

USAFA Class of 1973
Class Officer Meeting Meeting Minutes
Monday December 10, 2018
Shots Coffee 1000

Attendance: Ron Scott (President), Bill Diffley (Vice President), Kelly McCullar (Treasurer) (by phone), " John Stefonik (Secretary), Mike Arnett (Scribe) by phone, Bob Munson, Rich Fazio, Gary Blokland. "Trapper" Carpenter, Joe Kahoe

1. Ron called the meeting to order at 10am and set forth an agenda which covered items planned or envisioned for the next 5 years.
2. **FIVE YEAR BUDGET** Revenues from the Reunion and other sources available for activities are about as expected: between \$10,000 and \$15,000 . Projected expenses include: data storage, about \$100 per year; donations and remembrances of deceased Classmates, about \$3000; modifications to Class plaque, about \$1500. These approximate costs/expenditures from Class Agency Funds were approved by acclamation of Class Officers.
3. **LEGACY CLASS** Bill handed out a schedule of Legacy Class events (attached). Two immediate items of concern are: a '73 page for 2023 contrails--Ron said he would produce a draft-- and upgrades to Contrails for 2023 at a cost of about \$10,000 which Officers approved from Class Gift funds.
4. **NCLS** The 2019 symposium will be held February of next year. We remain the "flagship sponsor", although other classes are contributing funds to enhance the program. It was noted that although '73 is not charged a registration fee, any meals will be the responsibility of attending '73 Classmates. Bob agreed to coordinate '73's participation in and support of the 2019 event.
5. **SNAC-O** After long and illustrious service, Rich has decided to allow someone else to coordinate local Class lunches and events. His tenure will end with the presentation of dessert at this month's Christmas party. Officers agreed that Rich's actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Class of '73. Rich's farewell is attached.
6. **CLASS HISTORY** We are still looking for a point of contact. Don Rightmyer, Mike Smith and Paul Taylor are willing to help; but, one person is need to move the idea from concept to existence.
7. **WIDOWS** Essentially a new undertaking at our 45th Reunion, Rich mentioned, again, a few of the considerable number of issues and other considerations involved in properly supporting the effort. If we pursue this effort into the future, he strongly recommends taking the time to examine scope, manpower, funding, and communication required to effect a meaningful program. One challenge is that the AOG does not recognize graduate widows after those graduates pass away; the group recommended that the AOG consider tracking that group, and offer them affiliate membership. Funds allocated for the 45th

Reunion Widow support will not be completely used and any remainder will be retained in the Class Agency Fund

8. SIMULTANEOUS EVENTS Class Officers had decided that Reunion simultaneous events were acceptable, but emphasis should be on the normally scheduled reunion events. Officers will examine the feasibility of incorporating future requests/events as a "reunion event." John proposed a Policy regarding Class Officer response to Classmate sponsored activities. The proposed Policy is attached for comment.

Respectfully Submitted

John Stefonik

John Stefonik 27 Dec 18

Attachments:

- Class Support of Classmate sponsored activities
- Snac-O Farewell
- Legacy Class Events/Schedule

Attachment
Rich's Farewell

Dear Classmates,

After more than 2 ½ years of managing the Monthly Luncheon/Quarterly Dinner Program, it is time (some would say "past time") for someone else to manage this Program. My plan is that, effective with dessert being served at tonight's Christmas Dinner, I will step down.

I hope I have built upon that which I inherited from Bob Munson, and hope that my successor will have the same solid base upon which to build: We were given a budget of zero, a description of "monthly" and a nicely-worded directive which I understood to say "make it happen." And, make it happen we did: I am glad to report that we have come in UNDER budget, and ON-TIME! Including our first luncheon in April of 2016, where 15 grads and spouses met at the Las Casa Fiesta, we have lunched as a group 22 times (including one classmate's home, the Athletic Department, Wings Over the Rockies Museum, and some restaurants more than once). Including our first dinner at the Colorado Mountain Brewery, we have enjoyed nine dinners, once with our trainers and tormentors, members of the Class of 1970. Additionally, we have had guest speakers, including one of our own Jabara Award recipients and our first-ever Honorary Class Member. We have also found two different areas, neither of which was at the Academy when we were, to visit while celebrating our June 23 reporting date anniversary.

If attendance is any indicator of the Program's success, it has been nothing short of spectacular: When arranging lunches, most literally months in advance, I confidently tell event planners, managers, and owners we will have between 12 and 18 attendees for lunches, knowing it will most likely be towards the high end, and closer to two dozen. Likewise, dinner attendance has averaged between 24 and 30 except, as you know well, for our Christmas dinners, which have blown all estimates out the window.

There are several people I must acknowledge, for without their assistance and support, this Program would not--could not--have happened: First, the woman who wears many hats and has many responsibilities, Teresa, my wife of 43 1/2 years; next, my Third Lieutenant roommate, Ron Scott, who took a leap of faith and placed a lot of trust in me by asking me to perform the duties of "Snack Bar Officer," and, "Social Director;" there are three classmates who could not be here tonight, but without Mike Arnett, Craig MacPherson, and Kelly McCullar you would not have known about these events; Bob Munson and our class officers, both outgoing and incoming, who responded to spur-of-the-moment, short-notice, and sometimes no-notice requests to preview different restaurants. No matter how convenient the venue, no matter how nice the setting, no matter how delicious the food, without the attendance of you classmates, your spouses, family and friends, this Program would have been a ginormous bust.

It is with much gratitude that I thank each and all of you. But the best part of this is that Teresa and I have been able to renew longtime friendships and consider ourselves fortunate to have made so many new friends!

It is with my utmost confidence, my barely contained enthusiasm and excitement that I hand over the "Official Binder" of the Illustrious Class of 1973 Monthly Luncheon/Quarterly Dinner Program to Gary Blokland. Please join me in congratulating Gary and his wife, Judy!

Thank you all, and to all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Thank you each in advance,

Rich

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Attachment
Policy Concerning Classmate Sponsored Activities

Policy Regarding
Class Officer Response to
Classmate Proposed Activities

Introduction

Class of '73 Officers have been approached by a Classmate with the purpose of scheduling a cruise for our 50th Reunion to be held in 2023. Other activities may be proposed to Class officers for support. After discussion, the Class officers offer the following Policy regarding Class Officer response to suggested Classmate supported activities.

Policy

In general, the Class of '73 Officers have concluded that Reunions are a time for '73 Classmates to gather at the Academy, renew friendships, remember the setting, and have fun.

--the place is important, Colorado Springs is where it all began for us.

--the timing is important, formal reunion happen only every five years. Class Officers encourage Classmates to attend the formal reunion. Activities that draw classmates away are not encouraged.

--the Class Officers do not oppose "spreading the word" about other opportunities to gather, as long as they do not conflict with established reunion and other scheduled activities (NCLS).

--the Class Officers neither support nor oppose the concept of activities facilitated by a Classmate, as long as they do not conflict with established class activities such as Reunions or NCLS.

--the Class must be careful not to push a commercial venture to Classmates.

--activities advantageous to both Classmates and the Class shall be considered on a case by case basis.

Respectfully Submitted


John Stefanik
'73 Secretary

Attachment
Legacy Class Schedule of Events

**ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY
*Class of 1973, Legacy Class for Class of 2023***

Congratulations and Welcome to the Air Force Academy 50-year Legacy Class Program

As a 1973 graduate, you are invited to support members of the Class of 2023 through their four years at the Academy and participate in their milestone celebrations. A 40-year program started before the Class of 1959 reached its 50th year post graduation. Once 1959 reached that milestone, the AOG and USAFA began to honor them with involvement in graduation and other events. The program was changed and the 50-year class is now the official Legacy Class. The first Legacy Classes stressed the shared responsibility of both classes in making the Academy what we all expect it to be - "recognized as the premier developer of aerospace leaders ... leaders with impeccable character and essential knowledge ... prepared and motivated to lead our Air Force and nation.

• Below are the opportunities for the Class of 1973 to interact with the Class of 2023 over the next four years:

January 2019 -Welcome

- The 1973 Legacy Class forms a legacy committee and nominates a classmate to write the contrails dedication
- The 1973 Legacy Class can decide if the class will fundraise \$7000-\$10,000 for the Class of 2023 2Lt bars.(Optional)

June 2019- Swearing-In Ceremony (Graduates and guests)

- Sit in the parade field stand and watch as the basics are sworn-in.

July 2019 - Coin Ceremony (Graduates Only)

- Sit on the Terrazzo and watch as the basics complete the march-back from Jack's Valley. The Commandant presents challenge coins and recognizes outstanding basics.

August 2019-Acceptance Day Parade (Graduates and guests)

- View the parade as the basics are "accepted" as fourth class cadets. Eight 1973 representatives will present Contrails to the outstanding Basic Cadet from each of the eight summer squadrons.
- A representative from the 1973 Legacy Class can give a short speech at the parade. If available, the 1973 class flag will be positioned at the podium.

January 2020 - Forged in Blue

- The 1973 Legacy Class has the opportunity to reach out for class ring donations. The donated rings will be used to create the Class of 2023 rings. A tangible connection between the two classes and the 'Long Blue Line' is formed.

October 2020 - Exemplar Dinner (Graduates Only)

- Sit and dine with the Class of 2023 as they celebrate the selection of their Class Exemplar.

August 2021 - Forged in Blue and Commitment Dinner (Graduates Only)

- Attend the *Forged in Blue* ring melt of donated USAF A graduate rings.
- Sit and dine with the Class of 2023 as they celebrate their "Commitment" to the Air Force.

- The 1973 Legacy Class presents the *Forged in Blue* ingot.

May 2022 - Ring Dining Out and Dance (Graduates and guests)

- Sit and dine with the Class of 2023 as they receive their class rings 'forged' with rings of USAFA alumni. The 1973 Legacy Class and guests may also attend the Ring Dance.

February 2023 - 100th Night (Graduates Only)

- Sit and dine with the Class of 2023 as they celebrate 100th Night.

June 2023 (Graduates and guests)

- The 1973 Legacy Class is invited to attend commissioning ceremonies for the Class of 2023. Your Association of Graduates and the Long Blue Line are counting on the Class of 1973 to guide the Class of 2023, instilling a sense of pride and heritage as they go forth as cadets and officers.