

Class of 1973

United States Air Force Academy

Combined Officer and Reunion Committee Meeting

April 11, 2023, 0900 to 1030 Integrity Bank, Monument, Colorado

Attendance: Ron Scott (President), Dale Birch (past Senator), A.J. Ranft (Class Senator), Mike Arnett (Scribe), Don Rightmyer (Historian), John Stefonik (Secretary), Bob Munson, Jim Parker, Kelly McCullar (Treasurer), Craig MacPherson (Webmaster)

Meeting called to order 0900 by Ron

Treasurer's Report: Legacy Fund Balance \$7,637, Agency Fund Balance \$15,773--to be verified with AOG. Ron believes we have sufficient funds to cover all costs. 2nd Lt bars are about as budgeted.

NCLS: Bob reports this year's NCLS well attended and well presented. He commented on the evolution of the program and our participation: once we were the only and flagship sponsors, now many classes want to get in on it and have crests on the literature. Good trend.

Legacy Class Report: Bob for Bill Diffley. Included is a link to our participation with '23; last events are this year's graduation, commissioning and swearing in ceremony. All agree Bob, Bill and Ron have done remarkable work staying engaged with '23. Not an easy task with their focus elsewhere. A "Tapping " ceremony is planned to honor outstanding cadets. Norty Schwartz, Steve Lorenz and Mike Edwards have volunteered to represent our Class. Time line: 30 May participant dry run over lunch at Casa Fiesta 11am for tacos (distribute books and 2nd Lt. Bars), 31 May squadron functions at various places and times attended by '73 participants, June 1st graduation--contact Bob for tickets (required). Lots of moving parts: Bob, Bill and Ron are on top of it.



'73 participation
with '23, 16 Apr 23_2

Reunion Update A. J. has agreed to be Reunion Chair. Committee has been formed and actions are moving apace. Working with AOG private company Reunion facilitator. Antlers Hotel chosen for "Reunion Central". Initial allotment of rooms sold out as of this writing. Hilton downtown and Wyndam are good alternatives. Activities planned for Wednesday thru Saturday. Business meeting on Thursday, Max "social gathering" Friday in lieu of banquet (flexibility and focus on individual interactions). Football game has many options: stadium, big screen at hotel, bag it. Working on final cost and distribution details of Class Book. **All agree on complementary copies to endorsers Fogleman, Anarumo and Born plus Walkin. Any profits on the book to the Long Blue Line fund at AOG.** Paperback and ebook copies available on Amazon.

Class Officers As has been our procedure, Class Officers will be elected at the Reunion Business meeting.

Current Class Officers recommend the following as voting Class Officers:

President: Bill Diffley

VP OPEN

Treasurer: Kelly McCullar will serve but would like a new person.

Secretary: John Stefonik will serve, but would like a new person.

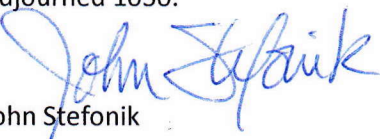
Senator: A.J. Ranft

Scribe: Mike Arnett

Note: any classmate is encouraged to apply for these positions and if there is more than one applicant, there will be an election at the Reunion. The last three elections have been by unanimous consent of the class to the proposed slate. The President, in consultation with the other Class officers, may appoint non-voting positions as needed. Current examples are Reunion Chair and Historian.

Bylaws Bylaws adopted by the Class 15 years ago and amended 10 years ago may be amended by the Class at a Reunion. Changes will be considered by the Officers at the next Office/Reunion meeting in July. Address proposed changes to Ron.

Adjourned 1030.



John Stefonik

Class Secretary

Fourth Class Year

1. Meeting new 2023 Classmates on Entrance Day
2. Walking back from Jacks Valley
3. Acceptance Parade
 1. Speaker: Lt Gen (Ret) John Regni, 1973 Grad and former Superintendent
 2. Awarding outstanding Basic Cadets in Summer Basic Training.
 3. Following the parade we able to distribute copies of Hardbound Contrails to all of 2023.
4. Meeting with 2023 Officers at the 1973 Class meeting following NCLS.

Third Class Year

1. Covid restricts any meetings

2nd Class Year

1. Forged in Blue: Several 1973 Grads as well as other years had their class rings melted down to add to the block which would make up the rings for 2023 and every class thereafter. About 40-50 members of 2023 were present for the ceremony in Doolittle Hall. There was plenty of mingling afterward.
2. At Forged in Blue we had a toast with Hennessy VO which inspired a similar toast at 2023's Ring Dining Out.
3. At Forged in Blue we were also honored to find that 2023 had honored 1973 on their class rings.
4. About 15 of us were able to attend the Ring Dining Out and Dance afterward. The speaker for the dinner was Maj Gen John Barry, 1973 Grad, and presently President of Wings Over the Rockies Museum in Denver.

1st Class year

1. 100th Night Dining In. Again close to 15 from the class of 1973 were able to dine with 2023 and celebrate their closing days of the end of four years. The speaker that night was Gen Steve Lorenz, 1973 Grad, former Commandant of Cadets and the Commander of the Air Training and Education Command.

Along the way

1. We had several opportunities to meet with handfuls of 2023 in casual settings.
2. Always the members of 2023 were polite, enthusiastic, curious, respectful, and grateful.
3. It is our hope that 2023 enjoys 2073 as much as 1973 enjoyed 2023.