



Classmates –

We are two years out from our USMA Class of 1970 50<sup>th</sup> Year Reunion, 17-20 May 2020! – Our guidance from the USMA Directorate of Academy Advancement (DAA) and the Association of Graduates (AOG):

- Typically the 50th reunion class returns during Grad Week. The dates in 2020 are 17-20 May.
- Other classes that we expect will return during the same period are 1945, 1950, 1955, and 1965.
- The average % of living grads that returned for the 50 Year Reunion during the period 2009-2015 is 65% (which for USMA 1970, would be about 434 classmates as of May 3, 2018).

**Typical** 50 Year Reunion Week Activities (held at the **beginning** of our Affiliated Class of USMA 2020's Graduation Week) Schedule is as follows:

Sunday 17 May 2020

- Registration
- Golf Outing
- USMA Band Concert (1400-1500, in Ike Theater)
- Ice Breaker

Monday 18 May 2020

- Registration
- Memorial Service
- Lunch
- Academy & WPAOG Update Briefing (1330-1445, in Ike Theater)
- Class Business Meeting
- West Point Tours
- Organ Recital (1515-1545, Cadet Chapel)
- Cocktails and Dinner

Tuesday 19 May 2020

- Alumni Exercises (1005, Graduates assemble near Ike Statue)
- Cadet Review (1100, the Plain)
- Alumni Luncheon (1215, Cadet Mess)
- Includes the Distinguished Graduate Award Presentation
- Cocktails and Dinner

Wednesday 20 May 2020

- Breakfast at Hotel
- Class Departs

- Our Reunion Coordinator this year will be Alexis Davis '04, Director of Alumni Events & Operations, West Point Association of Graduates, 698 Mills Road West Point, NY 10996 with classmates Pat Thornton and Frank Monaco as 50th Reunion Co-chairs, along with class committee members (Dale Marvin, Art Alden, Bill Spracher, Dale Reagor, Dan Shaw, Dave Phelan, Doug LeFevre, Gary Peckham, Greg Knight, Jim Price, Kerry Lawrence, Les Sumner, Phillip Harris, and Robert Werner) who **volunteered to possibly help with reunion planning** during our 45th Reunion After Action Review. Jim Crawford (Golf) and Tommy Maertens (Music) are also part of the planning committee.

- Our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Hotel is the Westchester Marriott, 670 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591-5104, reserved for our class 16-20 May 2020. It is probably too early to make room reservations.
- Note that the above schedule is tentative and subject to change! Stay tuned to <http://usma1970.com> (and our Facebook Group and Class Blog, linked off that page) as well as our class email distribution list - send updates for email (and other contact information) to [address@wpaog.org](mailto:address@wpaog.org) (*please keep this up to date!*)

There are three major efforts paralleling and leading up to our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion:

1. The first is “**The 1970 Campaign for West Point**” (the name approved for our Class gift effort), which has begun. The Class Gift Selection Committee, headed by classmate Joe Reeder, successfully recommended “*The Class of 1970 Cyber Leaders Conference*”, a \$2.5M endowment to sponsor an annual gathering of the minds at USMA centering around the ever growing challenges of cybersecurity. ***Regimental and Company Representatives are currently communicating with our classmates to encourage maximum participation in the campaign.*** Please contact Steve Strom, Class Giving Officer, to help out with our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class Gift at [sstrom5373@aol.com](mailto:sstrom5373@aol.com) for further information!
2. The second effort is *50<sup>th</sup> Year Legacy Yearbook*, headed by our 1970 Howitzer Editor Wally Kaine [kainej@me.com](mailto:kainej@me.com) and his team. The plan is to publish a Howitzer like product around our 50th Reunion time period that captures the various class activities over the last 50 years and provides individual summaries. Each class member will be asked to provide a write up with photographs that tells what they have been up to for all these years. We will also get this information for all deceased classmates. The Class of 1969 produced a fabulous product. If you are near any member of that class, ask to see it and it will really stimulate you. ***Collecting (and prodding) classmates will require some help, so Wally is asking for volunteers to be Cadet Company and Regimental reps.*** Their responsibilities will be to assist anyone who has questions and coordinate/follow-up on individual write ups and photos. If you are interested (or want to throw your old roommate under the bus) please give your name to Terry Young ([tjyoung70@comcast.net](mailto:tjyoung70@comcast.net) or 717-580-8216)
3. The third effort, ongoing for a few years since when USMAPS 2016 started, is our *Affiliation with USMA 2020*. The goal of the 50 Year Class Affiliation is to participate in all the major activities of USMA Classes 50 years apart, and so far we have been successful with USMA 2020. The next major Affiliation Activity is ***Inspiration to Serve*** (August 19, 2018).

This is a relatively new ceremony for the Cows. As you recall, once you begin your second class academic year, you incur a service commitment. In an effort to demonstrate the significance of this commitment leading to lifelong service to the nation, the 2nd Class affirms their commitment in an **Affirmation Ceremony**, held the night before the fall academic semester starts. The Commandant will address the cadets as the first speaker; Classmate Jim Lovelace has tentatively agreed to be our guest speaker. Immediately following the addresses, the Commandant will administer the affirmation oath, and then our class will present a joint class coin (our crest on one side, Class of 2020 on the other) to each 2020 member. This is an extremely meaningful and moving ceremony.

***Our goal is to have a rep from each of our cadet companies at the Affirmation Ceremony—***’69 was able to pull this off last August and we need to follow their lead. Since this ceremony is conducted at night, it would likely require an overnight stay, although some involved with other class ceremonies left after the event. Chip Leonard is heading our efforts for this event; ***he needs many more Cadet Company Representatives*** to make this great 50 Year Affiliation event a success. If interested and able to help (again, August 19, 2018), please contact him at [leonaha@verizon.net](mailto:leonaha@verizon.net) and cc Terry Young at [tjyoung70@comcast.net](mailto:tjyoung70@comcast.net)