

Minutes Class of 1973 History Project, March 15, 2019

Attendees: Mike Smith, Paul Taylor, Ron Scott, Mike Arnett, and, Don Rightmyer

Interested but not able to attend: Bill Diffley, Denny Merideth

Others to add in the future: Craig MacPherson

Project definition notes:

Provided by Paul Taylor:

1. Compile, edit and publish personal accounts/remembrances of events/situations class members where leadership and character traits/skills instilled/learned at the Academy paid dividends later in the member's career.
2. Compile, edit and publish humorous personal accounts/remembrances of events/situations involving class members either leading up to entrance at the Academy, during the Academy years, or thereafter.
3. Compile, edit and publish personal accounts/stories of events/situations class members where bravery, courage, devotion to duty played a part of one's career.
4. a Combination of the above.

In addition to the items provided by Paul, it was suggested to include challenges classmates experienced during the appointment process as well as character and leadership challenges faced before, during, and after the Academy.

A release form that allows us to edit and publish both in print and on the web should accompany all data collected. We will need a release as well for pictures provided, whether this comes from the individuals in the picture or the owner of the copyright of the picture.

As data is collected, analyze the inputs and categorize them according to themes, using these themes as chapter divisions. Using the virtues defined by the Center for Character and Leadership Development might provide a useful construct for a starting point for themes.

It was suggested that raw stories should be posted on the class website and, following a review of these materials, a subset would be selected for further editing and publication in book form.

It was suggested that we work with the AOG with a goal of establishing a template for collecting class histories for all classes to use thus enabling the AOG to create a robust history for all classes.

Legacy class was discussed. Is there some way to link this project with the legacy class and with a future NCLS where a legacy panel discussion could be added to the format.

We discussed donating all profits from publication to the AOG or Endowment. The AOG might foot the publication bill since they would directly benefit. In addition, AOG staff might have useful insights into the editing and publishing processes and costs.

Self publishing is a possibility. Ron mentioned that it is possible to self-publish a softcopy book at no cost. Bob Munson might have additional information as he has been working on publishing the Contrails

for our legacy class. We might be able to contact the publisher for the yearbooks and get additional data as well.

Soliciting inputs:

In addition to repeated email blasts through Mike Arnett, use the squadron reps to push data requests.

Solicitation requests should contain a concise description of the project, a template for submittal, and questions to stimulate submittal of useful and relevant data.

Project timeline:

Develop a concise description of the project, list of questions to stimulate input, and template. Due June 2019

Collect data: June 2019 through June 2021

During the collection of the raw data, create selection criteria for selecting items for print publication and conduct first order data analysis. Post raw stories to class website in order to create class engagement and stimulate additional inputs.

Analyze data for themes, follow-up with writers, and complete first order edit: Completed by June 2022

Edit and publish print materials: Completed by June 2023

Action items:

1. Mike Smith to draft meeting notes; attendees to amend as needed. Due March 22, 2019.
2. Mike Smith draft concise description of the project and distribute to participants. Due March 29, 2019
3. Paul draft questions to stimulate input and distribute to participants. Due—Paul, pick your date
4. Mike Smith review data at the Center for Character and Leadership Development for potential themes and distribute for comment. Due March 29, 2019.

Those who did not have action items at this meeting—your time will come 😊

Next meeting: May 14, 2019. Call-in information will remain the same. Reminders will be distributed.