

## TELECONFERENCE NOTES

June 13, 2021

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dave Brown, Jim Sullivan, Frank Monaco, Barney Forsythe, Bill Cater, John Connors, Charlie Magee. Terry Young

Dave opened the meeting and congratulated Sully, Charlie and the other members on their elections. He asked the committee to indulge him for a few minutes to provide some personal thoughts. He expressed his heartfelt thanks for the efforts over a half century. He provided personal thoughts and thanks to each member of the EXCOM. He expressed that he was naive and clueless as to where we were going and what the future held when he started this journey. Over the years it has dawned on him that he had the best group he could have ever asked to work with. He is leaving the office with an enormous respect for the position, the class and this group. He further stated that no one is rooting for Sully's success more than him; as go you, so goes the class. He reminded Sully that he can not fail because the EXCOM will not let him.

Sully: My sincere thanks to Dave. I tip my hat to him; we were very lucky to have him. He asked Dave to remain on the EXCOM and take part as he is available. As per the constitution, he directed that Dave have the title of President Emeritus along with Barney (VP), Tom Schmidt (Secretary), and John Stetor (Treasurer). He asked Frank to keep them on the distribution list unless they decline and to add their names and titles on our website. Sully also said he asked Phil Doleac to remain on the EXCOM.

Dave: I am not going anywhere and will help out in any way I can. But I will stay out of the way. A few items of business before I leave. When presenting the check to the Sup, he expressed his sincere appreciation to our class for not second guessing his decision to cancel reunions and not wasting his time by having to justify it. The Sup said he was only trying to do what was best for the Academy and the cadets. Dave further stated that when he met with personnel from AOG they stated that our fountain would not be destroyed and not be relocated. That opens up some possibilities and opportunities. Dave asked them to provide us with options and alternatives. Specifically, what will it take to maintain and endow. He asked JC to head a committee along with Bill Taylor for this effort.

**PROPOSAL FOR FIVE NEW COMMITTEES:** Sully made a proposal to establish five new committees:

-Class Family Committee: Headed by John Van Vliet. In our declining years there is a need for the class to pay attention to the classmates families. This committee would have three subcommittees: Widows, widowers and SCORE (business operations involving our children and grandchildren). The widower subcommittee will be headed by Rick Thibideau. We will need to seek a volunteer class wife to head the widow subcommittee. Nick Sebastian will head the SCORE subcommittee so our class descendants have access to our experience, connections,

knowledge and abilities. Sully reminded us that we have 2,500 children and over 5,000 grandchildren.

-Intra-Class Communications Committee: This will be chaired by Kurt Reineke. He will be seeking Regimental and company reps to develop a 2-way, flexible communications network between the EXCOM and the class to develop consensus.

-Class Biography Committee: This will be headed by Steve Wilson. Sully related that A-4 started a birthday letter many years ago that summarized the individual's accomplishments and shared with company mates. This resulted in 20 years of mini-reunions for A-4. He hopes this will increase cohesion, esprit and increased communications. The concept is for Steve and his volunteers to prepare these and provide them to Frank to blast to the class.

-Class Activities Committee: Bill Taylor will chair this committee. He and his volunteers will handle all future reunions, Distinguished Graduate nominations and serve as co-chair with Frank for our 55th.

-Special Operations Committee: Gil Harper will head this committee. There will be things that pop up in the future and most are logistical challenges. It is necessary to have a task force prepared to coordinate these actions.

Discussion: Bill asked how these committees will operate. Will they report to the EXCOM? Sully: They will have proponents for their committees, attend our ECOM meeting but have no vote. It was the sense of the EXCOM that the committees inform the EXCOM of initiatives before they are implemented. Frank: I have concerns with the birthday letters. Some people don't want their information to be shared. Sending them out on the class distribution site is not a good option. If the class receives more than 2 emails a week there are numerous complaints. Sending a few each day would be a problem, especially when folks attempt to reply. We have a FB page and that may be a better avenue. Sully said Steve would contact Frank and investigate the challenges. The purpose of these letters would be to increase happiness, esprit and morale. Charlie stated that the idea would not be restricted to just birthdays. It could be any number of items. He did not think there were many who would balk. Barney said we should ask Steve to come up with a plan and present it to the EXCOM.

Barney made a motion to approve these committees which was seconded by Bill. The motion was passed unanimously.

Sully said he would prepare a letter to the class explaining these committees.

**Roedy DCG Award:** A-4 planned a mini-reunion as part of Bill's DCG Award Ceremony. They then investigated whether there was class interest in joining them. A survey was sent out and 80 people responded they would like to attend. Sully said he has back channel information that the Sup is interested in supporting our class' desires. Frank said we do have permission for the class to stand on the parade field

for the ceremony and line up our buses. Sully said Bill Taylor is working with AOG and they seem to be amenable. He will know more information on Tuesday. Joan Emmer has been contacted and agreed to head our efforts and AOG also said they could do it. Charlie said some might be upset calling this a min-reunion. It should be addressed as the DCG Award. Bill warned that folks need to be careful about making decisions that commit the class without coordinating with the EXCOM such as who will head the celebration coordination. While Joan has supported us in the past, she has not done it for awhile. Since this is a football weekend, tickets need to be coordinated with DIA. And we need to be conscious of not alienating AOG. Barney reminded everyone that there is considerable experience in the EXCOM with working with AOG and the Academy. We need to be careful about getting too far over our skis.

Barney closed by saying we were excited about Sully's vision, passion and initiatives and the EXCOM would provide the best advice possible.

Since there were lots of moving parts, Sully suggested we have another teleconference in two weeks (June 27th at 7:00 PM EST).