock, Bill Friend, Shelly and Hank Hatch, Barbara and John, Brenda and Nick Monaco, Gerry Galloway, Nan and Chip King.**



Dick Pastore: There was a brief discussion on the Forum about the youngest members of our Class, to include **Bill Huckabee** and **John Follansbee**. **Bill wrote**, “**John Witherow** visited with us yesterday; your [Follansbee] ears should have burned: we laughed about the fact that you, Dick, **Dana [Mead]**, **Church Mathews**, and I were still 17 when we were in our 2d semester, Plebe Year.” Dick responded; “Sorry guys, but my birthday is June 13, 1936, which meant that I was not even 21 when we graduated! A big joke in our family is that Pat and I had to get our parents' signatures to get a marriage license for our wedding on June 8! And when Pat ordered a cocktail at a restaurant on our honeymoon, they asked for an ID. She said "ask my husband," and the issue was settled. It's great to be the youngest, but I know that I will eventually catch up with all of you. Grip Hands, Dick Pastore”

Frank Hanigan: Frank and **Peggy** sent a lovely holiday card with lots of family information. Their family is literally spread around the world, with son Greg in Phuket, Thailand, and who is now the father of Francis the 5th. Congratulations, Frank. The Hanigans have eight granddaughters and two grandsons, but won't see their latest grandson until Oct 2016. The rest of the grandchildren are all doing very well at both the college and high school level in different parts of the US, and they also have a granddaughter working in Australia. As I said, they span the globe. They still found time to take a cruise on the Elbe that was supposed to include **Jerry** and **Barbara Schumacher**, but Barbara tripped and broke her leg as the cruise was starting and had to be evacuated back to the US. I hope she's recovered by now. I really didn't do justice to all the details, and for that I apologize.

Class Losses Since the Last Column: (Note: Obits that are available can also be accessed on the Class Web Site)

Willis (Bill) Morris Thomson (USAF, Ret.), 82, of , died on Thursday, January 1, 2015 at South Georgia Medical Center in Valdosta, GA but we did not learn about it until 15 September.. The obituary is at:

<http://www.mclanefuneralservices.com/obituary/Willis-Morris-Thomson/Valdosta-GA/1466997>

Barry Fox died on 22 September 2015 at his home in Maine. No obituary information.

E. Joe Shimek II died on 1 October 2015 at his nursing home in Kerrville, TX.

Obituary at: http://grimesfuneralchapels.com/?page_id=95&id=669

Pat Robinson (wife of our classmate **Nick Robinson**) died on 3 January 2016 at the Army Residence Community in San Antonio, TX. No obituary information.

Peter J. Chittick died on 7 January 2016 in Fredericksburg, Virginia. The obituary is at: <http://www.roystonfh.com/obituaries/Peter-Chittick/-!/Obituary>

William (Bill) D. Deegan, died on 11 January 2016, in Friendswood, TX. The obituary is at: http://columbustelegram.com/news/local/obituaries/william-bill-deegan/article_d1e5d708-ab7f-5df6-b937-a64eaa544f2c.html