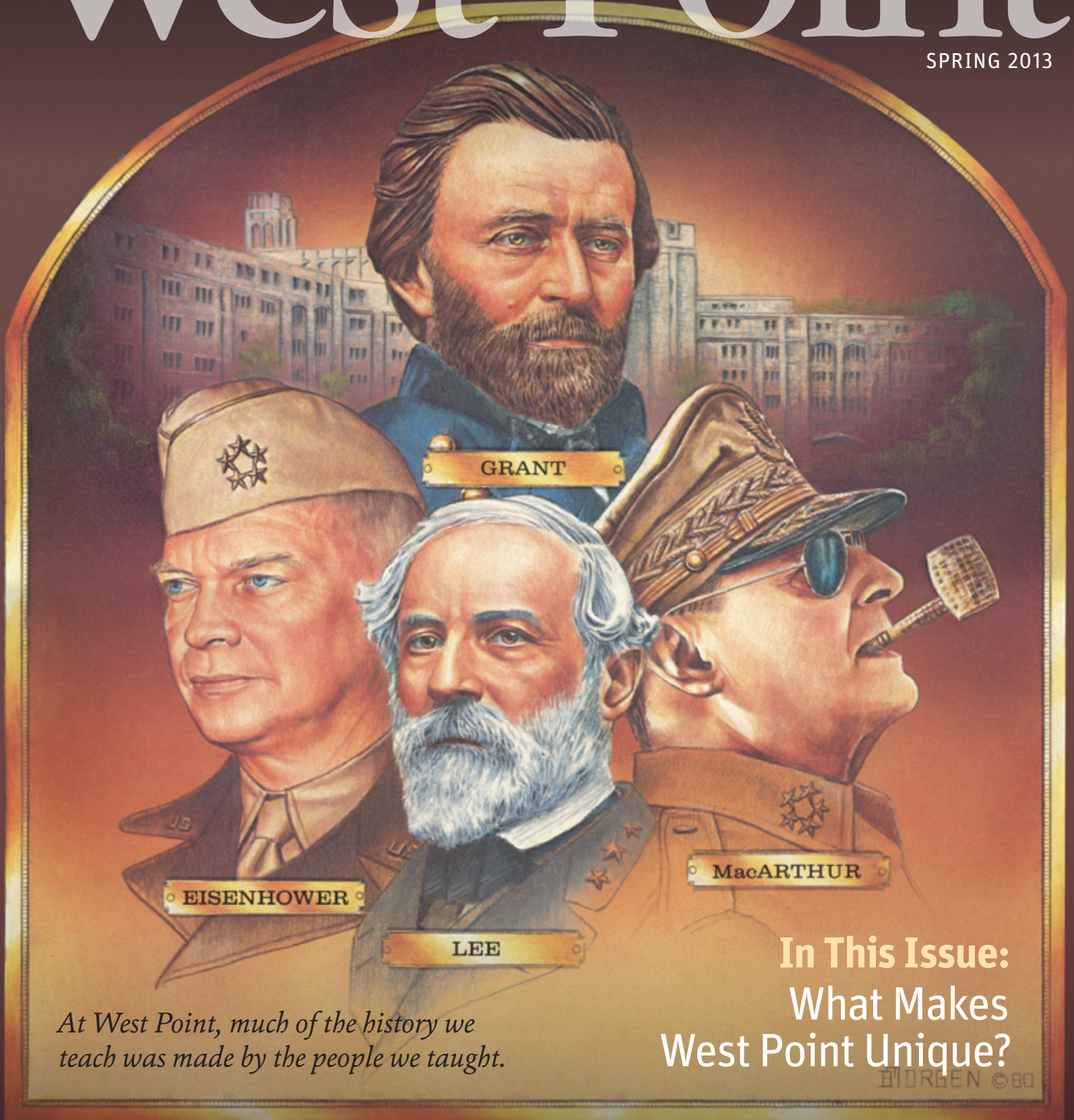


West Point

SPRING 2013



At West Point, much of the history we teach was made by the people we taught.

In This Issue:
What Makes West Point Unique?

THORSEN © 80

A Publication of the West Point Association of Graduates

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Come Back Home to West Point

As graduates and former leaders of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, we intimately understand the need to bring more visitors to West Point. Increasing tourism to West Point is in the best interests of the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Army and the nation.

Reaching out to the public and gaining exposure to our Alma Mater will help increase applications from the best and the brightest, and help bring potential financial contributors to West Point to help maintain our margin of excellence in academics, physical training and the moral development of tomorrow's leaders of character.

Making a meaningful impact on guests begins with their stay at The Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point. To achieve this, the Hotel has recently undergone a multi-million dollar renovation including the addition of 23 new executive suites and is showcasing some of our most inspirational graduates through a room dedication program in which each guest room is named after a graduate. Learn more about the room dedication program at rdp.thethayerhotel.com

Yet, most important is the founding of the **Thayer Leader Development Group at West Point (TLDG)**. TLDG has hosted corporate conferences and leadership training for hundreds of companies at The Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point. Most executives attending these programs have never had any military experience or

exposure to West Point. These executives are walking away from their experience at TLDG with a new found love and respect for the Armed Forces of the United States and the great work being done here at West Point. Many senior management teams in the Fortune 500 have now visited West Point to either host their own corporate conference at The Hotel or to attend leadership training at TLDG. The average rating from C-Suite executives from these great corporations is 9.5 out of 10 in terms of content, faculty, facilities and overall atmosphere of the program.

We encourage all graduates to bring your friends, family and business teams to West Point for either corporate conferences or tourism...

We are confident that TLDG will add value to your team and will also significantly contribute to enhancing West Point's image throughout this great country. Contact Rick Minicozzi, '86, Managing General Partner, rick.minicozzi@thayerleaderdevelopment.com or Bill Murdy, '64, Chairman of the Board, wfmurdy@thayerleaderdevelopment.com to

discuss how TLDG can tailor a program that suits your organization's needs.

The seven of us encourage all graduates to bring your friends, family and business teams to West Point for either corporate conferences or tourism, to ensure that USMA's reputation continues to be lauded throughout the United States. These are the ideas and the results that we, as former leaders of West Point, envisioned when The Historic Thayer Hotel was privatized.

GO ARMY!

RESPECTFULLY,

LTG (ret) Dan Christman

Former Superintendent of West Point



USMA '65

LTG (ret) Buster Hagenbeck

Former Superintendent of West Point



USMA '71

LTG (ret) Bill Lennox

Former Superintendent of West Point



USMA '71

LTG (ret) John Moellering

Former Commandant of Cadets at West Point



USMA '59

BG (ret) Fletcher Lamkin

Former Dean of Academic Board at West Point



USMA '64

Mr. Tom Dyer

Former Chairman of the Board, Association of Graduates



USMA '67

Mr. Jack Hammack

Former Chairman of the Board, Association of Graduates



USMA '49

West Point

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2 • SPRING 2013

The mission of *West Point* magazine is to tell the West Point story and strengthen the grip of the Long Gray Line.

PUBLISHER

West Point Association of Graduates
Robert L. McClure '76, President & CEO

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Norma Heim
editor@wpaog.org

EDITORIAL ADVISORY GROUP

John Calabro '68 Kim McDermott '87
Jim Johnston '73 Samantha Soper

ADVERTISING

Amelia Velez
845.446.1577
ads@wpaog.org

ADDRESS UPDATES

Tammy Flint
West Point Association of Graduates
698 Mills Road, West Point, NY 10996-1607
845.446.1642
address@wpaog.org

MEMORIAL ARTICLE COORDINATOR

Marilee Meyer
845.446.1545
memorials@wpaog.org

CONTENT

Marissa Carl
Keith Hamel
Kim McDermott '87

DESIGN

Marguerite Smith

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POSTMASTER

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As you read this issue of *West Point* magazine, remember that many members of the Long Gray Line currently are deployed in combat. We honor all those who served or are serving and those who have fallen.

Dear Fellow Graduates and Friends:

Spring at West Point means "Gloom Period" is over for the Corps of Cadets and the Class of 2013 is eagerly looking forward to graduation in less than 100 days. For graduates, spring is always "Founders Day Season"—a time when all grads gather to celebrate what it means to be a member of the Long Gray Line, and I look forward to seeing many of you at celebrations around the country.

On behalf of the Long Gray Line, I congratulate the Distinguished Graduates that were selected this year:

Yerks '51 Anderson '61 DeFrancisco '65
Foss '56 Stroup Jr. '62 Niumpradit '71

For more than 20 years your Association of Graduates has honored those from our ranks "whose character, distinguished service, and stature draw wholesome comparison to the qualities for which West Point strives, in keeping with its motto: Duty, Honor, Country," as stated in Award criteria. We will honor our most recent Distinguished Graduates at the cadet review and alumni luncheon this coming May. Well done!

Enclosed with this issue of *West Point* magazine is an additional publication that describes more fully the comprehensive *For Us All* campaign for West Point. I encourage you to read and keep this campaign statement handy for future reference. As many of you already know, we've undertaken a multi-year fundraising effort, only the second in Academy and WPAOG history, with a goal of raising \$350M for a wide array of approved needs for West Point and your Association of Graduates. And, although we did not know it when we launched the campaign in 2009, our timing could not have been better. Thus far we've raised over \$275M, more than 80 percent of our goal, and over 40 percent of all living graduates have contributed. Don't be left out! Be proud, be part of something as big as West Point, and make a pledge this year!! Every donation to any approved need at the Military Academy or at WPAOG counts toward our campaign success. Our success will not be demonstrated just by reaching the goal in dollars, but by showing others, including Navy, our pride in who we are and in this national treasure we call our alma mater, by reaching 100 percent participation!

The Margin of Excellence at West Point is what truly makes this place unique and keeps our alma mater on par with the top Tier I universities in America. The Long Gray Line, along with parents others who love West Point, make the Margin of Excellence possible, and we need everyone's help to reach our goal and provide West Point with the support it needs for the future.

I call upon you to give to the *For Us All* campaign for West Point!

West Point, for Thee!



Bob McClure '76
President & CEO
West Point AOG



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NEW ONLINE

To access web pages and videos, scan the codes at right with your phone's camera using a QR code reader app.



Scan this code to learn more about cadet etiquette and social development at West Point.



What is your favorite spot at West Point? Scan this code to respond or go to [Facebook.com/WestPointAOG](https://www.facebook.com/WestPointAOG).



Go to the Department of Physical Education's YouTube page to watch instructional videos.

From Your West Point
Association of Graduates

Send your thoughts about *West Point* magazine to editor@wpaog.org or @WPAOG on Twitter. View the online version of this magazine at [WestPointAOG.org/wpmag](https://www.WestPointAOG.org/wpmag)

A Letter from the Superintendent

Graduation is rapidly approaching for the Class of 2013.



They have done well here at the United States Military Academy and will be ready for the privilege of leading Soldiers following Basic Officer Leadership Courses this coming summer and into the fall. From classrooms in Thayer, Mahan, and Lincoln halls; at the Indoor Obstacle Course in Arvin Gym and on Buffalo Soldier Field; and in field training sites from Buckner to U.S. Army units

worldwide, this class has demonstrated its mettle, resilience, scholarship, and leadership for 47 months. Soon they will join the ranks of the Long Gray Line and write their own chapter in our Army's history as graduates of USMA. The Class of 2014 is waiting in the wings to take on the primary leadership responsibilities of the Corps of Cadets, and they too have shown considerable promise in this extraordinary cycle of leadership development excellence that repeats itself each year at West Point.

We have hosted a number of distinguished speakers this winter: General Carter Ham, the Commanding General of U.S. Africa Command, spoke at the Class of 2013's 100th Night, Lieutenant General John Mulholland, Deputy Commanding General of U.S. Special Operations Command, spoke at the Class of 2014's 500th Night, and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia spoke at the Class of 2015's Yearling Winter Weekend. In their collective remarks there were some common denominators: respect for the graduates of this institution and for the courage of the American Soldier as well as respect and commitment to the enduring gravitas of the U.S. Constitution. The United States Military Academy has also announced that the recipient of the West Point Association of Graduate's 2013 Sylvanus Thayer Award is former Secretary of State Dr. Madeleine Albright. The presence of great speakers at the Academy and the many visits from currently serving leaders in our military units, international officers, and other leaders in the public and private sector make this a rich learning environment that best prepares our cadets for the challenges they must confront and resolve as uniformed graduates of the Academy, as leaders of character and competence

The Department of Defense is undergoing significant budget cuts, and the Army has begun to assess those reductions across each camp, post, and station worldwide, including USMA. We have done our initial analysis and are confident we can execute our core mission to standard. We also have the backing of senior Army leadership in sustaining the level of the Corps of Cadets at 4,400. We are suspending non-mission-critical travel, conferences, and some training this summer in the absence of Army funding. Many of our cadet programs are donor-funded, and we are making every effort to ensure that, where possible, they are executed. There is also a hiring freeze and the potential for furloughs of our government civilians. This fiscal ambiguity and the downward trend in resources are familiar to graduates who have known firsthand or studied the historic cycles of national defense appropriations. We will continue to provide the Corps of Cadets with the rigorous curriculum and leader development that are central to our mission.

We paid final military honors at the funeral here for General H. Norman Schwarzkopf in late February. General Schwarzkopf was the Commander in Chief of U.S. Central Command during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm—the liberation of Kuwait in 1991. He was a graduate of the Class of 1956 and taught at USMA as a tactical officer during his illustrious career. Highly decorated, wounded in combat in Vietnam, General Schwarzkopf was a superb leader of character. In the citation for his Distinguished Graduate Award, it states:

"...His lifetime of outstanding service epitomizes the very finest qualities of the American soldier. He was steadfast and fearless in battle, dauntless in pursuit of combat readiness, and ever mindful of welfare of his troops and their families. Throughout a military career of uncommon devotion to his country and its Army, he was dedicated to the principles and ideals reflected in the motto of West Point..."

We salute his passing, as we honor his final return to the United States Military Academy.

Army Strong!

David H. Huntoon Jr. '73
 Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
 58th Superintendent, U.S. Military Academy

Make History



THE THAYER
Hotel
AT WEST POINT

COME AND SEE OUR "MUSEUM" DEDICATED TO THE MOST INSPIRATIONAL GRADUATES OF WEST POINT

We are pleased to announce that the start of our **Room Dedication Program at The Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point** has been a tremendous success! Corporations, individuals, families and West Point classes have come together to dedicate rooms to our honored leaders.

The Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point is a **national historic landmark** that has hosted five US Presidents and countless world leaders and decision makers.

The Hotel recently completed a **multimillion dollar renovation** inclusive of new elaborate high tech meeting and conference rooms and inspirational hallways and displays, **adding 23 Executive Suites**.

These fabulous enhancements have brought this historic property into the modern world of **high-tech conference capabilities**, while restoring the hotel's **old-world grandeur** and inspirational beauty.

West Point has produced US Presidents, foreign heads of state, warrior leaders, astronauts and Captains of Industry. Each beautifully appointed guest room will be dedicated to an inspirational and distinguished graduate of West Point. Customized décor reflects the accomplishments of each named honoree who has made significant contributions to the nation and the world. These dedicated rooms embrace occupants with an abundance of **luxury**, high-tech convenience and **reflective inspiration**.

All **chosen honorees** become part of the storied hotel's history.

These dedicated rooms are enjoyed by world leaders, dignitaries, Academy recruits, cadet parents, returning war heroes, active duty officers and enlisted troops, tourists, and business leaders. **Decision makers in all aspects of world affairs coming to West Point, will see and reflect on both the honorees and the listed sponsors of these rooms.**

Sponsors of the rooms have a **special dedication area in the hallways of the Hotel** outside of the dedicated room. The opportunity for industry sponsors to connect on a deep emotional level with key decision makers from every sector of the economy is extraordinary.

The **Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point** is honored to build awareness of West Point's most accomplished individuals, benefitting the future and celebrating the past. *For more information please contact Mr. Rick Minicozzi at rick.minicozzi@thayerleaderdevelopment.com, or visit our room dedication web site at rdp.thethayerhotel.com.*



PARTIAL LIST OF ROOM DEDICATION HONOREES

General Douglas MacArthur, 1903
General Martin Dempsey, 1974
General Anthony McAuliffe, 1919
General Fred Franks, 1959
General Barry McCaffrey, 1964
General Roscoe Robinson Jr., 1951
General Wayne Downing, 1962
General George Alfred Joulwan, 1961
Lieutenant General Harold Moore Jr., 1945
Lieutenant General John H. Moellering, 1959
Major General Frederick A Gorden, 1962
Brigadier General Rebecca Halstead, 1981

Brigadier General Robert McDermott, 1943
Brigadier General Robert Neyland, 1916
Brigadier General Pete Dawkins, 1959
Colonel David "Mickey" Marcus, 1924
Colonel Buzz Aldrin, 1951
Colonel Lee Van Arsdale, 1974
Colonel James "Nick" Rowe, 1960
Dr. Thoralf Sundt, 1952
Mr. Henry O. Flipper, 1877
Mr. Lee Anderson, 1961
Mr. Dana Mead, 1957
Mr. James Kimsey, 1962
Secretary James Nicholson, 1961
Ambassador Michael A. Sheehan, 1977

PARTIAL LIST OF HONOREES AWAITING DEDICATION SPONSORSHIP

President Ulysses S. Grant, 1843
President Dwight D Eisenhower, 1915
Secretary Alexander Haig, 1947
General John J. Pershing, 1886
General Hap Arnold, 1907
General Omar Bradley, 1915
General Norman Schwarzkopf, 1956
General Maxwell Taylor, 1922
General Benjamin O. Davis, 1936
General Creighton Abrams, 1936
General Raymond Odierno, 1976

General Lloyd Austin, 1975
Lieutenant General Leslie Groves, 1918
Lieutenant General Vincent Brooks, 1980
Lieutenant General Brent Scowcroft, 1947
Captain Dennis Michie 1892
Colonel Frank Borman, 1950
Major General George Meade, 1835
Major General George W Goethals, 1880
The Women of the Class of 1980
Major Andrew Rowan, 1890
Colonel Kristin Baker, 1990
Colonel Felix "Doc" Blanchard, 1947
Ms. Andrea Lee Hollen, 1980
Mr. Simon Levy, 1802



Photo: William Hauser

There Is Only One West Point

By Keith J. Hamel, WPAOG staff

According to statistics from the U.S. Department of Education, there are approximately 4,500 degree-granting colleges and universities in the United States. Among these institutions, the United States Military Academy at West Point is said to stand apart. But just what is it that makes USMA unique, aside from the obvious designation distinctions (i.e., “Academy” not “college”; “cadets” not “students”)?

Certainly West Point’s policies differ from other schools: cadets must live in barracks, cadets cannot be married or responsible for dependents, and cadets must maintain certain physical standards.

In addition, its triangular curriculum (academic program, military program, and physical program) produces features not found at a typical university: no electives for the first two years, no summers off, and mandatory combative courses. Other colleges have RAs and RDs (resident assistants and resident directors); West Point has TACs and RTOs (tactical officers and regimental tactical officers)—and while a traditional college student could skip classes and avoid responsibilities for days before anyone would notice, a company TAC, who serves *in loco parentis* and makes personnel accountability a top priority, would notice a missing cadet at the next meal formation. Few colleges can also guarantee a job upon graduation, but West Point places its grads into a profession shortly upon receipt of their diplomas.

There is so much about the 47-month experience that makes West Point unique that it is difficult to synopsise it all in just a few words or sentences. For this reason, *West Point* magazine has dedicated this whole issue to answering the question. In doing so, it looks at the inimitable **people** who populate Academy offices and positions (where else do grads come back to teach in such large numbers?); it surveys the **campus** and highlights the distinctive facilities found here (is there any other university with a ski slope,

an auto shop, a cemetery, and 35 ranges and specialty military training sites?); it compares West Point **academics** to curriculums found at other Tier I institutions (USMA has how many Centers of Excellence?); it isolates the exceptional aspects that constitute the Academy’s **culture** (does any other college make its first-year students memorize the definition of leather?); it details 12 of the potentially dozens of novel **traditions** that have developed over the past two centuries (hmm...who is it that invented the class ring custom?); finally, it notes a few of the ways in which the Academy retains a connection to its distinguished **alumni** (what other school’s grads are identified in a phrase more fitting than the “Long Gray Line”?).



For those still seeking the one thing that separates West Point from the other 4,500 or so schools, consider the concept of “soul.” Metaphysically speaking, a soul is the essence of something. A soul is animating; a soul is perpetual; a soul is transcendent. In its effort to continually produce leaders of character for this nation, West Point reveals its soul by stimulating its people and alumni with spirit, courage, and resolution; by fostering traditions and a culture that is unceasing, interminable, and everlasting; and by maintaining a campus and curriculum that aim to be superlative in every possible way. George Washington understood this concept and its meaning to this county when he dreamed of establishing a national military

academy before the Declaration of Independence was even signed. His dream is still evolving in the eternal soul of West Point—the Academy is everything America was, is, and can become—and that is why the United States Military Academy at West Point is unique.

West Point reveals its soul by stimulating its people and alumni with spirit, courage, and resolution; by fostering traditions and a culture that is unceasing, interminable, and everlasting; and by maintaining a campus and curriculum that aim to be superlative in every possible way.



PEOPLE



The differences begin with the people. Nowhere else will you find this combination of developing leaders within a community (both local and around the world) that is entirely invested in the character-building model upon which West Point is built. The Academy thrives because of professors who make themselves available at all hours, fans who cheer on Army teams from around the globe, graduates who come back to mentor the next generation, and countless others who support the cadets and the institution that prepares them to be our nation's future leaders.

COMMANDANT

While the Superintendent equates to a university president and deans are a mainstay for all institutions of higher education, the Academy has one more in its leadership arsenal—the Commandant. The general in this role, currently Brigadier General Richard Clarke '84, is responsible for developing each cadet into a leader of character who “possesses the will to win, personal courage, adaptability, physical fitness, and mental toughness essential to the profession of arms.” The Commandant serves as a hands-on role model who has been successful in the same profession all cadets will enter upon graduation.



CADET HOSTESS

When the Academy and the Corps were all-male and it was uncommon for cadets to see their families, it was the widow of a graduate who served as their mother figure, known as the Cadet Hostess. She originally lived in the “gingerbread house” next to Eisenhower Hall and was responsible for teaching etiquette, serving afternoon tea, and even matching cadets with ladies from the surrounding schools. The role of the Cadet Hostess, which started in the 1920s, has evolved over the years and is now a staffed office within the Directorate of Cadet Activities. Today’s Hostess, Sharyn Kennedy Amoroso, is charged with the social development of the Corps, including extensive social etiquette training and enhanced cultural awareness to prepare them for success in an increasingly global society.

Scan this code to learn more about cadet etiquette and social development at West Point.



CADET CHAIN OF COMMAND

Cadets on Brigade Staff, chosen to lead the Corps of Cadets, are identifiable by the chevrons they wear on their uniforms. Over the decades, the chain of command has evolved to include positions such as the Respect Captain and, more recently, the Energy & Environmental Officer. When in full dress, these are the insignia you will see on Corps leadership:



First Captain



Deputy Brigade Commander
Brigade Executive Officer
Regimental Commanders



Honor Captain
Respect Captain
Academic Officer
West Point Leader
Development Officer



Command
Sergeant Major



Public Affairs
Officer



Information
Systems Officer



Supply Officer



Athletic Officer



Personnel Officer



Operations
Officer



Morale, Welfare
& Recreation
Officer



Energy &
Environmental
Officer

COMPANY MASCOTS

1



AVENGERS*



BARBARIANS



CELTS*



DUCKS

2



SPARTANS



BULLDOGS



CIRCUS



DRAGONS

3



ANACONDAS



BANDITS



COYOTES*



DRAGONS*

4



APACHES



BUFFALOS



COWBOYS



DUKES

A

B

C

D



VIKINGS



FIREHOUSE



GREEKS



ROOT HAWGS



IRON HORSE



BREW DOGS



ZOO



GATORS



HAPPY DEUCE



MOOSE



EAGLES



F TROOP



GOPHERS



HURRICANES



ICE



ELVIS LIVES



FROGS



GUPPIES



HOGS



I-BEAM

E

F

G

H

I

*Company mascots in transition.

The Core of the Academy

By **Marissa Carl, WPAOG staff**

Perhaps the most notable difference between the United States Military Academy and other institutions of higher education is the student body—in West Point’s case, the Corps of Cadets. Cadets are not just students; they are future Army officers who simultaneously earn a Bachelor of Science degree and spend 47 months developing into leaders of character.

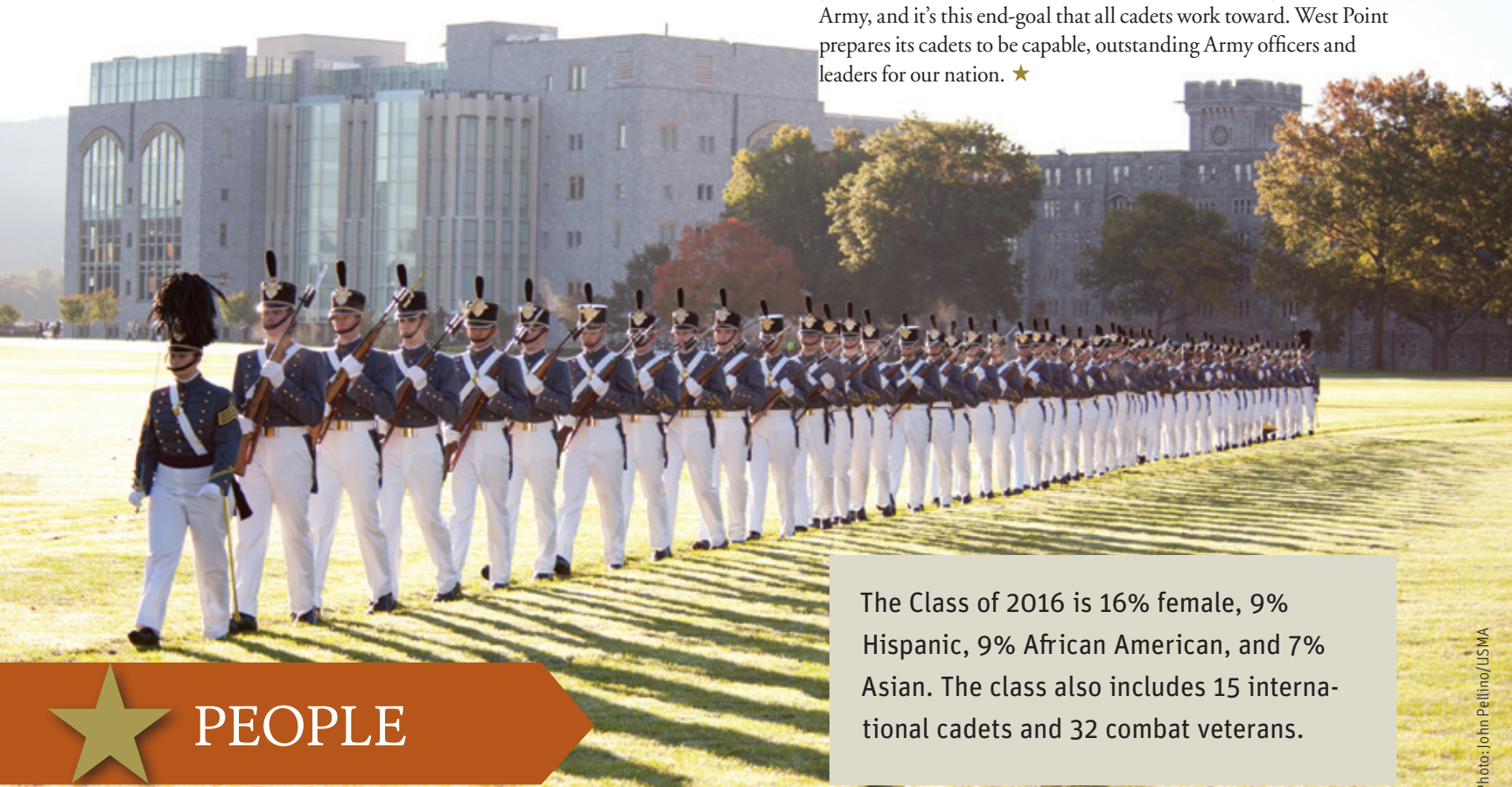
To earn a spot in the Corps, prospective cadets must first fit specific parameters outlined by the U.S. Code of Law: They must be between 17 and 23 as of July 1 on the year of admittance; must not be married, pregnant, or have any dependents; and must be U.S. citizens. Candidates must also be nominated, usually by a member of Congress, which ensures that the Corps has representation from every state.

After candidates have qualified and received a nomination, their academics, physical fitness, and demonstrated leadership skills are assessed by the Admissions Department, which also checks that candidates meet the medical qualification standards. Those who make it past all of the hurdles are offered full scholarships (plus an annual salary) and become part of the Academy’s 10 percent acceptance rate (on average), making West Point one of the most exclusive colleges in the country.

The Corps is made up of cadets like Margaret Budke ’13 and Catherine Steele ’13, who traveled to Liberia to study deficiencies in international rule of law efforts. While they each focused on different matters—Budke studied domestic dispute courts and Steele studied prostitution laws—they both met with high-ranking politicians, judges, non-government leaders, a former First Lady, and child soldiers. At the conclusion of their trip they submitted informal recommendations for change.

Cadet Blayne Hollist ’14, who was a Rifleman in the Marine Corps before being appointed to West Point, had a “truly incredible experience, one that I never imagined I would have” at the FBI’s Joint Terrorism Task Force in Kansas City. For six weeks Hollist worked with intelligence officers on actual cases, learning not only how fraud and other financial crimes are used by terrorists to acquire and launder money, but also how law enforcement and intelligence agencies track these transactions. “This was not only an amazing personal opportunity, but was directly in line with my studies and future career,” he says.

This is what differentiates the West Point experience—once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that prepare every single cadet for their careers, which, barring any mitigating circumstances, are guaranteed upon graduation. The Academy is a premier commissioning source for the Army, and it’s this end-goal that all cadets work toward. West Point prepares its cadets to be capable, outstanding Army officers and leaders for our nation. ★



The Class of 2016 is 16% female, 9% Hispanic, 9% African American, and 7% Asian. The class also includes 15 international cadets and 32 combat veterans.

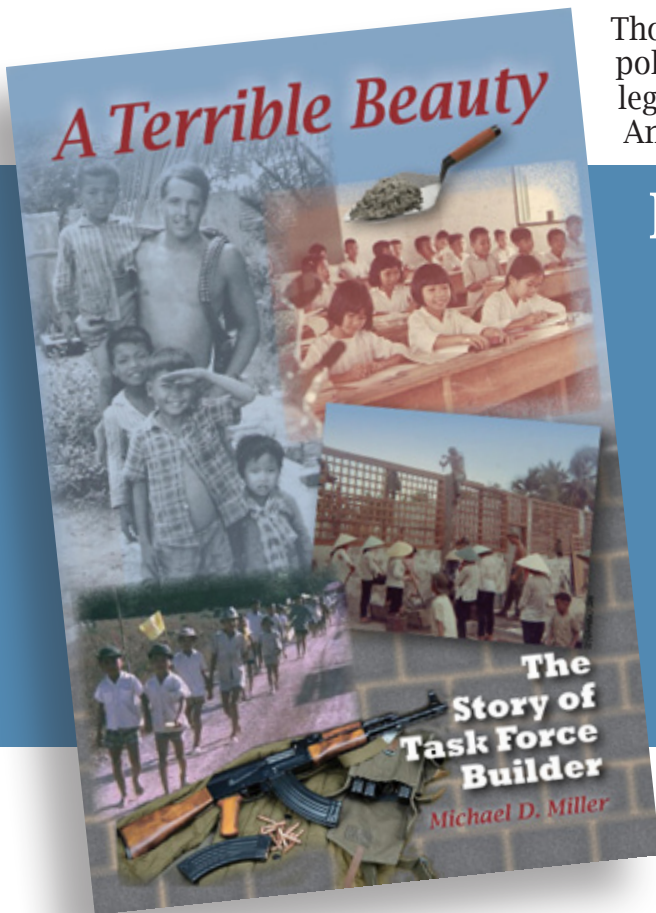
★ PEOPLE

Our business is protecting the country. Our “profits” are measured in lives; the mission was accomplished and as many soldiers as possible returned safely to their families.

We may just have the most God-like job on the planet. A businessman errs; he loses some money. We err; men die. Our decisions carry such awesome repercussions that we must be the best that we can possibly be. We must be West Pointers.

This is why a West Pointer’s honor and integrity must be impeccable. For centuries now West Point has carried the standard for the nation, defining honor, character, integrity, and service to country. These standards stand as a guide for the rest of the nation, just as distinguished graduates have, from time-to-time, inspired the nation to deeds of greatness.

Those West Pointers who place their honor above career and politics give esteem to the Long Gray Line, and further the legendary effect of the Academy on the ethics of the country. And as I learned, God favors them.



**Fight the reasons
why they fight us,
rather than fight them.**

**In Vietnam, they fought us
because they perceived us
as foreign invaders. So we
built schools for them.
Then everything changed.**

Each of us, when our moment arrives, does his duty. My moment arrived when I became the commander of Task Force Builder in Vietnam in 1968. Travel with me through my year-long adventure-odyssey that took me to the extreme limits of the human experience. See how we overcame incredible hardships and obstacles to survive, prevail, and eventually achieve that highest level of human bonding and love that exists between soldiers in combat.

“It was Tet 1968. My sixty soldiers were surrounded by 5000 NVA Regulars. Darkness was approaching, and with it would come the attack. I hustled off. I had a lot of work to do. We were going to put up one hell of a fight. And somewhere deep within myself I knew that we would survive. I just didn’t know how.”

Is combat the greatest love experience God has ever devised? After a lifetime of pondering on my Vietnam experience, I now think so. I was blessed to witness the magnificence of the human soul, and it has changed me forever. I share this incredible adventure with you in my book. It may just change you.

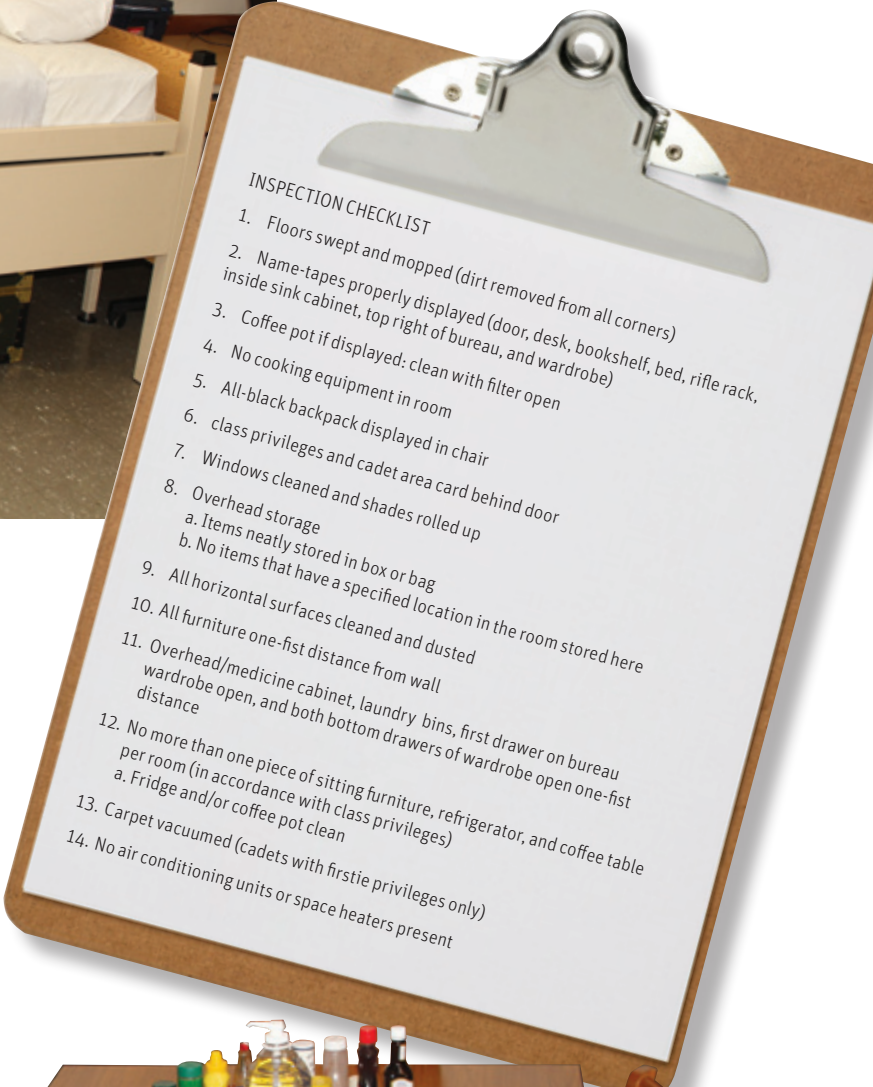
***A Terrible Beauty*, by Michael D. Miller, USMA '64, Harvard MBA '73
available on Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com · for info: nhe.net/VietnamWarConflict**



CAMPUS



Whether it's a crisp football Saturday or a Monday during "Gloom Period," West Point's scenery draws a gasp, a smile, and sometimes a momentary pause. Walking through the grounds is a historical panorama that incorporates elements from the 18th century through today. Thousands of cadets, faculty, and staff experience it every day and millions more come to soak up the history that lives and grows at this one-of-a-kind college. It is perhaps the best place in world to witness the intersection of yesterday and tomorrow. Welcome...



BARRACKS

You won't find anything from the pages of a *Pottery Barn* teen catalog in the Academy barracks. Unlike a traditional dorm room, the barracks that house the Corps of Cadets are spartan and routinely inspected. The checklist to the right includes just a portion of the requirements cadets must meet in order to pass Saturday morning inspections, "fondly" referred to as SAMI. Not making your bed properly, having the heads of bunk beds on the same end, not wearing the correct rank, an unprofessional appearance, and a lack of military customs and courtesies are all deficiencies that result in automatic failure.



MESS HALL

The Mess Hall is perhaps the only place in the world where you can see more than 4,400 people eating at once—and in less than half an hour. A staff of nearly 250 feed the Corps three times a day, and it is around these tables that cadets learn from each other how to be better leaders—oh, and how to cut a pie into an odd number of identical slices!



Photos: Marissa Carl/WPAOG staff, Kathy Eastwood/USMA/PAO



RANGES

It's on West Point's 22 live-fire ranges and 13 specialty courses that cadets (and soldiers) sharpen their military skills. Military training has been going on in this area since before 1802 and continues to be a pillar of West Point's curriculum. The ranges and training complexes occupy 14,000 acres outside of the main post (which itself is about 2,000 acres). "For a facility this size, it's the best in the United States," says Chawyer Jones, Chief of West Point's Training Support Division. From February until mid-August the ranges are busy as cadets train for Sandhurst and complete summer military training requirements. Recently, the Corps started utilizing Range 14, the Indoor Shoot House (pictured). This live-fire facility allows cadets to practice clearing and securing a room in an urban setting by projecting realistic scenarios (the targets talk back) and tracking each shot with high-speed motion cameras. This state-of-the-art facility is one of only a handful of live-fire shoot houses in use by the U.S. Army. A new Urban Assault Course will also be ready for the cadets this summer and a new breaching facility is in the Academy's long-term plans.

VISITORS CENTER

Uniting the nation's military past with the bold, new directions of the Army's future, the United States Military Academy occupies a singular place in American culture. Serving as the gateway for more than 1 million annual visitors who come to the Academy from around the world, the Visitors Center—originally housed in the field artillery sheds at the south end of post and now at the site of the former Ladycliff College Library—tells the West Point story nearly every day of the year.

To further enhance this initial experience, the West Point Association of Graduates is soliciting private funding to build a new 15,000-square-foot Visitors Center (rendering shown below) that will face the scenic Hudson River and use interactive exhibits and a state-of-the-art theater to educate visitors about the role the Academy's military training and educational curriculum plays in America's present and its future.



CAMPUS

Photos: West Point ITAM office, WPAOG archives



One-of-a-Kind Place with Two Faces

By **Marissa Carl**, WPAOG staff

West Point, the only undergraduate school located on an Army installation, hosts a unique blend of college and military post. The Academy is clustered in the pudgy peninsula that juts out into the Hudson River, while traditional Army post facilities fill out the surrounding area.

The Academy, specifically the cadet area, is distinguishable by its Gothic-style granite buildings that seem to rise up out of the Plain, which remains almost untouched outside of parade season despite the hustle and bustle that goes on around it all year. At first glance, it recalls Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry from the *Harry Potter* series (spend some time on Twitter looking at the #WestPoint feed).

As an Army post, West Point has amenities including an auto shop, a gas station, a commissary, and a post exchange (mini mall). In addition, this post has the West Point Golf Course and Victor Constant Ski Slope, where cadet clubs (including a Ski Patrol Group and the Snow Sports Instructor Group) share the slopes with local winter sports enthusiasts. Additionally, West Point residents can take their pets to the on-post veterinarian.

Considered active-duty members of the Army, cadets have readily available access to care at Keller Army Community Hospital. Many colleges have on-campus clinics or small health facilities but cadets at the Academy are entitled to comprehensive military medical and dental benefits at no cost, including world-class orthopedic doctors.

When coming to the Academy, be sure to allot a little extra time for getting through the gate. Everyone entering West Point (age 16 and older) must show a photo ID card. In addition, every car is subject to a random inspection. Visitors can also take one of the professionally guided campus tours (about 4,000 a year) offered by West Point Tours, a local company contracted by the Academy. Typical tours last one to two hours and feature headlining locations such as Trophy Point and the Cadet Chapel. You may hear on a tour that there are actually seven places of worship at West Point, the first being what is now referred to as the Old Cadet Chapel. It was built in 1836 near the cadet barracks but was moved stone by stone in 1910 to its current location at the entrance of the cemetery.

The West Point Cemetery is where many graduates and others connected to the Academy now rest in peace. Located on Washington Road, it's a destination frequented by cadets and visitors from around the world who want to pay tribute to those who dedicated their lives to this nation. Tours like the one provided to yearlings every year bring to life the stories of men and women who trained at the Academy, served nobly with honor, and now rest here permanently. The cemetery, along with the Academy's numerous monuments and plaques, helps memorialize the bravery and sacrifice of fellow West Pointers for the current Corps. ★

What is your favorite spot on West Point? Scan this code to respond or go to [Facebook.com/WestPointAOG](https://www.facebook.com/WestPointAOG)





ACADEMICS

By **Ted Spiegel**, Guest Writer

West Point has aspired to academic excellence ever since its founding. The first Superintendent, Major Jonathan Williams, addressed the matter saying, “We must always have it in view that our Officers are to be men of Science, and as such will by their acquirements be entitled to the notice of learned societies.” In doing so, Williams felt West Point could become “a great national establishment.”



Today, the United States Military Academy's academic program has two primary structural features. The first is an amalgam of solid core courses: 26 classes that the Academy considers essential to the broad base of knowledge necessary for all graduates, a course in Information Technology for all but engineering majors, and a three-course core engineering sequence for those who do not choose a major in engineering. When combined with the physical education training and military science courses required of all cadets, this core curriculum constitutes the Academy's "professional major." The second structural feature is the opportunity to select and specialize in an academic major consisting of no fewer than 10 elective courses. Combining both features, graduates must successfully complete a total of 40 academic courses.

Given its focus on graduating second lieutenants for the U.S. Army, one might think West Point's academic program cannot compare to that of traditional Tier I colleges and universities, but this is not the case. For example, Columbia College, the undergraduate division of Columbia University in New York City, also requires a core curriculum for all of its students (including a physical education requirement). But while the educational intentions at West Point and Columbia don't seem far apart, their pathways differ. Unless students at Columbia are bound for a science or engineering major, they will only be required to take three semesters of natural science. Often labeled "rigorous" by periodicals evaluating institutions of higher education, Columbia's core amounts to 18 courses or 29 credits (less than a quarter of the credits needed for graduation). At West Point, 60 credits (half of the credits needed for graduation) count toward the core. Like their Ivy League counterparts, cadets need 10 courses in their last two years to fulfill a major, but all still graduate with a robust science education paired with the traditional background in liberal arts.

Columbia College is housed within one of the world's leading private research universities (Columbia University); the University of California–Berkeley, with its 26,000 undergraduate students, is a leading public research academic institution, but both mostly reserve the practice of conducting research with faculty to graduate students. This is not the case at West Point with its numerous Centers of Excellence now performing research within each academic department (see page 22 for some examples). According to Colonel John Graham '87, West Point's Chief Scientist and Associate Dean for Research, "Undergrads elsewhere are designed to receive information, not develop information; we expect our students to develop information. It's core to what they do when they are lieutenants—gather and develop information—and new faculty arrive and pretty quickly

discover they can leverage and work with these really bright students and execute fantastic research." This research provides cutting-edge knowledge to a broad array of public and private beneficiaries, and it is a testament to the cadet's work, unlike at other institutions where the undergrad collects the data, but the faculty receives all the credit. In a nod to its overall academic excellence, West Point's curriculum has been given an "A" rating by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, putting the Academy on a short list that includes neither Columbia nor Berkeley. In another comparison, graduate schools will absorb 20 percent of Berkeley's seniors and 25 percent of Columbia's output. Upon graduation West Point's cadets are all headed for employment as lieutenants, but, even so, lifelong learning is their future. Many West Pointers will never be far from the classroom throughout their careers, attending the Basic Officer Leadership Course, the Captains Career Course, intermediate-level education (Command & General Staff College), the War College, and advanced civil schooling (Army sponsored). For those West Point graduates remaining with the Army as lieutenant colonels, most (if not all) will have at least a master's degree, many will have doctorates, and several will have taught at the college level—at either West Point or in ROTC slots. Sitting in on classes led by graduates demonstrates the sense that life's lessons learned are part of their lifelong learning shared.

Enrolling cadets with the highest potential for that valued combination of leadership and scholarship has always been the first step in fulfilling West Point's goal of excellence. Colonel Deborah McDonald '85, Director of Admissions, leads 47 full-time employees and a field force of 1,100 volunteers (80 percent graduates) in today's enrollment process. In a typical year, 16,000 high school students will start an application to the United States Military Academy;



Physical Education at West Point

West Point's physical education curriculum spans all four years. Every semester cadets must pass an Army Physical Fitness Test, which consists of push-ups, sit-ups, and a two-mile run. During their third year, cadets must also pass the Indoor Obstacle Fitness Test (IOCT).

Physical education courses are integral to West Point's curriculum and grades in these courses are incorporated into cadets' grade point averages. Below are the required classes, which total six credits:

Fundamentals of Combatives (Women) Introduces an integrated set of basic self-defense skills and the strategies and tactics necessary to avoid, escape, or defend against a physical assault.

Combatives II: Boxing (Men) Teaches offensive and defensive skills of amateur boxing.

Military Movement Exposes cadets to a variety of basic movement skills (including rolling, crawling, and landing) and serves as a basis for other athletic and military activities they will encounter at West Point and in their Army careers.

Lifetime Physical Activities Establishes a pattern of physical activity for a lifetime. Third-year cadets must enroll in a lifetime sport such as rock climbing, skiing, tennis, or golf.

Fundamentals of Fitness Provides cadets with the knowledge and experience to develop a personal fitness plan based on the Army doctrinal approach to physical readiness.

Survival Swimming Develops aquatic proficiency with two areas of instruction: basic swimming and combat/survival swimming.

Army Combat Applications Exposes cadets to a comprehensive set of unarmed combat skills, and the strategies and tactics needed to neutralize a physical attack.

Army Fitness Development Prepares future company-grade officers for their role as fitness leaders.

In addition, every cadet must participate in sports. Throughout the academic year cadets must compete at the varsity intercollegiate level, the intercollegiate club level, and/or the company athletics level.



Go to the Department of Physical Education's YouTube page to watch instructional videos. Our favorite: Captain Austin Wilson '05, a Military Movement and Combatives instructor, cracks two minutes on the IOCT.



5,000 will get a nomination, and 2,500 will be fully qualified. The Admissions office will tender 1,400 to 1,500 acceptances to get an entering class of 1,200. "We look for candidates coming from rigorous high school academic programs who have shown strong performance against their peers as measured by class standing and test scores," says McDonald. She also notes that the Academy requires evaluations from a candidate's English, math, and science teachers, who are asked not only about the candidate's academic performance but also how well he or she interacts with others, his or her leadership qualities in the classroom, and whether or not he or she is a positive peer influence.

Cadet Ted Kostich Jr. '14, Brigade Representative for the Cadet Public Relations Council (CPRC), supports the Admissions Department by heading a team of 400 volunteer cadets who escort candidates during their on-post visits, roughly 1,100 visits annually. Hometown visits are another CPRC function: 200 to 300 cadets receive up to five extra days of leave at Thanksgiving or Spring Break to visit a minimum of four area high schools, addressing students who have expressed interest in the Academy. Kostich is frank about the process: "We encourage CPRC cadets to be honest about their own West Point experience, because even though we are here with academic goals and majors in mind, the end goal is to create an officer who will serve with character, honor, and integrity in the U.S. Army. We present the Academy for what it is—a military institution." Kostich is also frank about how he and his team describe



ACADEMICS

West Point to high school students: “In high school, we were all the big fish in a little pond. Suddenly, at West Point, you become the little fish in a big pond.”

Colonel Glen Goldman ’84, Director of the Department of Military Instruction (DMI), says, “West Point is looking for exceptional young people whom we can develop into leaders of character.” DMI even has its own buzzword to describe them: “SAL” or “scholar, athlete, leader.”

Goldman is well aware of the variety found among incoming officers since he commanded the 2nd ROTC Brigade, which includes 41 host universities in the Northeast, before assuming his current role. “ROTC makes excellent officers,” says Goldman, “five times as many as West Point; however, the experience a cadet has here is totally different from that of an ROTC cadet at another university because here we don’t have to teach about the military environment, we live it.”

Graham points out that West Point listens to the battalion commanders down range inducting each of the Academy’s second lieutenants when determining changes to West Point’s program: “We listen not only to the commanders who live with our product, but also to soldiers who are led by our product; as well as the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, which certify our product.” Graham cites insights from “The West Point Academic Strategic Plan for 2012-2017,” a two-year development process initiated by Brigadier General Tim Trainor ’83, regarding the needs of today’s program: “Where young officers of an earlier generation might expect a clear mission, with a mandate merely to determine how to best perform it, today’s junior leaders are more likely to receive an expected outcome and only rough boundaries wherein it must be achieved. Their work often starts with deciding what to do, formerly the province of more senior leaders.”

Military Training at West Point

The Academy is designed to educate, train, and inspire its cadets to become competent commissioned officers in the U.S. Army. To accomplish that mission, cadets undergo an intense four-year military program that relies on summer training and core curriculum classes.

On the very first day, new cadets are transformed from civilians to soldiers. Then over the next six weeks they endure Beast Barracks, the first of four summer training experiences. Over the course of their first two summers, cadets are trained in military skills including marksmanship, land navigation, and combat medicine. They learn to work within a team and, upon graduation from Camp Buckner (second summer), the rising yearlings are certified to be a team leader. These summer months provide the soon-to-be-officers realistic insights into what they will face as Army lieutenants.

Following these first two summer experiences, cadets transition into a direct leadership role as primary trainers and planners for Buckner and Beast, leading their Third and Fourth class cadets through the training. Upper-class cadets will complete a leader detail, attend Cadet Troop Leader Training with an Army field unit, and participate in the capstone, Cadet Leader Development Training (CLDT). During CLDT, cadets are evaluated on their ability to lead under stress and solve complex tactical problems during platoon operations.

As a continuum of the summer training programs, cadets take part in the core Military Science (MS) curriculum during the academic year. Below are the three required courses, each 1.5 credits, that cadets take consecutively as plebes, yearlings, and cows. These courses are designed to prepare cadets for subsequent summer training and ultimately to be commissioned officers.

Introduction to Warfighting Enhances each cadet’s knowledge of the Army’s lineage, history, and individual warfighting fundamentals. Hands-on instruction for the basic skills of Shoot, Move, Communicate, and Survive are a key component of preparing them for future success in Cadet Field Training (Buckner).

Fundamentals of Army Operations Ensures each cadet achieves a firm grasp of the fundamentals of small-unit operations while encouraging problem-solving and critical-thinking that can not only be applied on the battlefield, but in daily life. Cadets develop and grow competence and confidence in planning and communicating platoon-level operations.

Platoon Operations Enhances cadets’ planning and decision-making skills by challenging their character and testing their decisiveness in tactical decision exercises with limited information and under time constraints in order to prepare these future officers for the challenges of leading American soldiers on today’s battlefields.





To meet today’s needs, the Academy regularly brings in faculty members “from the field” to teach the cadets. Colonel Stephen Ressler ’79, Head of the Department of Civil & Mechanical Engineering, speaks appreciatively of his seasoned faculty: “We get amazing officers in our rotating faculty, averaging about seven to eight years of service with two to four tours of combat. They have a very strong professional ethic and commit to be mentors and role models for the military profession.” These instructors infuse their curriculum with lessons learned during deployments. Commenting on these lessons, Brigadier General Michael Meese ’81, who recently retired as the Head of the Department of Social Sciences, said: “Globalization and rapid change breed uncertain environments. We have to develop within cadets those habits of mind to learn new concepts, procedures, and technologies to confront whatever challenges they will face in the future.”

All of this points to what Vice Dean Jean Blair describes as “West Point’s continual quest for excellence.” The latest manifestation of the quest is known as the West Point Leader Development System. “Our goals evolve in response to a continually changing world; therefore excellence is never attained, but is progressively pursued,” says Blair. It is this quest that allows West Point to routinely rank as one of the top colleges and universities in the nation, i.e. Williams’ notion of “...a great national establishment.” ★

Ted Spiegel is a long-time contributing writer for various WPAOG publications and formerly worked for West Point Admissions.

Select Research Centers

- Cadet Advanced Science and Technology Learning Environment
- Combating Terrorism Center
- Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies
- Center for Leadership and Diversity in STEM
- Center for Oral History
- Center for Physical Development Excellence
- Center for the Rule of Law
- Center for the Advancement of Leader Development & Organizational Learning
- Center for the Study of Civil-Military Operations
- Cyber Research Center
- Network Science Center
- West Point Leadership Center

Academic Majors

- American Politics
- Art, Philosophy, and Literature
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Comparative Politics
- Computer Science
- Defense and Strategic Studies
- Economics
- Electrical Engineering
- Engineering Management
- Engineering Psychology
- Environmental Engineering
- Environmental Geography
- Environmental Science
- Foreign Area Studies
- Foreign Languages
- Geospatial Information Science
- History
- Human Geography
- Information Technology
- International Relations
- Kinesiology
- Leader Development Science
- Legal Studies
- Life Science
- Management
- Mathematical Science
- Mechanical Engineering
- Nuclear Engineering
- Operations Research
- Physics
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Systems Engineering
- Systems Management



ACADEMICS



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TRADITION



Detailing all of West Point's traditions could be an issue all by itself given that the Academy's history spans over two centuries. *West Point* magazine covers 12 time-honored ones here, but the list could have probably included 112; some have faded into the past (just think: Benny Havens, Camp Illumination, plebe Christmas, Two Hundredth Night, the *Pointer*, Flirtation Walk, Flankers and Runts), while others are still evolving (area tours, *Bugle Notes*, SOSH run, March Back, Branch Week, Projects Day, and many more).

PARADES (OR “P-RADE”)

Unless Odin intervenes and it rains, the entire Corps of Cadets marches in five full-dress gray parades per year: Homecoming, the Thayer Award, the Alumni Review, the Superintendent’s Award, and the Graduation Parade. Double-regimental parades also take place on the Plain on football Saturdays.

SPIRIT MISSIONS

Sometimes called shenanigans or pranks, these missions are designed to promote *esprit de corps*. They also stoke the friendly fires of competition between the academies during Army-Navy week. Everyone has heard a version of the “kidnap Billy the Goat” story, but there’s also the time when cadets scaled the walls of Bancroft Hall in Annapolis and poured flour on the middies below, the painting of “SINK NAVY” on the submarine in front of Ricketts Hall in 1995, and 2012’s cyber prank during which someone posing as Vice Admiral Michael H. Miller hacked the Annapolis email system and sent a mass email poking fun at Navy’s foibles (including their apparent weaknesses in cyber security).

ARMY-NAVY

General Dwight D. Eisenhower 1915 once said, “The Army and the Navy are the best of friends in the world 364 ½ days a year, but on one Saturday afternoon, we’re the worst of enemies.” The storied rivalry, which began in 1890 and has been ongoing annually since 1930, is teeming with traditions no other college football game can tackle.

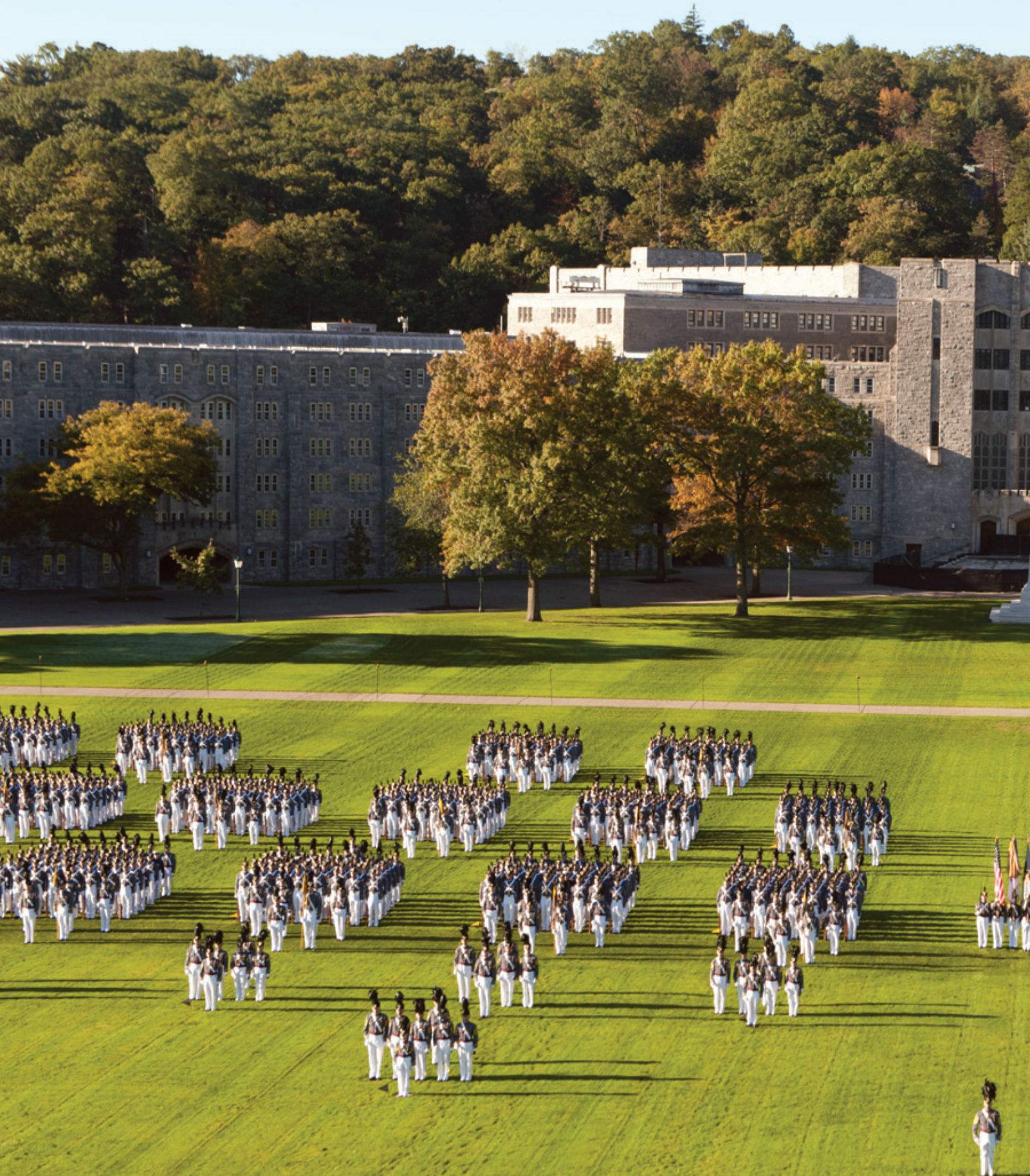
The week before the game, West Point has mandatory battle dress uniforms, the Goat-Engineer game, the pep rally, the spirit of the Twelfth Man, the bonfire, and the burning boat. At the game, there is the “march-on,” the “prisoner” exchange, the Mule and the Goat, spirit spots, and the singing of the alma maters. Some rivalries are in-state (Alabama-Auburn), some are regional (Michigan-Ohio State), but with graduates serving around the globe, Army-Navy is a world-wide rivalry, and the only one that suspended fighting in World War II (Douglas MacArthur telegraphed the following to Army Coach Red Blaik in 1944: “The greatest of all Army teams - STOP - We have stopped the war to celebrate your magnificent success”).



CLASS RING

Cadets of the United States Military Academy at West Point were the first American students to wear class rings. The tradition started in 1835, and except for 1836 (no ring adopted) and 1879 (class cuff-links) class rings have been a fixture at the Academy. Even sub-traditions have developed involving the class ring: In 1917, it became customary to design the ring with the Academy crest on one side and the class crest on the other (see detail on page 24). Starting in 1980, class constitutions contained regulations governing how the ring must be worn. Finally, in 2000, the West Point Association of Graduates inaugurated the Ring Melt, which includes gold from donated class rings to make those handed out to firsties each August during Ring Weekend, forging a line between generations of the Long Gray Line.







*“Ask not what your country can do for you,
ask what you can do for your country.”*

—John F. Kennedy



R-DAY

“Report to the Cadet in the Red Sash.” So begins the 47-month journey at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Reception day is the one day that no future graduate ever forgets. After admissions, processing, vaccinations, training (learning how to march, salute, and respond), equipment issue, and those recognizable haircuts, entering civilians are transformed in a few hours into “new” cadets. They end their day by taking the Oath of Allegiance, pledging their service to the U.S. Constitution, which signifies their entry into the Academy.



A-DAY

After completing Cadet Basic Training and its culminating 12-mile March Back, the “new” is dropped from their moniker, and the once-green cadets are welcomed by their academic companies with a parade on the Plain. The now “plebes” wear their white hats for the first time, symbolizing their formal acceptance into the Corps of Cadets.

AFFIRMATION CEREMONY

On the Sunday evening prior to the start of the academic year, cows recite an oath administered by the Commandant pledging their commitment to five years of active-duty service in the United States Army upon graduation from West Point (and an active-duty commitment if separated before). In recent years, cadets receive a class coin commemorating this momentous occasion in their 47-month journey, which has their class crest on one side, and their 50-year affiliation class’s crest on the other side.



★ TRADITION

DUTY · HONOR · COUNTRY

Selected as West Point's motto on February 4, 1898, by a committee established two years earlier for the purpose of considering a "device for the Military Academy," it has been echoing among the Academy's walls ever since. Records show that the committee felt "that the sentiment expressed by these words more clearly and concisely express the genius of the institution than that embodied in any other motto or quotation." The motto's most authoritative reverberation is found in General Douglas MacArthur's 1962 speech known by the same name.



100TH NIGHT

The 100th Night Show exists on a continuum somewhere between Elizabethan Shakespeare and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Marking the 100 days before graduation, this tradition began as a Mess Hall celebration during which plebes and upperclassmen temporarily exchanged dining duties one February shortly after the Civil War ended. Skits soon evolved, and it wasn't long before the show took to the stage with compositions, choreography, and costumes (namely cadets in drag) creatively interpreting the highlights of the graduating class's years at the Academy. Legend has it that Mark Twain patronized early productions, and the plot of the 1950 film *The West Point Story* is mainly about staging this annual production of the Dialectic Society.

500TH NIGHT

The "junior" version of 100th Night, 500th Night is a formal dinner and dance commemorating the number of days cows have before graduation. Cadets demonstrate the social aspects of wearing a uniform and mingle with commissioned and noncommissioned officers (Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin Dempsey '74 attended 500th Night for the Class of 2013).

HOPS

According to Hugh Reed 1873 in his book *Cadet Life at West Point*, Saturday hops used to begin at 8pm and ended at 11pm, although cadets could stay later at the 4th of July hop, the last hop of the summer, and at the graduation hop. "The following were the popular dances in my day," wrote Reed: "Waltz, Galop, Deux Temps, Trois Temps, Lanciers, Redowa, Polka-Redowa, Quadrille, Schottische, and Medly." Hops are still prevalent at the Academy 140 years later, but the dances have obviously changed. At this year's Yearling Hop, the Class of 2015 performed "YMCA" at the Long Groovy Line Dance in Cullum Hall, while contemporary dancing to a live band was the norm at the 2012 Ring Hop (pictured).



The Class Goat

By Julian M. Olejniczak '61, Guest Writer

On graduation day, as cadets receive their diplomas by company and regiment in alphabetical order, one will get a resounding round of applause. At this point, the ceremony halts briefly and the Dean poses for a photo with the cadet before handing over a container holding about \$1,000 (a tradition of collecting a dollar from each classmate started in the late 1960s). This is the Class Goat—the last person in the graduating class in order of merit.

Until 1978, cadets graduated in order of merit so the Class Goat was the last cadet to receive his diploma. During most of this era, all cadets took the same academic courses (with the exception of their choice of foreign language), so the playing field was level. According to *Last in Their Class: Custer, Pickett and the Goats of West Point* by James S. Robbins, the term “goat” for an academically challenged cadet may come from the “goatee” worn by the professor of the lowest-ranking section in a language class. The 1886 program for the 100th Night Show suggests this might also refer to the academically challenged cadets in this course section.



Fascination with the Class Goat likely arose because of the historical legacy of George Edward Pickett 1846 and George Armstrong Custer 1861, showing that those last in a class are as likely to have an illustrious and noteworthy career as those who graduate first.

Beginning with the Class of 1961, the even playing field began to tilt as cadets enjoyed an increasing selection of elective courses (leading eventually to fields of study and academic majors). Now the Class Goat could as likely be the victim of an overly ambitious selection of electives or a tough major rather than lesser academic qualifications. In addition, starting in 1970, “late graduates” entered the picture. In previous years, cadets found deficient were turned back to the next class year and ranked against new classmates, but with the change in policy it became possible for a cadet to graduate in June, August, or December. The Class of 2009 even had a classmate graduate in March 2010, further complicating the issue of who actually was the Class Goat: the last one to graduate on the “official” graduation day or the last person to graduate during the entire class year (including a few months of the following year)? So although the Class Goat receives a modicum of media attention today, being the Goat just isn’t quite the same as it was in Custer’s time. Nevertheless, the answer to the question, “What do you call the last person in a West Point class?” remains the same: “Lieutenant”! ★



TRADITION



CLASS RINGS
Male Ring,
Female Ring,
Miniature Ring
& Wedding Bands



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1967	1980	1992	2002
	1983	1993	2008



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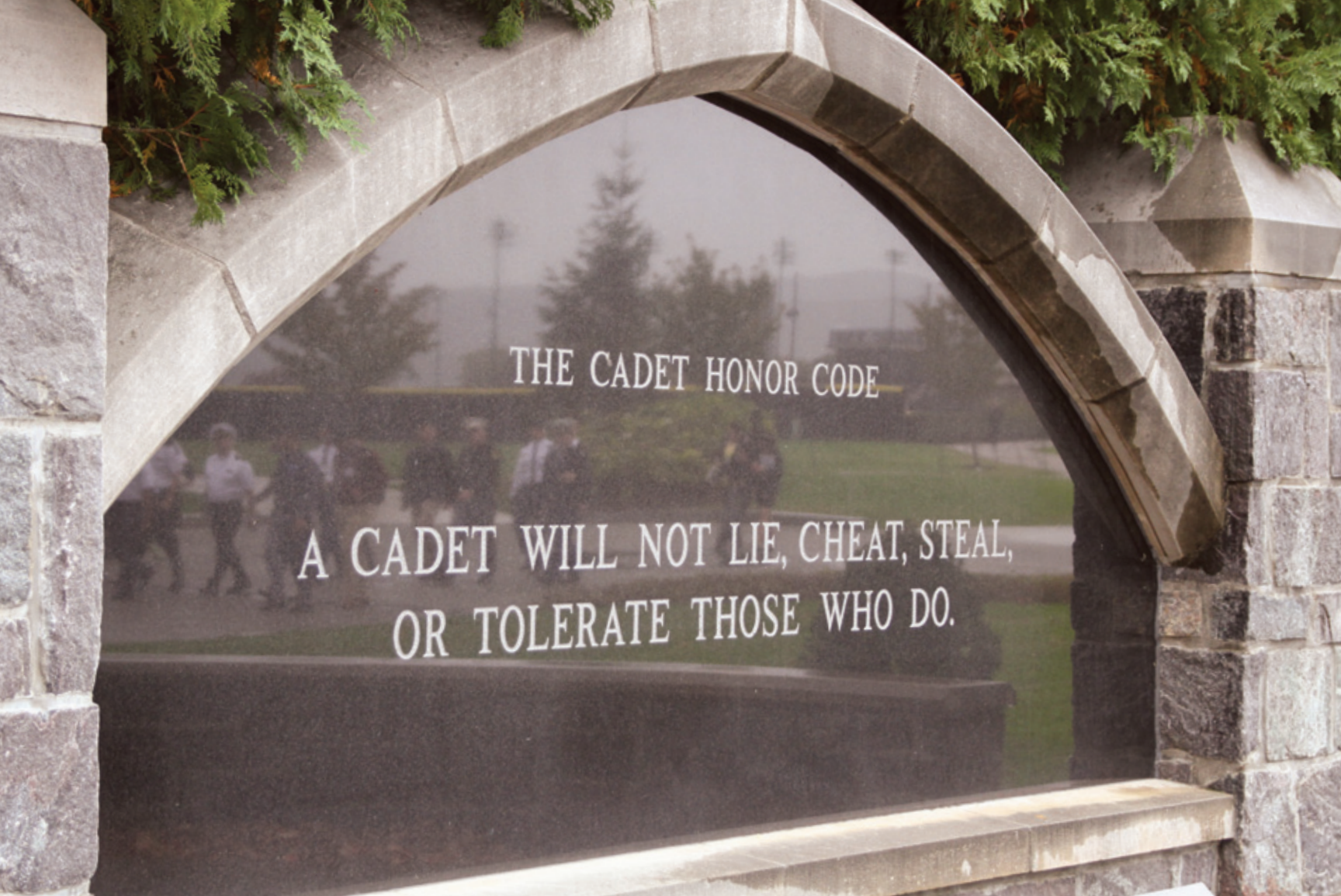
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CULTURE



“Culture” is one of society’s buzzwords, but it has been used so often to describe everything from products to practices that it has nearly lost its meaning. A mix of the ordinary and the exceptional, culture creates significance for members of a group. To outsiders, the culture of West Point is bewildering. They see it as regimented and rigid. The items in this category might be described this way, but those who have actually lived this culture understand that these unique aspects of West Point instill the values needed for commissioned leaders of character. They also grasp that the military discipline at the heart of West Point culture creates an atmosphere of camaraderie, support, and community that is rare at other institutions.

HONOR: CODE AND COMMITTEE

Some schools have codes of conduct containing thousands of words; West Point's Honor Code has 12: "A cadet will not lie, cheat, steal, or tolerate those who do." The basic tenets of the Honor Code, extending from the Officer's Code of Honor, are as old as the Academy itself. For a while, cadets policed themselves regarding infractions involving lying and stealing. Major Hugh L. Scott 1876, the Superintendent at the time, added cheating to the Code in 1907, and a tacit non-tolerance clause became official in 1970. In 1922, when he was Superintendent, Douglas MacArthur 1903 formalized a cadet-run committee to represent the Corps on all matters relating to the Code. Today, the Honor Committee that MacArthur founded is housed in the Simon Center for Professional Military Ethic and assists in the mandatory Professional Military Ethics Education Program. This Committee also conducts honor investigations and holds hearings.



CLASS NAMES/DUTIES

Most colleges follow the traditional "freshman—sophomore—junior—senior" designations, but the United States Military Academy is not like most colleges. Instead, the Academy uses "plebes" (the non-aristocratic class of Roman citizens), "yearlings" (referring to an animal in its second year of life), "cows" (a term rumored to have emerged in the 19th century when Second Class cadets would return from summer break and run up the hill from the train station like cattle heading for the pasture), and "firstie" (a derivative of First Class cadet). Also, unlike most colleges, each class has assigned duties. Plebes endure the most mundane tasks: They pour all liquids at meals as well as cut and serve desserts; they call out the minutes until formation; they pick up and return upper-class cadets' laundry; they used to have to deliver mail as well. All upperclassmen have leadership positions. Yearlings are mainly team leaders—responsible for the military development of the plebes—while cows and firsties serve as the leadership cadre and in command positions.





▲ EVERY CADET AN ATHLETE

During his tenure as Superintendent, Douglas MacArthur 1903 made several changes to modernize the ways in which the Academy prepared cadets for officership. Regarding one of these changes, MacArthur later said in his book *Reminiscences*, “Every cadet would be required to participate in all major sports under the supervision of qualified instructors.” In the fall of 1920, this resulted in the “every cadet an athlete” slogan. Mass athletics were taught as part of the curriculum, and intramural contests (between companies and battalions) were held in order to, as MacArthur put it, “fit future officers physically for the rigors of military service, and to qualify them as physical directors and instructors for their future commands.” West Point’s current athletic program is still guided by this concept and, in addition to instructional coursework within the Department of Physical Education, every cadet must participate in a competitive sport (company-, competitive club-, or Corps-squad level) each academic term.

▼ PLEBE KNOWLEDGE

This is “poop” a plebe must recite to an upper-class cadet when asked (usually at inspections, in formations, or during meals). It runs from songs and “yells,” famous definitions and opinions (e.g., Schofield’s definition of discipline and Scott’s fixed opinion), codes and creeds, and of course legendary heritage (“How many lights in Cullum Hall?” “Where do plebes rank?” etc.). Plebes receive a handbook on R-Day containing all the knowledge they must memorize. In total, plebes must learn a near 50/50 ratio of Army (e.g., insignias) and Academy (e.g., number of days until graduation) data. According to a report by then-Captain Christopher Engen ’91, plebe knowledge represents the traditional harassment of newbies in a way that is considered more constructive than the severe forms of hazing that dominated the Academy nearly a century ago.

CADET ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Company Athletics: 2000 Cadet Athletes, 800 Cadet Leaders (consisting of Regimental CICs, team coaches, and sport officials)

Competitive Club Team Athletics: 638 Cadet Athletes on 21 teams

Corps Squad Athletics: 774 Athletes on 24 teams

Source: CDT CPT Benjamin Miller '13, BDE Athletics Officer



★ CULTURE

Changing West Point Culture from Gray to Green

By MAJ Andrew Pfluger, LTC Mark Smith, COL Jerry Kobylski

An energy education and conservation movement is gaining momentum in the Corps of Cadets. Three years ago, the concept of energy was abstract—only cadets in specific courses learned about it and few practiced reduction measures. While some cadets initiated individual efforts, there was no lasting change. Several simultaneous efforts to educate Academy leadership and cadets about energy have recently coalesced, and are working hard to spark change: the formation of the West Point Energy Council, the establishment of energy as a major theme throughout the core curriculum, and the initiation of the Energy & Environmental chain of command in the Corps.

In 2009, Lieutenant Colonel Mark Smith, Colonel Russ Lachance '85, and Will Plumley took charge and established the West Point Energy Council to create a partnership between the U.S. Army Garrison and the Academy that promotes energy and environmental security at West Point. Under this initiative, Department of the Army civilians, Academy instructors, and cadets have worked together on energy projects in the barracks and on post. The Energy Council is also responsible for West Point's participation in the Net Zero Energy program, which aims to have the Academy produce as much energy as it consumes.

Part of the Net Zero Energy solution is becoming more knowledgeable about energy security and its implications for our Army. The Core Interdisciplinary Team, led by Colonel Jerry Kobylski and Colonel Joe Shannon, introduced an institutional program to inject energy-related topics into more than 10 core courses. The planning for this effort began in the fall of 2010 when the Dean, Brigadier General Tim Trainor '83, asked the Academic Excellence Committee to investigate ways our program could become more interdisciplinary. Beginning in the fall of 2012, cadets in the Class of 2016 have been receiving an initial exposure to energy security topics and challenges within courses like chemistry, math, psychology, and information technology. Exposure will lead to application the following year in math, physics, physical geography, economics, and political science courses, all this while a new class

encounters the same experiences that the Class of 2016 did as plebes. For example, cadets will be able to take simple equations on diesel fuel combustion from a chemistry class to their math class where they can apply modeling processes and matrix algebra to balance a more realistic combustion reaction.

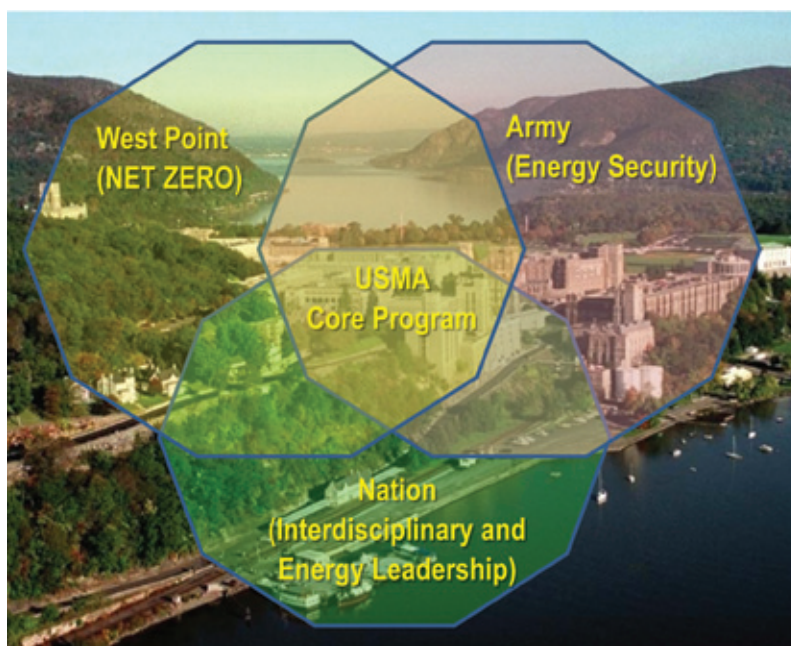
In the Corps itself, the newly formed Energy & Environmental chain of command is modifying the cadet culture concerning energy. Colonel Joe DeAntona '84, the Brigade Tactical Officer and champion of the greening effort in the Corps, authorized the creation

of the new positions in 2011. The idea is that a chain of command, with competent and invested leaders at the brigade through company level, could provide the emphasis needed to catalyze lasting change. The chain of command is currently unique to West Point as no other service academy has such a robust effort. While then-Cadet Brian Meese '12, the first Brigade Energy & Environmental Officer (E2O) focused his efforts on improving

recycling and waste management, Cadet Adam Leemans '13, the current Brigade E2O, has focused on energy. An E2O-initiated competition to reduce electricity use in the barracks has stimulated awareness and changed cadet behavior. A resounding success, the Corps was able to decrease energy use by about 6.5 percent during the three-month competition in the fall of 2012.

While there is much work left to be done, there are intelligent and motivated faculty, staff, and cadets working toward the Net Zero goal. No longer is energy an enigma—it is now an important concept fully integrated into efforts in the Corps, the academic curriculum, and West Point Garrison. ★

MAJ Pfluger and LTC Smith teach in the Environmental Program of the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering. COL Kobylski is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences.





ALUMNI



It's a legacy that started in October 1802, when Joseph Swift and Simon Levy became the United States Military Academy's first graduating class. And it's a legacy that the Class of 2013 is looking forward to joining very soon. To sum it up in three words, it's the "Long Gray Line"—a chain of leaders who headline both history books and hometown newspapers. West Point graduates are a unique breed for countless reasons, most notably the bonds created among each other and the lifelong connection to the institution that started them on their way.

REGISTER OF GRADUATES

The *New York Times* heralded it as a “contribution to the military history of the Nation so rich in invaluable data and so essential to the future historian or student of American history.” That was 1867, and it had all started 21 years earlier, when George Cullum 1833 thought it was important to start chronicling the biographies of every West Point graduate. His work eventually became the *Register of Graduates*, which traces each graduate’s military and professional career. Cullum gave the first graduate the number 1; after that, entries were listed in order of merit. Starting with the Class of 1978, however, entries were listed alphabetically within their class. The *Times* review still holds today as historians, researchers, and families continue to reference this comprehensive directory.

The next edition of the *Register of Graduates* will be printed in 2015. In the meantime, graduates can access an online lookup and can update their own entries at WestPointAOG.org/RegisterofGraduates.

50-YEAR AFFILIATION PROGRAM

Just when the R-Day nightmares stop, you get the chance to do it all again—the highlights, at least. Every incoming class is paired with the one that precedes it by 50 years. Together they go through the 47-month experience, the cadets as developing leaders and the graduates as experienced mentors. The program, which began in the mid-1990s, strengthens the Long Gray Line by offering opportunities for forging tangible connections and sharing traditions.



CULLUM FILES

More detailed graduate information is included in what’s now called the Cullum Files, which are available only to the graduate attached to those files until his or her death, at which point they can be accessed by families, classmates, and others through WPAOG’s archivist. The original purpose was to help families and classmates write memorial articles for *TAPS* magazine. The files have now evolved into a research treasure trove that keeps West Point’s history alive through the chronicles of its graduates.

See the list below for examples of what to include in your Cullum File.

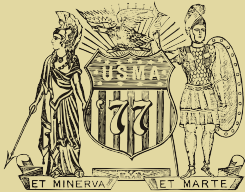
-
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 - a. Wedding
 - b. Children
 - c. Degrees Obtained
 - d. Job Promotion, Hire, or Achievement
 3. Change of Station
 4. Change in Rank
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 6. Newspaper or Magazine Clippings
 7. Self-Written Biography
 8. Press Releases
 9. Awards Received
 10. Covers of Published Books
 11. Résumé
 12. Genealogical information about you and other family members who attended the Academy
- Email Marilee.Meyer@wpaog.org to add to your Cullum File.

Did You Know...

Classes of 1810 and 1816 had no graduates.

Class of 1835 had the first class motto: *Amicitiae Periculique Foedus* (Danger Brings Forth Friendship).

Class of 1877 had the first crest.



Class of August 1917 graduated 10 months early (to support the need for Army officers in World War I) but maintained its class crest, which displayed “1918.” The three classes following August 1917 also graduated early yet retained the crests that included their intended year of graduation.

Class of 1921 had the first class nickname: “The Orioles.” Due to a shortage of cadet uniforms, cadets entering in November and December of 1918 initially wore uniforms obtained from the Army with an orange band on their campaign hats. Though scheduled to graduate in 1922, seventeen cadets elected to graduate in 1921. The Class of 1922 also went by “the Orioles.”



★ ALUMNI

Class Identities Strengthen the Long Gray Line

By **Marissa Carl**, WPAOG staff

“West Point doesn’t have fraternities, or sororities, or secret societies,” wrote General H. Norman Schwarzkopf ’56 in the introduction to *West Point: Two Centuries of Honor and Tradition*. “Its graduates think of themselves as part of one Long Gray Line that stretches back to that very first Class of 1802.” Within the Long Gray Line though are 216 classes, each with its own identity.

Whether it’s something that happened while they were cadets, something that was going on in the world when they graduated, or something they have accomplished together after graduation, each West Point class has something—or things—it’s known for. The Class of 1915 is “the class the stars fell on” because of the sheer number of general officers it produced, the Class of 1966 is known for being featured in the book *The Long Gray Line* by Rick Atkinson, and 1977 will forever be the only class to graduate on the Plain (artificial turf was being installed at Michie Stadium). Class is the strongest affinity among graduates, and it’s a bond that starts on day one.

Before cadets even earn the rank of plebe, the class chooses a motto that will represent them throughout their time at West Point, as well as into their military and then civilian careers. Fifty years ago the Class of 1967 was just months away from choosing “None Will Surpass” as their motto and the Class of 2013 will continue “Defending the Dream” as they prepare for graduation next month and their careers as Army officers. After a motto is selected, the Ring and Crest Committee creates a unique emblem that represents the class’s goals and motivation. The Class of 2007 crest features the World Trade Center and the Pentagon along with its motto: “Always Remember, Never Surrender.” Crests and mottos also appear on the class flags—12 of the most recent classes have flags, which are becoming increasingly popular identifiers working backward to more senior classes as well.

Like all colleges, each year group at West Point has class officers. Unlike other schools, these positions can be for life. Major General “Lee” Hogan, Class of June 1943, was an active class president for more than 50 years. An increasingly popular trend, however, is for classes to elect new leadership every five to 10 years, at their reunions. Policy changes like this are laid out in each class’s constitution—a document that is voted on by the cadets while at the Academy and adhered to for the duration of that class’s post-cadet life.

It’s in the years after graduation that class affinity grows even stronger. Through fundraising campaigns, which start as soon as five years after the hat toss, graduates rally together and funnel their energy back to the Academy. Each class votes on a campaign need (or multiple needs) and, throughout the years, they have literally transformed the landscape of West Point with brick-and-mortar gifts—such as new sports facilities and the Jefferson Hall Library—and have enhanced cadet development through hundreds of scholarships and academic endowments.

While grads are also connected through the companies they were in, the sports they played, the clubs they joined, and the departments within which they studied, class undoubtedly remains the strongest affinity at West Point. To tell their story, classmates have written books together about their time at the Academy. Many classes stay connected online through Class Notes at WestPointAOG.org as well as class-specific Facebook pages. At Academy events around the world you’ll hear conversations start with: “What class are you?” Each class’s strength and unique identity makes the Long Gray Line a vibrant part of West Point’s ongoing history. ★

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The West Point Experience: A Parent's Perspective

By **Patty Rasmussen**, Guest Writer

I've often said I was grateful West Point was our first "college" experience with our kids. At West Point, the emotions associated with cutting the cord run a little higher, a little hotter. From the minute my husband, Steve, and I were told, "You now have 90 seconds to say your goodbyes," I knew we were in for a one-of-a-kind experience.

We have three children, all highly motivated and goal-oriented. Each attended college. Our eldest, Matt, graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 2001. Our two other children, Tim and Joanna, graduated from the University of Georgia (UGA), the large flagship university in our home state, in 2005 and 2010, respectively.

The biggest difference right off the bat was the amount of access we had to our children attending UGA versus Matt at West Point. Sure, we could email and occasionally telephone him, but (for a variety of reasons) we knew when we said "goodbye" as he left for his first semester each year, we were saying so until Christmas. During Matt's four years at West Point, we only visited twice: Plebe Parent Weekend and a football weekend during his yearling year.

Contrast this with our experience with Tim and Joanna while they were at UGA. Provided that their schedule would allow, we could meet them for lunch or dinner in town or at the dining hall and get back home in an elapsed time of three hours. When Tim or Joanna forgot things at home, I could run it over to them if it was urgent enough. They came home for special occasions and holidays, to do laundry, or just to enjoy some home cooking.

Fortunately for Matt, we had family living less than 90 minutes away from West Point. He was able to visit them for Thanksgiving and eventually spent a couple of Thanksgiving holidays with a fellow cadet from northern Virginia. It was a good experience for him and for us too. We needed to get used to not having him at the table for every holiday.

We are immensely proud of UGA, which isn't just a football powerhouse in the Southeastern Conference but also a premier university with high academic standards. Our children received outstanding educations. Tim graduated *cum laude* from the nationally ranked Grady School of Journalism, and Joanna graduated with a degree in Latin American studies and a commission through Army ROTC. The "Bulldog Battalion" offered Joanna a fine ROTC program and opportunities for leadership development. Like all her counterparts, Joanna participated in physical training, drill, and weekend training exercises. She was given opportunities to take on more duties and responsibilities through the years, and she went to the Leader Development & Assessment Course at Ft. Lewis, Washington, during the summer between her junior and senior years at UGA. While impressive, this was nothing on par with the day-in/day-out experiences West Point was able to offer Matt.

In addition to challenging academics, Matt's everyday existence was totally immersed in the military, in structure, discipline, and expectations: His military career had essentially already begun. At West Point he was part of something unique and meaningful. History imbued the place: As part of the Long Gray Line, he marched through the same sally ports as some of the greatest leaders in our nation's history.



The phrase, “Much of the history we teach was made by people we taught,” was more than some marketing tagline. Like the military leaders he studied, he was also expected to become a leader of character, an assignment he took seriously. Matt’s “West Point summers” were spent away from home at Camp Buckner, Airborne School, and serving in an Infantry battalion in Alaska. The experience was important and timely. Less than two years after Matt graduated in June 2001, he was engaged in combat in Iraq with the 82nd Airborne Division.

We knew Matt’s life would be different from that of his siblings. We expected his college experience would also provide different challenges, for him and for us. Matt might have mixed emotions about his West Point years, but I think I can sum up our feelings in one word—PRIDE. ★

Patty Rasmussen is an Atlanta-based freelance writer. She spent 12 years covering the Atlanta Braves for ChopTalk Magazine and has written for Major League Baseball publications, Georgia Trend magazine, WebMD, Womenetics.com, and Blue Ridge Country.

Major Matt Rasmussen is currently deployed to Afghanistan with the 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment.



POP OFF!

The Academy is special for so many reasons, many of which you noted on Facebook and Twitter when we asked: “What are the unique aspects of West Point? What differentiates USMA from other colleges and universities?” Turns out it’s a combination of people, culture, traditions, and the campus itself that sets West Point apart from every other school.

Quinn Moodyk @Quinn_Moodyk 11h
 You can't say this isn't an amazing campus #WestPoint
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John Champagne Life long commitment to Duty, Honor and Country. BOTL'69
 October 25 at 12:52pm · Like · 2

Jen Bean Ryan The bonds you create with your classmates and company mates are strong.
 October 25 at 10:16am · Like · 2

Jason Cotton Hillman Its reputation for producing excellent leaders over the last 200+ years.
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Christopher Thomas The snazzy outfits.
 October 25 at 10:54am · Like

Randall Old Crow the mess hall, practically everyone sitting down at the same time and sharing the same meal.....priceless
 October 25 at 10:59am via mobile · Like · 2

Black_Jared_ @Black_Jared_ At no other school will you hear trumpets playing at night informing you that it is your bedtime. Only at #WestPoint

Jurgis Végélé everything
 October 25 at 3:52pm · Like

Photo: courtesy of author.



A Tradition of Greatness: Army Baseball

By Keith J. Hamel, WPAOG staff

May 22, 2012: Doubleday Field. It is the deciding game in the best-of-three Patriot League Championship Series. There are two outs in the top of the ninth, and top-seeded Army is leading second-seeded Holy Cross 8-4. The Crusaders are threatening with runners on first and second. Gunnar Carroll '14 fires in a pitch to Holy Cross's Stephen Wadsworth. Wadsworth smacks it to third, but Harold Earls '15 is there and steps on the base to end the game and secure the Championship for the Black Knights. Pandemonium erupts as players rush from the dugout and the field to pile on Carroll and catcher J.T. Watkins '12 near the pitching mound, a historic moment to cap a historic 2012 season. It is a season that saw the Black Knights shatter 45 school records, including most wins in a season (41); however, making history is nothing new to Army Baseball.

The lineage of Army Baseball can trace its roots to Abner Doubleday 1842, who, in legend if not in reality, invented the game of baseball in a cow pasture of Cooperstown, New York, in 1839. While Major General Doubleday kept the 3rd Division of I Corps in reserve in May 1863, perhaps anticipating his role in the July Battle of Gettysburg, a small group of Academy Third class cadets applied for equipment to play baseball and made it the first organized sport at the Academy. By 1867, games between the classes were entertaining cadets and local fans. According to Edward E. Farnsworth Jr. '32, a former officer-in-charge (OIC) with the team and author of the article "Fifty Years of West Point Baseball," West Point played its first game against an external opponent on August 2, 1890, an 8-8 tie with the Riverton Club Merriams from Philadelphia. This was followed later in the month by wins against the New York Sylvans and the Atlantics from Governors Island. Farnsworth maintains that West Point's baseball success "opened a new field for the expenditure of cadet energy," allowing Dennis Michie 1892 to start the football team that played its first game on November 29, 1890, a loss to Navy (incidentally, the Army Baseball Team, featuring yearling Douglas MacArthur 1903 in left field, won its first game against Navy 4-3 in 1901).

In 1909, Army Baseball moved its diamond from the southeast corner of the Plain (located approximately in front of the opening between the old Academic Building and the 1st Division barracks) to its present location, making the current field older than those at either Boston's Fenway Park (opened in 1912) or Chicago's Wrigley Field (1914): "It's the oldest extant baseball field in the United States," says Rod Vitty '55, who pitched the team's second no-hitter in 1955 (Bob Neyland 1916 threw the first in 1914). In its 103 years of existence, Army's baseball field has witnessed many memorable moments, including several visits from Major League teams. The connection between Army and Major League Baseball actually started in 1908 when inaugural Hall of Famer Christy Mathewson of the New York Giants coached the Army pitching staff for three weeks. From 1914 to 1986, Army played 68 games against MLB teams—New York Giants (23 games), New York Yankees (21 games), Brooklyn Dodgers (8 games), Montreal Royals—the Dodgers' former AAA team (6 games), New York Mets (8 games), Detroit Tigers (1 game), or Houston Astros (1 game): The Army nine beat the Dodgers and Royals twice each from 1944-45. Some of the notable players who saw time on "the main baseball diamond" (as the field was previously known) include Jim Thorpe (1914), Casey Stengel (1923), Lou Gehrig (1928), and Babe Ruth (1928).

On May 17, 1939, thirteen days before the field at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown was named after him to honor the centennial founding of the game, the following order was read to the Corps of Cadets as the Army nine were about to take on Yale: "The baseball field near the Cadet Camp is hereby designated by the name of

The Lombo Double Combo

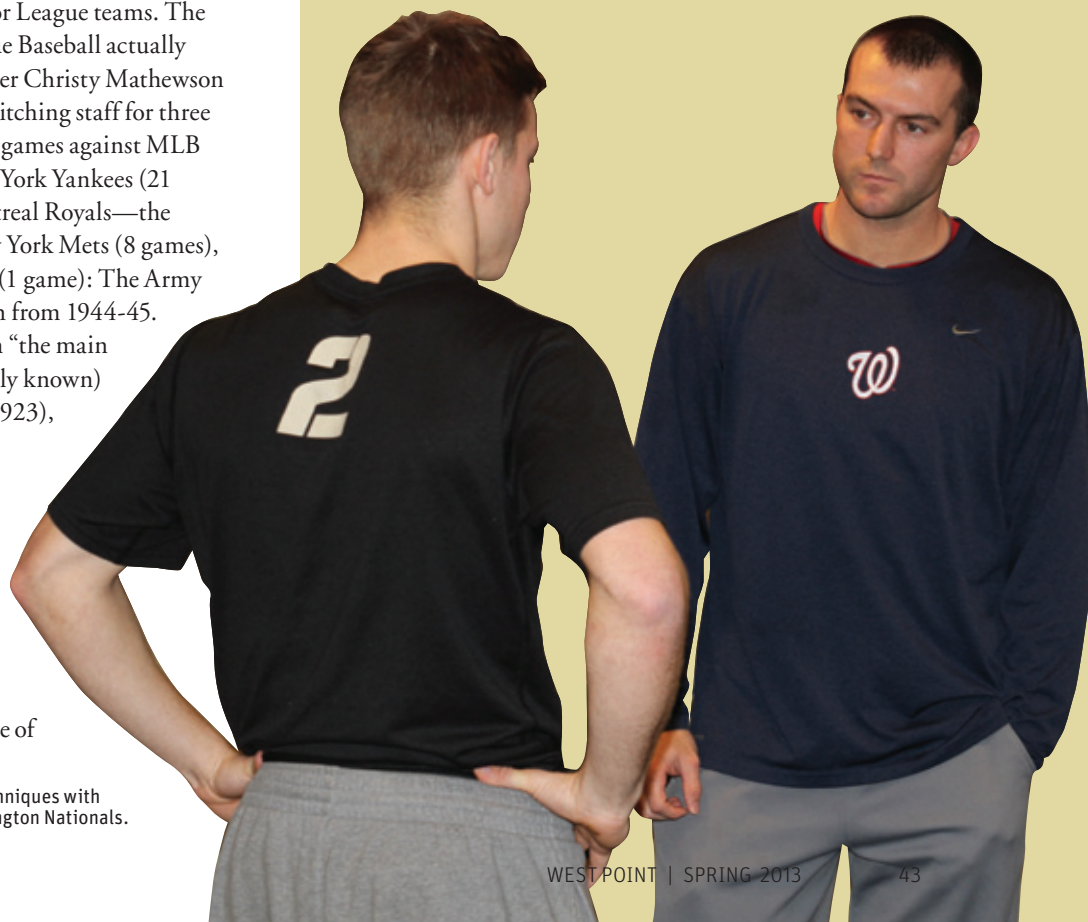
By Keith J. Hamel, WPAOG staff

The tradition of Major League ballplayers visiting the Army Baseball Team resumed this past winter. Steve Lombardozi Jr., second baseman for the reigning National League East Champion Washington Nationals, and Steve Lombardozi Sr., second baseman for the 1987 World Series Champion Minnesota Twins, came to West Point in January to tour the Academy, dine in the Mess Hall, and of course meet the players of the current Patriot League Champion Army Baseball Team. "I'm just as thrilled to meet you guys as you've said you are to meet me," Steve Jr. told the players in their team room at Johnson Stadium. The father-and-son combo spoke to the team for over an hour, mixing spontaneous Q&A with stories of Steve Sr.'s baseball tips to Steve Jr. en route to the big leagues.

The players found connections between Steve Jr.'s path to the Majors and their path to becoming Army officers. "One of the things I noticed is that the way they approach baseball is similar to what it will be like when we are in theater," said Alex Jensen '15. "For them, playing the game the right way means the difference between being out or being safe at first during a bang-bang play: For us, training the right way will mean the difference between bang-bang dead and bang-bang alive."

The team also noted parallels between the Lombardozis' philosophy of baseball and that of Army Head Coach Joe Sottolano. "They're both about practicing game-like," said Justin Reece '16.

continued on page 44



Army infielder Howard Earl '15 discusses baseball techniques with Steve Lombardozi Jr., second baseman for the Washington Nationals.



The Lombo Double Combo, *continued*

“Every rep counts and must be performed perfectly as if the situation were happening in the championship game.” Steve Jr. told the team about his process for working on his “triggers,” which are designed to give him an edge at baserunning, explaining how he puts in hours of practice for something that occurs in a few seconds during a real game. “When you are actually in the game,” he elaborated, “your instincts will take over because you’ve prepared for the situation hundreds of times.”

Howard Earls ’15 just found it “awesome” to spend time picking the brain of a player of Steve Jr.’s caliber. “I asked him a lot about his mental routine, both on the field and before he steps into the box to hit.” The younger Lombardozi made it a point to tell the team how he used “visualization” to calm his nerves the first time he travelled with the Nationals during spring training: “I laid in bed the night before playing the scenario over and over in my mind, maybe 100 times. The next day, when I pinched hit in the 7th inning—my first major league at-bat—I smacked a line drive over the shortstop’s head, just as I had visualized it. I’ll probably never forget that situation.”

All the players came away impressed with how “genuine” and “real” the Lombardozis were, and the Lombardozis left impressed with both West Point and Army Baseball. “Just the quality of the people here, cadet-for-cadet, was really refreshing,” said Steve Jr. Referring to the Team as a whole, he noted that Army Baseball is like a family. “Their team chemistry is really good,” he said: “Number one, this is what separates a team at the Major League level that gets in the playoffs from a team that doesn’t; a team that wins the World Series from the one that loses.”

“I just wish I had more time to spend with the players,” Steve Sr. said: “Scouts often say that there’s a different look about a kid who they say is ‘a gamer;’ when you shake these players’ hands and look in their eyes, you can tell the gamer is in there, the intensity is in there—it’s just piercing!”

Above: Steve Lombardozi Sr. relates stories from his baseball days to the Black Knight players’ future as Army Officers. **Right:** Army Baseball Head Coach Joe Sottolano discusses the goal of practice reps with members of the team.

‘Doubleday Field,’ in honor of the late Major General Abner Doubleday, U.S.A., U.S.M.A., 1842, popularly known as the ‘father of baseball.’” Joe DiMaggio (1944), Willie Mays (1954), Mickey Mantle (1961), Nolan Ryan (1971), and Darryl Strawberry (1984) are a few of the Major League ballplayers who have since been able to say that they had the opportunity to play on the *original* Doubleday Field. The most recent Major League visitors to the field, the 2013 New York Yankees, almost didn’t get to play on this historic site. In the late 1980s, a plan was drafted by then-Superintendent Lieutenant General Dave Palmer ’56 to move the home of Army Baseball to Buffalo Soldier Field, but former players, led by Vitty, formed the Doubleday Society in 1989 to preserve the field and support the Baseball Team. The Society did more than preserve the field; it beautified it by raising money to fund a construction project that renovated the stadium surrounding the field with 880 fixed chair-back seats, spacious locker rooms, and fully equipped clubhouse facilities. The new stadium, named Johnson Stadium after former player Rupert H. Johnson ’21, opened in the fall of 1996, one year after the Black Knights began the tradition of early season training at the New York Yankees spring facility in Tampa, Florida.

But it is not just longevity that makes this field special. As Steve Lombardozi Sr., second baseman for the 1987 World Series Champion Minnesota Twins, commented during a recent visit to the team (see sidebar), the field’s location is also a factor: “I like this field because it is in the middle of campus. A lot of universities put their fields on the outskirts, but this one is right in the middle, at the heart of West Point.” Aesthetics count too. Rich DeMarco, play-by-play announcer for the Black Knights on radio and Assistant Athletic Director, says, “Doubleday Field is the most special place I’ve ever called a baseball game; there is no beating the view behind the outfield walls with the Hudson River just off to the left, along with Cullum Hall...the library in center field and, of course, the Plain out past right field.” Lieutenant Colonel Dave Borowicz ’92, an Assistant Professor with the Department of Civil & Mechanical Engineering and the team’s Assistant Coach who pitched four years on teams that never lost to Navy, says quite simply: “The field we have here, the quality of the facilities for a school in the Northeast, is one of the best, if not the best.” His reverence is shared by current players. Jon Crucitti ’14, one of the team’s outfielders, says, “When you are coming out of the dugout, you feel as if Abner Doubleday said, ‘This is what a baseball field should look like.’” Interestingly, his comment





The “main baseball diamond” in 1911.

comes close to what Hall of Famer Willie Mays once told Vitty before an exhibition game: “What a beautiful place to play baseball—is this heaven?”

The values of the Baseball Team reflect the significance of its field. What’s more, the Academy supports these values. “When our kids leave the field, the values that the team is trying to instill are upheld by the institution—West Point aids us,” says Head Coach Joe Sottolano. This means, as current OIC Colonel Raymond Nelson acknowledges, that leader development is central to both: “The values of the Baseball program are absolutely consistent with the Army’s values and West Point’s values, and it is developing our young players into great leaders.” Discipline, mental toughness, and team commitment are all principles upon which the team’s philosophy statement expounds. Furthermore, Sottolano stresses that each rep in practice be performed as if the championship game is on the line—this intensely competitive and aggressive mind-set is Sottolano’s trademark. “It is about handling pressure and adversity,” Coach says: “We make sure that by the time they leave this program every one of them, when the pressure is on, is going to stand and fight; they are not going to fly.”

This pressure creates players of remarkable character who take the phrase, “play the game the right way,” off the field and show respect to whomever they come in contact. A visit to their practice facility demonstrates this sense of respect when each player comes over to introduce himself and shake hands with the one visiting. This respect is also shared among the players, and it has fostered a sense of “family” on the team. “From day one, you figure out what a family this team is,” says Crucitti, and Borowicz points out that the coaching staff and the administration make sure that the players realize the family legacy of Army Baseball to which they now belong. “A lot of schools have a rich baseball tradition,” he says, “but West Point has a tradition in which our baseball guys play a rich role in this nation’s history”. Among their ranks are Dwight Eisenhower 1915, Omar Bradley 1915, Red Reeder ’26, Fred Franks ’59, Ray Odierno ’76, and Shane Kimbrough ’89 (to name a few). From his time as the team’s OIC, Nelson believes that Matt Fouch ’10, Ben Koenigsfeld ’11, and Clint Moore ’11 will be mentioned on that list in the future, and Sottolano thinks Schuyler Williamson ’05 and Walker Gorham ’05 are destined for notoriety. “Of course, not everyone who becomes a great leader in the Army becomes famous,” Nelson says: “There are great battalion- and brigade-level commanders of whom no one will ever hear despite their greatness.” The Coach puts it another way: “When they leave here, all Army Baseball graduates will aspire to great things—they’re all going to be great officers, great husbands, and great fathers.” In other words, the Army Baseball tradition will keep making history in one form or another. ★

After March 30, scan this code for a story on the Army/Yankee exhibition game.



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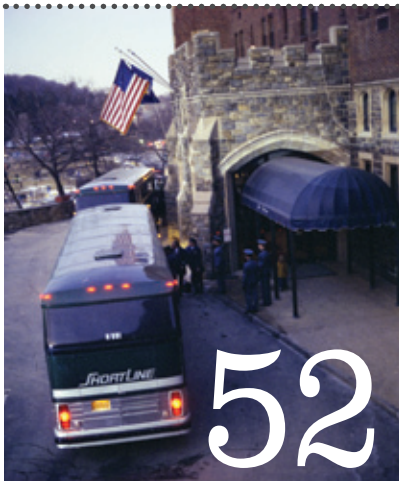


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WEDDINGS PER YEAR

In the winter issue of the magazine, it was erroneously reported that there have been 15 West Point graduates who became Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The correct number is 7.

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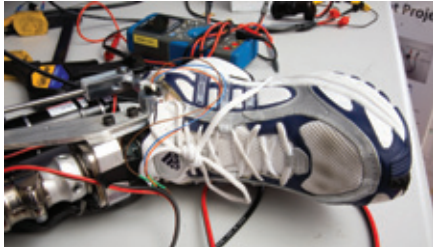
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START*the*DAYS!

MAY

2

Projects Day



10

USMAPS Graduation

11-18

Term End Exams

19-22

Reunions

('38, '43)JAN, '43)JUN, '48, '58, '63)

25

Graduation

The Class of 2013 joins the Long Gray Line.



JUNE

1-7

Summer Leader Experience



6-8

Alumni Golf Outing

Reconnect with alumni, former classmates, and your alma mater. Experience the West Point Golf Course's well-manicured fairways and greens set in the scenic beauty of the Hudson Highlands. All graduates and guests are invited. usma.edu/daa



28

R-Day Rehearsal

Members of the local community act as New Cadets for the cadre to practice for the first day of Beast Barracks!

JULY

1

R-Day

Members of the Class of 2017 begin their 47-month experience.



19

USMAPS R-Day



Upcoming events suggested by West Point staff & faculty.

Events for Aug–Oct 2013 should be sent to editor@wpaog.org by May 15, 2013

For the whole calendar, go to

WestPointAOG.org/calendar

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George Washington at West Point

The print depicts General George Washington at West Point, New York in the winter of 1779 during the Revolutionary War retrieving the "Great Chain" from the Hudson River before the river freezes. The "Great Chain" was designed to block the British Navy from sailing up the Hudson River from New York City and splitting the American Colonies in half. The presence of General Washington in this historically accurate rendering points to the strategic importance of the "Great Chain" and the fortifications at West Point, which were never tested by the British Navy. Links of the "Great Chain" are still present today on Trophy Point as a reminder of our earliest successes as an Army and an emerging Nation.



Washington's Watch Chain by world-renowned artist Mort Künstler

Accompanying Washington during the retrieving of the "Great Chain" are: Major General Baron von Steuben, author of the Army's *Blue Book*; the famed Major General Marquis de Lafayette; Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Hamilton, aide-de-camp to General Washington, Founding Father, and the first US Treasury Secretary; Colonel Timothy Pickering, the sixth Adjutant General of the Army; and Colonel Alexander Scammel, the seventh Adjutant General of the Army.



Please go to the Adjutant General's Corps Regimental Association website at AGCRA.com for more information about print and giclee sales.
Or contact Teresa Meagher: teresa.l.meagher.ctr@mail.mil | 803.751.8327

Gripping Hands

“Grip hands—though it be from the shadows—while we swear as you did of yore, or living or dying, to honor the Corps, and the Corps, and the Corps.” —Bishop Shipman 1902

1970 Marshall Larsen Named Among World’s Top 100 CEOs



Marshall O. Larsen '70, the retired Chairman, President, and CEO of Goodrich Corporation, has been named among the 100 best CEOs in the world by the *Harvard Business Review*. The global study focused on CEO performance throughout their tenure and long-term value they created for their companies.

Larsen joined Goodrich in 1977 as an Operations Analyst and Financial Manager. In 1981, he became Director of Planning and Analysis and subsequently Director of Product Marketing. In 1986, he became Assistant to the President and later served as General Manager of several divisions of the company’s aerospace business. In 1994, he was elected a Vice President of the company and was named a Group Vice President of Goodrich Aerospace. In 1995 he was appointed Executive Vice President of the company and President and Chief Operating Officer of Goodrich Aerospace. In February 2002 Larsen was named President and Chief Operating Officer of Goodrich Corporation. He was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer in April 2003.



General Officer Promotions

The Secretary of Defense has announced that the President has nominated:

To the rank of General:

- Lieutenant General John F. Campbell '79
- Lieutenant General Vincent K. Brooks '80

To the rank of Major General:

- Brigadier General Brian C. Lein '84
- Brigadier General Nadja Y. West '82
- Brigadier General John F. Wharton '81

To the rank of Brigadier General:

- Colonel Edward M. Daly '87
- Colonel Malcolm B. Frost '88
- Colonel Anthony C. Funkhouser '85
- Colonel Mark W. Gillette '83
- Colonel John P. Johnson '85
- Colonel Michael E. Kurilla '88
- Colonel Joseph M. Martin '86
- Colonel Terrence J. McKenrick '85
- Colonel Christopher P. McPadden '85
- Colonel Andrew P. Poppas '88
- Colonel Wilson A. Shoffner, Jr. '88
- Colonel John C. Thomson III '86

1993 Brothers in Arms

On December 19, 2012, members of the U.S. Army Asymmetric Warfare Group conducted a change of command ceremony for one of their two operational squadrons. The change of command was between LTC Frank Walton '93 and LTC John Walton '96, who are brothers. Both received Management degrees from West Point and both branched Infantry, but serving in the AWG is the first time that their career paths have intersected. Colonel Patrick J. Mahaney Jr., who presided over the ceremony, said “In 25 years of my career, I have never seen anything like it, two officers—brothers—on the command select list for the same command; one handing off the command to the other. It sounds like something from the Civil War, but extremely rare in today’s age of the centrally managed command slating.”



West Point magazine printed an error in the Winter 2013 issue, stating that Thomas Kolditz is a TLDG Keynote Speaker. He is not.

West Point Distinguished Graduate Awards 2013

Robert G. Yerks '51— Instrumental in formulating the “Be All You Can Be” recruiting effort for the Army, Lieutenant General (Ret) Yerks bolstered the numbers of the All Volunteer Army and helped attract soldiers educated to new technologies. After retirement, Yerks relocated to Monrovia, Liberia, while working for the United States Life Insurance Corporation and used his talents in international diplomacy and strategic military training to guide Liberian leaders, who were fighting a brutal civil war, toward an open democracy. Yerks became known as the “People’s General” to the citizens of Liberia and was nominated by them for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2000 for his tremendous contributions in bringing peace and humanitarian aid.

John W. Foss '56— With his “lifetime training-teaching-mentoring” model, General (Ret) Foss demonstrated combat arms leadership practices by example and is credited with influencing the broader values that helped the Army win in both Operations Just Cause and Desert Storm. Foss also modernized Army training and development policies and practices. As a Ranger School instructor (elected for the Ranger Hall of Fame) and later Chief of Infantry, he intensified and expanded Ranger training and otherwise improved dramatically the effectiveness of the ground-fighting force. Teaching now for 20 years, Foss is currently a Senior Fellow at the Joint Forces Staff College and prepares field grade officers of all services.

Lee R. Anderson '61— Mr. Anderson served three years in the U.S. Air Force before separating from the service to help his ill father run the family business, a small fire-protection service named APi. Over the course of four decades, Anderson turned APi into a *Forbes* Top 400 company now operating at over 160 locations in all 50 states, Canada, and the United Kingdom. In addition to being Chairman and CEO of the APi Group, Anderson is a world-renowned leader of conservation programs—he is a Heritage Member of Ducks Unlimited, a Golden Member of U.S. Sportsmen’s Alliance, and a Founding Member of the International SeaKeepers Society—and he is an extraordinary philanthropist, giving generous gifts to numerous institutions, including, of course, his alma mater.

Theodore G. Stroup Jr. '62— Throughout an exemplary military career spanning 34 years, Lieutenant General (Ret) Stroup demonstrated daily the qualities of selfless service and devotion to his country, to his community, and to West Point. After retiring from an active-duty career that culminated in his assignment as the G-1 of the Army, he became a Vice President at the Association of the U. S. Army. He also became involved in the West Point Society of the District of Columbia and the National Capital Region (the largest West Point society), and he was a driving force behind the class of 1962’s 50th Anniversary Class Gift Campaign. In 2006 he became the first Chairman of the Board under the newly configured governance structure of the West Point Association of Graduates, and during his tenure, some \$100 million was raised to support WPAOG programs.

Joseph E. DeFrancisco '65— Lieutenant General (Ret) DeFrancisco had a remarkable active-duty Army career: He served two tours in Vietnam, he spearheaded the deployment of the M119 light howitzer to Panama in Operation Just Cause, he served as the Executive Officer to the Secretary of the Army and as Deputy Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Command, and he directed numerous humanitarian relief efforts. DeFrancisco has also been a leader in enhancing understanding between the Army and its supporting communities, and he currently serves on the Board of the Army and Air Force Mutual Aid Association. Through it all, DeFrancisco has remained close to West Point: teaching at the Academy in the '70s, serving on the transition team for three superintendents, and supporting the efforts of the Association of Graduates.

Boonsrang Niumpradit '71— General (Ret) Boonsrang finished his military career in 2008 as the 26th Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces (equivalent to the U.S. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff). At the Supreme Command Headquarters, Boonsrang contributed immeasurably to peace, democracy, and education in his native Thailand and in the Pacific Region. With the help of his leadership, a democratic system of government reestablished itself in Thailand after a 2006 coup. He remains actively engaged in Thai society, working to establish a stronger ethical emphasis among Thai youth and to organize forest restoration and reforestation missions.



Robert G. Yerks '51



John W. Foss '56



Lee R. Anderson '61



Theodore G. Stroup Jr. '62



Joseph E. DeFrancisco '65



Boonsrang Niumpradit '71

Distinguished West Point Societies for 2012

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Past in Review



CADET GRAY

By **Kim McDermott '87**, WPAOG staff

Graduates of West Point are called the Long Gray Line in a nod to the iconic gray cadet uniforms, but they weren't always gray. Early cadets were soldiers and wore uniforms associated with their regiments. Further, engineers and artillerymen all wore different colors, caps, buttons, and other details representing their branch affiliation. It wasn't until the early 19th century that cadets wore gray uniforms. What changed? And why gray, when Army uniforms were mostly blue? There are two basic theories about the choice of gray for cadet uniforms: inspiration and economics. History points to the latter. An American victory at the Battle of Chippawa provides the former, if not more romantic, way to look at it.

1812 marked the beginning of another major conflict between the United States and Britain. Resources were being consumed quickly and supply could not meet demand in many areas. By 1814, all stores of blue

fabric (dyed with imported indigo) for Army uniforms had run out. What was available and abundant? An inexpensive rough gray cloth, normally used as work clothes for slaves. Many poorer volunteer units had already adopted such fabric for their uniforms, and the regular Army followed suit.

In the spring of 1814, Brigadier General Winfield Scott was in Buffalo, New York, training his brigade of Infantry soldiers when a shipment of the gray uniforms arrived for them. The soldiers balked, mainly because they did not want to be associated with the volunteer units who, while wearing gray, displayed cowardice in the line of duty. Scott knew that the uniform was not the key to success and continued to prepare his soldiers for the task at hand. In July, he led his brigade to victory against an ill-prepared British force at the Battle of Chippawa. Evidently, the British mistook them for volunteers and underestimated their will and discipline. It is storied that when he realized defeat, the British commander, Major General Phineas Riall, exclaimed "Those are regulars, by God!"

At the time, the Superintendent of the Academy was Captain Alden Partridge 1806. And for whatever reason, he had a gray uniform tailored for himself. Was it because he saw the Army moving in that direction? Or was he inspired by Scott's triumph at Chippawa? Whatever the case, the cadets began referring to him as "Old Pewter." What they did not know was that Partridge had approved an order of new cadet coats of that very same gray. It was fashioned after his own, and had many of the distinctive features of the modern Full Dress coat: the black braid, buttons, and "swallowtail" coattails. The design remains largely unchanged today.

At the time, Jonathan Swift 1802 (the first West Point graduate) was commanding the defense of New York City and its harbors. During this period he also had oversight for Partridge and West Point. In 1816, Swift requested the gray uniform be formalized as the official uniform of the Academy, citing practical reasons. It was less expensive than the blue, and had been in use for more than a

year already. However, Scott always took credit for the choice of gray uniforms, even claiming in his memoirs that they were adopted in honor of his victory at Chippawa. Either way, it was approved.

In 1817, Major Sylvanus Thayer 1808—then Superintendent—introduced chevrons to the uniform to indicate cadet rank. There were now enough cadets enrolled to necessitate leaders and officers in the Corps. The placement of the chevrons fluctuated for over a decade until the present system was established in about 1830. Circa 1820 the Army adopted chevrons on uniforms. Since the 1950s they have been reserved solely for non-commissioned officers. Only on West Point uniforms do chevrons indicate officer ranks (cadet lieutenants and cadet captains).

In 1889, the Dress Gray coat was designed. It was intended to replace the riding jackets and for many years was worn most of the day, including in the classroom. Then in 1899, narrow braids were added to the lower sleeve of Full Dress and Dress Gray to help identify class affiliation. Plebes wore the basic style with no additional stripes. Yearlings received a single narrow braid above that. A cow received a second, and firsties earned their third and final stripe. In 1910, the "service stripes" were added to the overcoat.

At the turn of the 20th century, just prior to the Academy's centennial, the United States had become a prominent world power, and the Army was modernizing. West Point knew it had decidedly proved its worth and would endure long into the future. Officials felt it would be a good time to think about generating a balance between forward-thinking changes and tradition. During these years the Academy adopted the current crest, the helmet of Pallas Athena (representing wisdom and the arts of war), and the motto "Duty, Honor, Country." It is interesting to note that the original design of the crest had the eagle and helmet facing to the wearer's left—quite backward in terms of heraldry. Since medieval times, animals and other devices were depicted facing to the wearer's right—or dexter—the side of honor. The crest was corrected in 1923. These items, along with cadet gray, will endure.

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As the fundraising arm of the Army Athletic Association, the Army A Club is responsible for generating support for the purpose of enriching the cadet-athlete experience at the United States Military Academy. The financial support from generous donors contributes to the program's long term growth and prosperity. It also supports the Academy's overall mission of producing leaders of character by providing an extraordinary Division-I athletic experience for our over 900 cadet-athletes.

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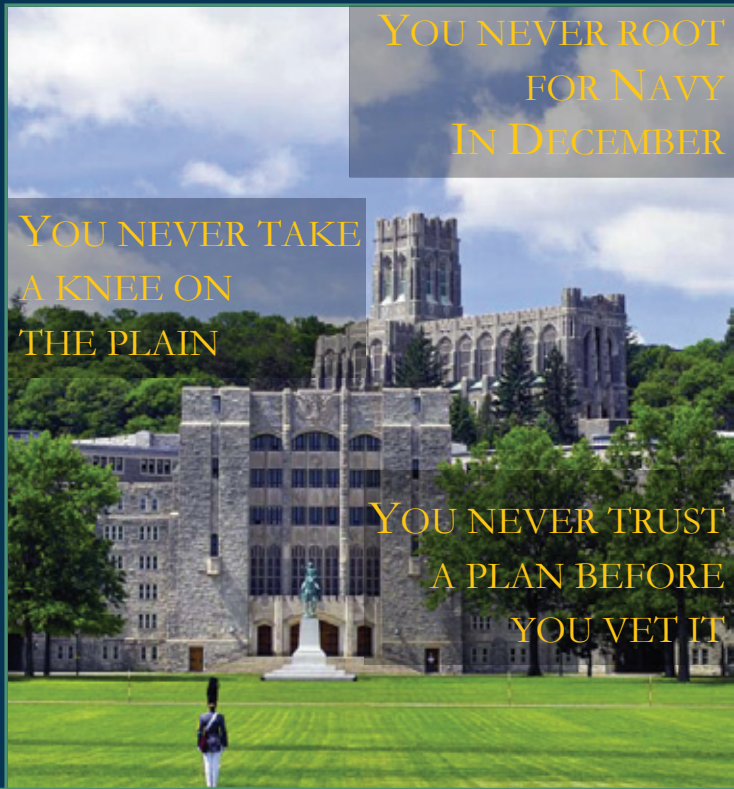




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