

USAFA Class of 1973  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, August 22, 2016  
Panera Bread Restaurant 0815

Attendance: Ron Scott (President), "Trapper" Carpenter (Vice-President) Joe Kahoe (Treasurer), Mike Arnett (Scribe), Dale Birch (Class Senator), John Stefonik (Secretary), Bob Munson (immediate past President), Rich Fazio ('73 Lunch Coordinator)

1. **\$100 DONATION** Ron asked for discussion of the existing policy of donating \$100 from the Class Agency Fund maintained by The Association of Graduates ("AOG") to the USAFA Endowment ("Endowment") in the name of deceased classmates for the benefit of National Leadership and Character Symposium ("NCLS"). Joe described the process whereby funds could be transferred. All agreed that the policy of donating \$100 of Class funds in the name of deceased classmates to the Endowment in support of NCLS should be continued. It was noted that only the President (Ron) and Treasurer (Joe) have the authority to expend Class funds.

2. **THE RING THING** Bob explained that many West Point graduates have bequeathed their Class Rings to their AOG equivalent for the purpose of recycling into the rings made for future classes. The process decreases the cost of class rings and gives a striking sense of continuity, that is, "we are connected" to the Class Ring. All agreed the idea should be explored for '73 with specific emphasis on helping our legacy class (2023). Bob and Ron will ask Steve Lorenz to help produce a concept that could work for '73.

3. **\$\$** Bob and Joe discussed '73 finances. The AOG and the Endowment maintain separate accounts for '73. The largest fund is with the Endowment. This fund was the focus of our 40<sup>th</sup> reunion fundraising and will provide funding for NCLS when the present AOG NCLS fund is exhausted (about 2 years). Donations and a portion of class reunion registration maintain the AOG fund. Ron mentioned the continuing class obligation for vigilance on our part as to the management and use of dedicated '73 donations.

4. **PLANNED GIVING** Ron noted it is probable that most classmates have been made aware of estate planning opportunities which includes various charitable and benevolent organizations. The AOG has staff dedicated to just that purpose. Bob and John will explore the possibility of facilitating classmate deductible estate gifting for the benefit of '73 programs and projects. Gifts in Wills or from Trusts help maintain our Legacy.

5. **THE BIG 50 (and 45)** Our 45<sup>th</sup> reunion is about two years away; and our 50<sup>th</sup> is, well, you can "do the math." Given his extensive experience at our 40<sup>th</sup>, Trapper agreed to chair the 45<sup>th</sup> reunion committee and would encourage any and all classmates interested in "making history" to join him. Although now is a bit early for action, next autumn committees will begin to form and decisions will need to be made. The AOG provides a wonderful template for and assistance to reunion activities. Past experience

suggests thoughtful input and plenty of follow-up to make the template work for us. Trapper will coordinate with the AOG to set up a meeting with AOG planners in November or December for lessons learned from this year's class reunions.

6. **TON-OF-THANKS** Rich Fazio, who has been coordinating monthly '73 lunches, wishes to make of record his "huge thanks" to Mike Arnett and Craig MacPherson for getting the word out and making the lunches a success.

7. **FOOBAW** You may have noticed, it's that time of year again. There was discussion of a dedicated '73 tailgate and block tickets to one or more football games. With the first game next week, it probably will not happen this year. Ron will gather information in coordination with Trapper and explore the possibilities for next football season.

8. **WEBMASTER** All agree Craig MacPherson and Kelly McCullar have done extraordinary work with Class of '73 website. Present cost is \$65/year-- Craig and Kelly covered it for this year. Craig asked for guidance concerning Website transition. By voice vote, all agreed to keep [www.usafa73.org](http://www.usafa73.org) and have the class pay the cost. Dale pointed out less costly alternatives. Dale will coordinate with Craig on cost; Craig and Kelly will continue to power [usafa73.org](http://usafa73.org).

Respectfully Submitted

John Stefonik