The 112th Annual Army-Navy Classic Game has come to the Washington DC metro area this year! Turn out to support the Army Team by participating in this year’s Army-Navy Rally and Luncheon at the Army-Navy Country Club in Arlington, VA on Wednesday, December 7th.

Rally events will begin on at 11 am with a “Social Mixer”. The luncheon chimes will sound at 11:55 and all are asked to be seated by noon, when the luncheon will begin. Time is a bit tight as remarks, which have been known to become quite partisan, will begin at 12:25 pm. The event is co-hosted by the West Point Society of DC led by our own Charlie Mitchell, ’73 and the Naval Academy Association of Greater DC led by Middie counterpart Lee Geanuleas, ’77. Festivities include social mixer, entertainment, and remarks from respective Service Secretaries, Service Chiefs, and former Football players.

Reserve early and energize your classmates to participate! A flyer, containing more information on the rally is included with this newsletter and also found on our website. Procedures remain the same as quarterly luncheons (except for the location at ANCC). Seating will be with your Academy classmates unless otherwise requested. If a single class does not fill an entire table, members will be seated with an adjacent Academy class group. Don’t wait to send in your reservation! Do it right now by mail, using the enclosed envelope, or go online to our website at www.wpsdc.org and make reservations electronically. Come on out and raise your voice with fellow graduates shouting “BEAT NAVY!”

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, speaking Oct 12th at the Association of the United States Army’s annual conference in Washington, DC remarked: “We now have two battle-hardened, thoughtful soldiers at the pinnacle of our military’s leadership and a former Army first lieutenant as the Secretary of Defense. If the Army can’t beat Navy in the next game, I don’t know what the hell else I can do.”

The SECDEF was referring to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff GEN Martin Dempsey (USMA ’74), and Army Chief of Staff GEN Raymond Odierno (USMA ’76), and himself. “GO ARMY!”
FROM THE WPSDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

John Preston Mitcham ’75

Greetings WPSDC Members, this newsletter is to report the various events your society has supported since the September newsletter. Following our Army-Navy Golf tournament (Dave Rogers, ’74), the Corporate Gray Job Fair (Carl Savino, ’78) and our well attended September luncheon with the Honorable Eric K. Shinseki, ’65 as our dynamic speaker, we jumped into October and the Army 10 Miler (ATM) with a West Point Admissions HOOAH tent for West Point runners and families.

The office of West Point Admissions lead by COL Mike Peffers, ’82 and MAJ Tom Tolman, ’01 did a great job presenting the West Point Admissions application process to the public from our Black Knight tent. Furthermore, the West Point Parents Club (WPPC) of Virginia, Maryland and DC lead by WPPC Co-Presidents, Lisa and Randy Rotte, ’85 provided healthy refreshments in the tent for our cadets to rest and visit with other West Pointers and their families. Our Society was honored by having the Superintendent, LTG David H. Huntoon, Jr. ’73 spend an hour before and after the race in the tent visiting with our members and cadets. If you did not make the ATM event this year please plan to join your society, the parents club, and West Point Admissions for a special day of athletics, team building and camaraderie, next year.

Athletics BOG Chairman, Charlie Mitchell, ’73 coordinated Army Football game watching by having several of the games televised on CBS Sports Network and organized our A-N luncheon and rally. Young Grad BOG Chairman, Rich Huh, ’94 organized the Army- Air Force game watch at the Velocity Five Sports Bar. He also coordinated reduced priced tickets for professional sporting events with the Nats (starring the WP Alumni Glee Club). Meanwhile, Larry Adair, ’74 coordinated Army Lacrosse competing against U VA, Georgetown and Princeton in the Play for Parkinson’s Lacrosse Series at Episcopal High School. Vicky Fiore, ’87 organized West Point Women Career Networking events. Steve Kranner, ’79 put together the Joint Service Academy Business Committee Networking events. Carl Cecil, ’79 and Phil Panzarella, ’79 continued to lead their class and contribute the West Point Leadership and Ethics Conference to WPSDC’s mission. These Board of Governors (BOG) members are populating our new calendar created by Kerry Trahan, ’88 on our web site www.wpsdc.org.

Also, your society supported other organizations honoring West Point graduates: the WW II Honor Flights, Boy Scouts of America Salutes America, MDW’s The Spirit of America, Bubba’s Belly (Bunting, ’02) Run, Veterans’ Day and Rocky Versace, ’59 Memorial events.

Meanwhile, many West Pointers with Association of Graduates’ (AOG) addresses in the National Capital Region (NCR) receive our e-mails because the WPSDC uses AOGs’ list serve to send the 4000 West Point graduates in the NCR our information bulletins. In the New Year the WPSDC will have two admissions prices (WPSDC Members and non WPSDC Members) for Founders Day on March 17th, luncheons, and career networking events to encourage the non-members to join the 1400 paying members. The WPSDC needs your membership dues to pay for this newsletter and keep our West Point classes and their families together as they serve and lead the Army and the Nation. Therefore, as we approach the historical Army-Navy Football Game contact your classmates who live in the WPSDC area and ask them to visit our web site at www.wpsdc.org to pay their annual dues of $40 or life membership of $500.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Bill DeGraf ’50, Treasurer

As we come to the end of 2011, the time for those not Life Members to renew their membership in the Society. The dues you send play a very important role in supporting the many activities of the Society. Such activities include supporting cadets, supporting candidates, our Young Grads events, career assistance, Founders Day, lunches, the Ethics Conference, and several others.

Currently we have 277 members who did not renew their memberships for 2011 and will be dropped from the roster in the new year. We have 735 active members plus 327 Life Members. Our potential membership for the National Capital Region is 4500 members.

For a number of years we have asked $30 for a yearly membership and $500 for a Life Membership. Unfortunately our resources are not keeping up with the activities we want to support. Rather than drop such worthwhile endeavors your board has decided to restructure the amount we charge for several of our events to provide a two tiered system whereby members would pay less than non-members to attend the event (Founders Day, luncheons, Young Grad events and Networking events). At the same time we plan to increase our yearly dues to $40 but keep the Life Membership at $500.

I hope you understand the need for these changes and that those of you not Life Members will renew their membership in the new year at $40.

“A Society of One”
2012 Annual Leadership & Ethics Conference

Pat Locke ‘80, Phil Panzarella ‘79 and Carl P. Cecil ’79

Pride & Excellence (’80) and Top of the Line (’79) are teaming together to present the finest youth leadership conference in the country. This year we are not holding two one day conferences over two days, we are now holding one conference over two days. The Leadership for Generations conference chaired by Pat (Walker) Locke ’80 is now part of the West Point Leadership & Ethics Conference 2012. Pat joins Phil Panzarella ’79 and Carl Cecil ’79 as a conference co-chairman. This change makes the conference look and feel the same over both days. It will ultimately improve our objective to help build leaders of character and spread the word of the West Point story in Leadership and Character.

This year we expect over 60 schools and 300 plus delegates from the DC metro to participate on March 7-8 at George Mason University. This is the fifth conference for high school juniors and the second for eighth graders. Our conference is the template for new conferences that are starting around the country. On March 6th, our committee will host a half day national workshop for West Point Societies on “How to Run a West Point Leadership & Ethics conference” for middle and high school delegates prior to our conference. Society reps will be invited to observe our conference.

Our conference has been blessed to have dynamic speakers like General Barry McCaffrey ’64, LTG William Lennox ’71, LTG Dave Palmer ’56, COL Len Marrella’57, and the Honorable Will Gunn USAFA ’80 as our keynote speakers. We have not finalized our high school keynote speaker; however, we have invited one of the nation’s top leaders to be our keynote speaker. The Honorable Robert Gordon ’79, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community & Family Policy will be our keynote speaker.

West Point cadets on Cadet Public Relations Council (CPRC) serve as facilitators and mentors to individual groups of roughly 17-18 students, walking them through real-world ethical scenarios and leading discussions on how best to resolve the given situation. Each group then presents one of the scenarios – including recommendations on how to approach/handle the circumstance as well as the desired outcome. DC Young AFCEANs are part of the yearlong planning process and work with the cadets and students during the event to help facilitate the program. One Young AFCEAN is assigned to each group to lend their expertise and guidance, providing insights from their years in working up to their current professional level.

Now in our fifth year, we are hearing back from many of our former delegates that attended our conference about the impact that day had on their life. Our delegates go on to attend some of the most prestigious schools in America and many have gone on to attend West Point. Most Virginia colleges are now familiar with our conference due to the high quality students that note our conference in the application process. We have awarded four scholarships worth $5000 to the “top of the line” delegates based upon demonstrated leadership in the classroom and problem solving of a new scenario after they leave the conference. These incentives keep this conference as the model for others to emulate.

Pat Locke ’80 will lead the planning and execution our eighth graders day. Middle school students participate in an intensely engaging leadership conference designed to develop leaders of character at an earlier stage. Middle schools nominate four student delegates and a faculty delegate much like our high school conference.

Our conference has become the national example for high school leadership and ethics conference using cadets to lead the facilitation. In addition to leadership conferences in Minneapolis and Killeen, started their based upon We are representatives to ences in Georgia West Point Simon Confer-ence and the model for others to emulate. In addition, Pat Locke ’80 has been a leader in the planning effort on behalf of the West Point Society of DC. We are looking for help on developing our web presence, video and magazine PR. For more information, contact Pat Locke ‘80 (patlocke@aol.com), Phil Panzarella ‘79 (phil.panzarella@cps-ps.com) or Carl P. Cecil ’79 (carl.cecil@cox.net).

L&E Interest and Its Impact Grows Nationally

from the Simon Center. Our local benefactors include: WPSDC; CPS Professional Services; Lee Technolo-

gies; AFCEA DC Chapter; AUSA GW Chapter; Boeing; George Mason University; Johnson Controls; Lockheed Martin (IS&GS); Quantum Research; and classmate Jeff Stonerock ’79.

The WPL&E Committee leads the planning effort on behalf of the West Point Society of DC. We are looking for help on developing our web presence, video and magazine PR. For more information, contact Pat Locke ‘80 (patlocke@aol.com), Phil Panzarella ‘79 (phil.panzarella@cps-ps.com) or Carl P. Cecil ‘79 (carl.cecil@cox.net).
West Point Women in the DC metro area held their second quarterly networking meeting Monday June 13th at the Army Navy club in downtown DC. Participation was down a little from the previous event but we still had about 20 women in attendance. There were several highlights during the event to include:

A male old grad at a nearby table was fascinated that such a diverse group of women would convene at the downstairs bar of the Army Navy club. He couldn’t help but inquire why the group was present. When he learned that all the women were graduates he stood up and gave a very sweet, funny impromptu speech professing his support of women at West Point and in the Army which included congratulating us on our accomplishments and closed by saying “There certainly weren’t any girls there when I went but I sure wish there had been!”

The third quarterly networking event was held on Monday, September 12th in the Eagle Grill of the Army Navy Club downtown DC.

Our next event is Monday, December 12, 2011. Hopefully we will be celebrating a long awaited victory over Navy and sharing our Favorite Army Navy Memories past and present. Please join us and spread the word to other women grads in the Virginia, Maryland and DC area.

About DC-area West Point Women Networking

The DC Geographical Networking group meets quarterly at the Army Navy club. We are looking for volunteers to coordinate upcoming events such as movie screenings, lunches, wine tastings, or any other events of interest. If you are interested in running an event, please contact one of the Co-Chairs of the DC West Point Women Networking Committee – Vicky (Lenz) Fiore ’87 or Christine Gassman ’03. We are currently signing up members, looking for networking suggestions and seeking volunteers to coordinate events locally. Please contact:

Vicky Fiore ’87 vicky@thelenzgroup.com or mobile 703-629-1419
Christine Gassman ’03 cgassman11@yahoo.com or mobile 914-213-1264

A first for the Women’s networking group – a Mom proudly accompanied by her cadet daughter. Meg (Knox) Kulungowski ’81 was able to talk her daughter Mallory into coming to the event. Mallory gave up a couple of precious hours of leave so her Mom could show her off and, as can be expected, Mallory received more than one or two words of wisdom throughout the evening!

Kathy Silvia ’80 provided highlights of services offered by the Veterans Administration.

Pat (Walker) Locke ’80 shared stories of the volunteer work she does recruiting for West Point and USMAPS within the District of Columbia and with The West Point Leadership and Ethics Conference.

“A Society of One”
Sons (and daughters) of Slum and Gravy... (do the cadets still sing that?) A quick update before we slip into late fall and early winter.

Army-Navy Golf 2011 took place on the 15th of September. To say it was an unusual weather day is to be more than a little subtle. We got the chance to play golf in Scotland without getting on a plane. I invite each of you to take a few moments and look at the photos of our event posted on the Society’s website and notice the changing weather as we photographed the golfers throughout the day. Thanks to all who made it a great day.

Speaking of which – Army won the day again, thanks to some outstanding scrambling from all of those who stood up for the Corps. We had great representation with our oldest grad, ’RQ&DUWHU, showing the smiles and gentlemanly conduct that we all hope to emulate...on the fields of friendly strife.” Navy put up a good fight, with the deciding match coming in with the sun long gone from the sky. All had a great time – with the Courses at Andrews AFB putting out their customary great spread of food and beverages.

2012’s schedule is being crafted and will get be posted on the Society’s webpage calendar (lower half of the home page) as soon as we get confirmation from the venues. The plan is to hold both Black-Gold-Gray and Army-Navy at the Courses at Andrews, unless I get a great deal of pushback about using the Ft. Belvoir Course for the BGG outing. That outing will be held in May. A-N will be in September. We’ll hold the Commanders’ Trophy at Heritage Hunt Golf and Country Club (Gainesville, VA) in the month of July. If you’ve comments, please let me know (rogers923@verizon.net).

A few notes about the West Point Alumni Glee Club – made up of a great many of our Society’s more vocally inclined members. I plead guilty as being a member of the Rabble – and would encourage any with a musical affinity to consider joining us.

The Club has a full schedule of performances (all noted on the Society’s calendar as “WPAGC...”), including numerous Honor Flight and Honor Sing performances honoring members of the Greatest Generation and fellow grads. We’ll be performing at the “CAUSE” gala on the 11th of November, as well as at the Army-Navy Luncheon/Pep Rally on the 7th of December.

For those who may now know, Honor Flights bring WWII and Korean War vets into Washington for the day to visit the WWII memorial and other important sites in the area. You can’t imagine the reward of putting smiles on the face of our honored soldiers, sailors, Marines, and airmen as they arrive at Reagan National. Come down and join us – and prepare to feel good for the rest of the day.

We also sing, when invited, at the funeral services of graduates at Joint Base Henderson Hall-Myer and at other sites in the local area. We get the privilege of honoring fellow members of the Long Gray Line and providing their families and friends a few moments of remembrance of time spent at West Point. As our Society President note, attending the services for a classmate earlier this month, it is a moment that cannot be matched. If you’re interested in being part of this Rabble, please let me know. We rehearse in Clarendon, on alternating Monday nights. COL Schempf is not making the decision on cuts – so come on out and see “...if you’re good enough...” (from the best song from the Class of 1972’s 100th Night Show...).

Bottom line, we’ve got some tremendous opportunities to spend time with fellow members of the Long Gray Line, represent the Academy – and ensure that we “…grip hands…” and pass along the history and traditions of West Point. Whether it’s doing “Land Nav” on a golf course or vocalizing (e-mail for your coordinator has changed – now it’s rogers923@verizon.net).

“A Society of One”

LTG Ron Burgess (Auburn, ’74) the Director of DIA with the Alumni Glee Club prior to our performance at the Nationals’ ballpark. He’d asked if we knew the Auburn Fight Song...He got “On Brave Old Army Team,” instead. (He took it well.) Small world – our Dave Rogers and LTG Ron Burgess were S-2s in sister Battalions at Ft. Benning in the mid 70s, Ron had the 2/69 Armor Bn and Dave the 1/58 Mech Bn.
CAREER ADVISORY SERVICE NEWS
Carl S. Savino '78

UPCOMING CAREER EVENTS

The next Service Academy Career Networking Night will be held from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm on Wednesday, October 26 at the Army Navy Country Club, Arlington. Free to all members of our Society.

The next annual West Point Job Fair will be held from 10 am to 1 pm on Friday, December 2, 2011 at the Army Navy Country Club, Arlington. Up to 33 companies are expected. Free and exclusively for West Point graduates seeking civilian employment.


The next Service Academy Career Conference in our area will be held May 24-25, 2012. The SACC is a career fair exclusively for Service Academy grads. For more info, visit www.sacc-jobfair.com.

There will be a Corporate Gray “Security Clearance” Job Fair on November 4, 2011 at the Waterford in Springfield, Virginia. Job Fair hours are 10 am to 2 pm with a free employment-related seminar starting at 9 am. For more info, visit www.CorporateGray.com.

Tips for a successful Job Fair...

- Research the companies in advance
- Practice your 30-second sales pitch
- Update and polish your resume
- Dress for success
- Firm handshake; strong opening and closing
- Project a professional, confident image
- Meet with all of the employers
- Keep your options open; stay flexible
- Get contact information and follow-up


Best site for U.S. Service Academy networking: www.JSABRD.com. Use it to initiate informational interviews with fellow grads already working for your target companies and industries.

JSAJE (www.JSAJE.com) is a jobs database exclusively for Service Academy graduates. Search the jobs database and post your resume. Free service!

GRADUATES SEEKING JOBS

Randy Mackey, ’81, is currently seeking opportunities in the Defense community. He is a War College graduate and holds a master degree in Computer Science. His last two assignments on active duty were heading up officer training at the Signal Center, Ft. Gordon; and serving as the G-6 for Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). He retired from the military in 2009 and has two years of experience as a program manager for a large Defense corporation. He considers the application of information technology to enable and support training as his niche, but has a broad background in the C4I arena. He prefers to remain in the Norfolk/Newport News area, but is willing to travel or work remotely. Contact Randy at randall.mackey@verizon.net.

Robert Malley, ’81 graduate with nearly 20 years of executive management experience in the Silicon Valley is looking for assistance in connecting to opportunities in the Washington DC area. Expertise in Supply Chain, Manufacturing Operations, Manufacturing Engineering and Product Development, Logistics, and Program Management. Experience in large organizations (11 years active duty and 13 years with $10B+ organization) through small businesses (currently serving as Chief Operating Officer for a private equity held company with $75M annual revenue). Industry experience is with technology companies. Please contact via email: bmalley@mdcvacuum.com.

Leon Højnicki, ’81 is a highly motivated professional, articulate in oral and written communications. Lee is actively seeking employment to obtain a demanding and challenging senior management position offering an opportunity to use his skills, expertise, and experience in the following areas: Leadership and Command, Operations, Program Management, Air & Missile Defense, Manpower, Army and Civilian Personnel and Human Capital Management expert, Security, Resource and Training Management, Operational and Strategic Planning / Policy, Facilities Management, Business Development and Marketing, and Organizational Reengineering. Contact Lee at lwojnicki@aol.com.

Note: If you’re seeking civilian employment and want other West Point graduates to know, send e-mail to SavinoC@aol.com describing your background, along with contact information, so that we can include you in our next West Point Society of DC newsletter.

COMPANIES OFFERING JOBS

Note: West Point graduates who work for a company with job openings in the Washington, DC Metro area are welcome to submit their job opportunities for free. Send a concise description of the job to SavinoC@aol.com. You must be the contact for the position. Please limit description to one paragraph.

“A Society of One”
CAREER ADVISORY SERVICE NEWS
(Continued)

2011 WEST POINT JOB FAIR COMPANIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alion Science and Technology</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aliionscience.com">www.aliionscience.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team C4ISR</td>
<td><a href="http://www.armyteamc4isr.army.mil">www.armyteamc4isr.army.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berico Technologies</td>
<td><a href="http://www.BericoTechnologies.com">www.BericoTechnologies.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms &amp; Explosives</td>
<td><a href="http://www.atf.gov">www.atf.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concurrent Technologies Corporation</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ctc.com">www.ctc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSC</td>
<td><a href="http://www.csc.com/salutes">www.csc.com/salutes</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defense Group</td>
<td><a href="http://www.defensegroupinc.com">www.defensegroupinc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deloitte</td>
<td><a href="http://www.deloitte.com">www.deloitte.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHS, Office of Intelligence &amp; Analysis</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dhs.gov">www.dhs.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Command Financial Planning</td>
<td><a href="http://www.firstcommand.com">www.firstcommand.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Motors</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gm.com/careers">www.gm.com/careers</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Thornton</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gt.com">www.gt.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideal Innovations</td>
<td><a href="http://www.idealinnovations.com">www.idealinnovations.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invertix</td>
<td><a href="http://www.invertix.com">www.invertix.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kenjya Group</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kenjya.com">www.kenjya.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenny Construction</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kennyconstruction.com">www.kennyconstruction.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L-3 Communication LOTS</td>
<td><a href="http://www.l-3com.com/lots/careers">www.l-3com.com/lots/careers</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawson Products</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lawsonproducts.com">www.lawsonproducts.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMI</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lmi.org">www.lmi.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logos Technologies</td>
<td><a href="http://www.logos-technologies.com">www.logos-technologies.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.C. Dean</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mcdean.com">www.mcdean.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern Mutual Financial Network</td>
<td><a href="http://www.northwesternmutual.com">www.northwesternmutual.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pragmatics</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pragmatics.com">www.pragmatics.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PricewaterhouseCoopers</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pwc.com">www.pwc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray Group International</td>
<td><a href="http://www.raygroupintl.com">www.raygroupintl.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert H. Smith School of Business - Univ of Maryland</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rhsmith.umd.edu/embq">www.rhsmith.umd.edu/embq</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td><a href="http://www.target.com/careers">www.target.com/careers</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technologists, Inc.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.technologistssinc.com">www.technologistssinc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Security Administration</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tsajobs.tsa.dhs.gov">www.tsajobs.tsa.dhs.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Department of State</td>
<td><a href="http://careers.state.gov">http://careers.state.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancro</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vancro.com">www.vancro.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VISTAtsi</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vistatsi.com">www.vistatsi.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Point Field Force</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CAREER TRANSITION RESOURCES

West Point Society of DC’s Career Advisory Services page: www.wpsdc.org/cas.htm.

West Point Society of DC Directory is free to WPSDC members and available via CD or pdf.

West Point AOG alumni career transition services: www.WestPointAOG.org.

PROSPECTIVE MENTORS

If you’re willing to mentor fellow grads in job search mode, please send e-mail to SavinoC@aol.com and provide your name, West Point class, home or work phone number, e-mail address, and industry area.

CAS motto and commitment:
Grads Helping Grads!

“A Society of One”
Greetings to the members of the Long Gray Line from the Parents of your future alumni. It’s amazing how quickly time flies. It seems like we were just welcoming the Class of 2015 on R-Day only a few days ago, yet here we are half way through the Fall semester and merely a few weeks from the Army-Navy game.

Just like the cadets’ lives from July to October is filled with never-ending activity, so too is the schedule of the Parents Club of MD-DC-VA. As is always the case, we’ve received outstanding support from the Society and feel quite fortunate that we have the great relationship with your group.

It started at the R-Day picnic in June where we welcomed the area’s candidates for the Class of 2015. We had about 40 cadet candidates attend with their families and were graced by both Deb and Jim Dalton from West Point who spoke to the incoming cadets as well as their parents. Deb is the Parents Club Coordinator for the Academy in the Public Affairs Office and Jim works in the Office of the Dean. Their insights were especially relevant for us and underscored some key points for the cadet candidates to prepare for their first days at the Academy. Of special note was the presence of local members of the Class of 1965 who are the 50-year affiliates of this year’s plebes. Lee Hewitt attended and represented the Class of 1965 with the cadets and provided some excellent remarks as they prepared to head off to immerse themselves in this experience. It was an excellent opportunity for these two classes to make each other’s acquaintance and to start a long-lasting relationship. Thanks, Lee, for volunteering your time and joining us.

Our next event was R-Day itself as our club sent a few folks up to West Point for our annual pilgrimage to support the parents and families of the new cadets on this stressful day. It seems like it gets harder and harder each year to determine who has it tougher on R-Day — the cadets or the parents — but as I get older, I have to fall on the side of the parents probably because my memories of that day continue to fade and those of being a parent are becoming even more vivid (not to mention the age-old truth that “the corps has” so I KNOW that times aren’t as tough today on the cadets as they were when we were going through R-Day).

Ring weekend was a big event for the club as we not only supported the parents who made the trek up to share this special time with their cadet, but it also was the unofficial “kick off” of our annual crest afghan sale. As a refresher, we design and commission an afghan of each Firstie Class’s crest and sell these to raise money for their class fund. Our club has been doing this for many years and have been able to raise tens of thousands of dollars for the graduating classes to “jump start” their class fund. Last year we raised and donated $34,000 for the Class of 2011 and our sales just closed for the Class of 2012.

I’d like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Society for our continued partnership during the Army 10-miler. I’m sure that the details will be provided in another article in this newsletter, but once again we had a great showing at our Society/Parents Club’s Hoohah Tent. Susan Leslie-Fraser from our club was wonderful volunteer who ensured that all who visited the tent had plenty of food and drink and I understand that the tent was frequented by many cadets, former cadets, and non-cadets both before and after the run. Thanks again to the Society for being such great partners.

Our most recent event was a Fall Social on 16 October at the Ft. Belvoir Officer’s Club. Not only did we have over 40 parents who enjoyed the club’s Sunday Brunch together, but we also were fortunate enough to get to hear COL Mike Peffers give us an update on the current classes, the admissions process, and dispel or confirm many rumors about activities at the Academy. Thanks again to the Society for letting us borrow Mike for the afternoon.

That brings us up-to-date for now. Thanks for all that you continue to do for our alma mater as well as our nation. I can tell you that the cadets that we have today will make fantastic additions to the Long Gray Line and I look hold to gripping hands with them soon.

Let’s close with the words that resonate with all grads....especially as the leaves turn to fall and the sun dips in the sky......GO ARMY!!! BEAT NAVY!!!!!

“A Society of One”
Your local USMA Admissions Team has been very busy this Fall with numerous High School College nights and other recruiting efforts. In September, Military Academy Liaison Officers (MALO’s) represented USMA at High School College nights in Loudon County, Prince William County, and Fauquier County. On 10 October MAJ Tom Tolman, USMA’s Regional Command for the Southeast portion of the US, spoke to 250+ high school candidates and their parents at the Ft. Belvoir Officers Club. We have also represented USMA at the two large Fairfax county College Nights held at Fair Oaks Mall and Hayfield High School as well as at the three weeks when 1,200 students from across the country came to the DC area for the National Youth Leadership Forum (NYLF). NYLF is designed to interest high school students in possible careers in Diplomacy, Intelligence and the Military upon completion of college. Several West Point graduates sit on local Congressional Nomination Boards meeting in November to recommend candidates for Congressional Nominations. Additionally, MALO’s have been busy conducting interviews with local candidates. All of this hard work will assist in identifying and recruiting great candidates for the Class of 2016. Lastly, we will host a Christmas Brunch in mid-December for highly competitive candidates and their parents. Additionally, it is becoming even harder to be accepted into West Point. For the Class of 2015 we saw a 26% increase in applicant files started for the Class of 2015 vs. 2014. For the Class of 2016 we are on pace to break last year’s 13,954 applicants. With the Corps of Cadets shrinking, combined with almost 3,000 more applicants, we saw the percent admitted drop from 12% in 2010 to 9% in 2011. Many students who would have been admitted 3-4 years ago are now waitlisted. Despite the smaller class being admitted, we saw increases in the numbers of Class Valedictorians, Boys/Girls State delegates, Class/Club Presidents, Varsity athletes and Team Captains.

FORBES RANKS WEST POINT THIRD

West Point scores high again in Forbes ranking. Because of Forbes emphasis on financial prudence, the zero-cost military service academies ranked highly. The U.S. Military Academy at West Point, which topped the list two years ago, ranks third this time, thanks to outstanding teaching and high alumni salaries, while the Air Force Academy (No. 10) and the Naval Academy (No. 17) glide easily into the top 20. Even the less-prestigious academies -- the Coast Guard (No. 97) and the Merchant Marine (No. 158) -- score well.

The rankings are based on five general categories: postgraduate success (30%), which evaluates alumni pay and prominence; student satisfaction (27.5%), which includes professor evaluations and freshman-to-sophomore retention rates; debt (17.5%), which penalizes schools for high student debt loads and default rates; four-year graduation rates (17.5%); and competitive awards (7.5%), which rewards schools whose students win prestigious scholarships and fellowships like the Rhodes, the Marshall and the Fulbright.

THAYER AWARD GOES TO FORMER SecDef Robert M. Gates

Former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates was recognized with the Thayer Award for his service and accomplishments in the national interest that exemplify personal devotion to the ideals expressed in the West Point motto, "Duty, Honor, Country." LTG David H. Huntoon Jr., West Point Superintendent, said "As secretary of defense, Dr. Gates was always focused on taking care of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines--the armed forces of the United States of America. He always set the conditions for their success and never forgot their sacrifices."

During his remarks to the Corps of Cadets and invited guests, Gates focused on the element of "Country" in that motto and the relationship the military has with society. Gates said the Iraq and Afghanistan campaigns represent the first large-scale conflicts to have been fought entirely by volunteers since the Revolutionary War.

"A tiny sliver of America has achieved extraordinary things under the most trying circumstances," Gates said. "My hope and expectations is that when all is said and done, the country's political leadership will continue to do right by the armed forces."

"A Society of One"
USMA 65 turned out in large numbers and together with LTG (RET) Joe DeFrancisco ’65 (WPSDC President) welcomed their classmate - Veteran’s Affairs Secretary (Retired General) Eric K. Shinseki ’65 - as the featured speaker for our Fall Luncheon. Other dignitaries in attendance who Secretary Shinseki acknowledged included WPSDC member - former Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera ’78, General (Ret) Volney Warner ’50 and Wounded Warrior CPT Dan Bershinski ’07 (Army Airborne Ranger Infantryman). Secretary Shinseki reflected that this was “…a chance to renew old friendships, relive old memories, and remember what Omar Bradley once called the “cadence which echoes and re-echoes deep in the heart of each of us - Duty, Honor, Country”.

Secretary Shinseki addressed the WPSDC at the September Luncheon

Secretary Shinseki assumed leadership of the VA in January 2009 and confided that President Obama gave him only two pieces of guidance that continues to steer him – “make things better for Veterans, and transform your department so that it better serves them throughout the 21st century”. Secretary Shinseki said this provided him the freedom to make decisions and to act. He set his sights on reducing the claims backlog and tackling some longstanding issues including combat PTSD, Gulf War Illness, and Agent Orange. Besides cleaning up these longstanding issues from previous conflicts and eliminating the claims backlog, he also described pursuing longer range targets - increasing Veterans’ access to services and benefits, ending Veterans homelessness, and improving attitude and advocacy for Veterans.

Secretary Shinseki closed saying “…as I sit at General Bradley’s desk I am privileged to have this mission. God bless those who serve and have served the Nation. God bless West Point and the great foundation it provided for all of us. And may God continue to bless this wonderful country of ours.”

Secretary Shinseki with his USMA ’65 Classmates

The Honorable Eric Shinseki ’65 & CPT Dan Bershinski ’07

Secretary Shinseki reminisced of his generation’s foundational experiences in Vietnam, how it shaped them as military leaders and his thoughts on his role as Cabinet Head of the VA: “…you don’t get many do overs in life, and, for me, this appointment is a do over”. Secretary Shinseki pointed out the VA still provides benefits to around 8,000 children and spouses of those who served in "WWI - the war to end all wars", and suggested that the Nation’s and VA’s commitments to those currently serving in uniform will last well into the 22nd century.

“A Society of One”
Young Grads  
Rich Huh ’94

“The West Point Society of DC closed out the summer with another great outing at Nationals Park on September 24th. The West Point Alumni Glee Club opened the competition by singing the National Anthem on a beautiful Saturday. Continuing the positive trend, the Nationals again won the game by beating the Atlanta Braves by a score of 4-1. The Nationals are now 5-0 when the Alumni Glee Club performs. For those that love or hate the New York Yankees, they will play the Nats for the first time June 15-17, 2012. Mark your calendars for next season.

Upcoming events include the Army-Air Force Game Watch Nov 5th (1500 hrs) at Velocity Five in Clarendon, VA. Mr. Chase Guinn ’03 will host the event with free appetizers. Cheering on the Army team is always better with a crowd. Two grads are company, but more is a rabble.

For those looking to avoid the often chilly conditions at the Army-Navy Game at FedEx Field this year, please plan on joining us at 1330 hrs, Carpool in Arlington, VA on 10 December. The founder of the GI Film Festival, Ms. Laura Law-Millett ’94 will host the event while providing appetizers and raffle prizes. This year should draw additional out of town alumni for those who decide to avoid the main game venue. Last year’s event drew nearly 150 grads and guests and this year will be no exception.

The West Point Society of DC along with the leadership from our graduate base is constantly work-

As a reminder, to receive emails from the West Point Society of DC, alumni must update their address with AOG by emailing address@wpaog.org with your name, class year, home address, and contact information. Our Society has no control over the email list.

More WPSDC in Action

Bob Rose’49, John Kelsey’66, Glen Harper’72

GO NATS!

USMA ’90 with Secretary Shinseki ’65

WPSDC BOD Members

Attend West Point Leaders Conference

“A Society of One”
SHOWTIME AND CBS TO SPOTLIGHT FOOTBALL PLAYER LIVES

If you haven’t read about the documentary film being co-produced by Showtime and CBS to air on 21 Dec (following the Army-Navy Game), check out this article from GoArmySports.com: http://www.goarmysports.com/sports/m-footbl/spec-rel/101811aaa.html

The first of 10 short web episodes which chronicle the life of players at their respective academies is currently available online. It looks very good!

NEW PURPLE HEART HALL OF HONOR NEAR WEST POINT

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is the only facility in the nation dedicated to collecting, preserving and recognizing the record of the more than 1.7 million service men and service women, from all branches of service and across generations, who have received the Purple Heart for being wounded or killed in action against an enemy force while serving in the United States Military. Next time you visit the Academy, include it in your plans: just ten miles north of West Point in New Windsor, and just sixty miles north of Manhattan.

www.thpurpleheart.com

LINKED IN REMINDER

A reminder that two LinkedIn groups have merged into one “official” WPAOG group: make sure you have joined the official group! Our numbers are growing daily and new discussions are posted frequently. LinkedIn is a valuable professional resource for networking in any field. Register for free, search for WPAOG under “groups”, and request to join.

COACH ‘K’ TALKS LEADERSHIP AT FT. BENNING

Coach ‘K’ talked about leadership, hoops, and the Infantry and Armor coming together here under a single command during a 90-minute lecture at Marshall Auditorium in McGinnis-Wickam Hall, the new Maneuver Center of Excellence headquarters. An estimated 1,000 Soldiers attended.

Coach Mike Krzyzewski ’69 & MG Robert Brown ’81, Commanding General, U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, and former Army Basketball Star under then Army Coach ‘K’