

Minutes of 8 Jul 19 USAFA Class of 1973 Officers' Meeting

Location: Pikes Peak Library 21C

Time: 1100-1300 MDT

Attendees: Ron Scott, President; Bill Diffley, VP; Kelly McCullar, Treasurer (via phone); Mike Arnett, Scribe; Craig MacPherson, Webmaster; AJ Ranft, Class Senator; Gary Blokland, Class Social Officer; Mike Smith, Class History Project Officer; Jim Parker, Legacy Class Team; Dale Birch, Class Widow Care Officer; Bob Munson, Class Gift and NCLS Officer; Rich Fazio, Class Heritage Officer; Trapper Carpenter, VP Emeritus; Denny Merideth, At Large

President Ron Scott called meeting to order at 1100.

Kelly McCullar, Class Treasurer, gave his report. Agency Fund and Gift funds have been updated through 31-May. Joyce Love at AOG comments that there is not much left to post for June, but those statements are not yet ready. 1 July is beginning of a new Fiscal Year (FY2020), so they probably do a "hard close" at end of June. Financial reports for Class Legacy Fund, our Class of 1973 AOG account, and our Class of 1973 Endowment account are attached. Legacy Fund presented as of 31 Mar 19; NCLS Fund presented through 31 Dec 18.

Bill Diffley, Legacy Class Project Lead, discussed '73 participation in upcoming 6 Aug Acceptance Parade. John Regni will be the speaker. Eight members of our class will present the Outstanding Basic Award to the award winners in the eight summer squadrons. We will park at Doolittle Hall and catch a shuttle to the parade. Bill will be out of pocket for the next three weeks, so Jim Parker will stand in for him. As of the meeting, the following people had notified Diffley they would attend: Munson, Scott, Birch, Barry, Fazio, Merideth, Blokland, Arnett, Regni, Ranft and Parker.

Gary Blokland discussed plans for a '73 post-Acceptance-Parade BBQ at the USAFA FamCamp immediately after the parade. The cost will be \$5.00 per person, payable at the picnic will cover burgers & brats. BYOB, games, etc. Side dishes will be coordinated after RSVPs close. RSVP NLT 30 Jul.

Ron gave a recap of '73 participation at the In-Processing Day events for parents at Doolittle Hall 27 Jun. Classmates who visited with parents included Bob Linnell (who flew in from Wisconsin), Rich Fazio, Mike Arnett, Denny Merideth, John Barry, John McDevitt, Bob Munson, and Ron Scott.

Addendum: While not mentioned during the meeting, the Class of '73 was also represented at the swearing-in ceremony at Stillman Field the morning of 28 Jun. Representing the class were (need to fill in the names). The group rallied at Bourbon Brothers with other classmates and spouses for brunch following the swearing-in.

Bob Munson discussed the Class of 2023 Contrails. We contributed \$10,100 to augment '75's \$9000. With our contribution and behind the scenes work, we were able to secure a durable hard-bound, sewn Contrails very similar to ours. The standard current-era Contrails is a paperback that often falls apart by the end of BCT. The printer gave us 20 copies for our own use. Bob has them for the time being, until we decide what to do with them.

Mike Arnett suggested a '73 Legacy Class presence on Web Guy. Trapper will follow up with the AOG.

Kelly McCullar gave a funds update: As written (see attachment), less the \$10K debited for the Contrails.

Mike Smith discussed the Class History project. To date, he has only received one input, from Ron Scott. To encourage participation, Class Scribe Mike Arnett will include reminders in Checkpoints Class News columns and class e-blasts.

Gary Blokland gave an update on upcoming local events:

- 24 Aug: Informal Happy Hour at about 1500 at Beast & Brews on Voyager Pkwy near North Gate Blvd.
- Bowling at The Summit Interquest at Interquest Parkway just east of I-25. The Summit has good deal packages afternoons during the week. Date TBD.
- 27 Sep: Edelweiss German Restaurant
- 14 Dec: Margarita at Pine Creek

Rich Fazio discussed opportunities for us to honor fallen classmates and wives at USAFA Cemetery.

- On May 22, the following placed Class pennants at our classmates' gravesites at the USAFA Cemetery in preparation for the next day's flag-placing event: Class President Ron Scott, Dale Birch, Rich Fazio, Donna Felton, Steve Lorenz, Tom Mayberry, Bob Munson, Charlie Quinnell, Nancy Stewart, widow of Valedictorian Clay Stewart, and Honorary Class Member BGen (ret) Mal Wakin. Nancy and Gen Wakin expressed their gratitude in being included.
- Following placement of the pennants, almost all joined Teresa Fazio and Mary Scott at the Colorado Mountain Brewery for fellowship, food, and libations.
- On May 23, in advance of Memorial Day, the following placed American flags at our classmates' gravesites at the USAFA Cemetery: Class President Ron Scott, Dale Birch, Dave Brown, Rich Fazio and Steve Lorenz.
- The Flags Across America remembrance is a second opportunity to honor classmates. This year, it will be 13-14 Dec. We will set out class flags on 13th to identify those graves we will place wreaths on the next day, so USAFA doesn't place wreaths on them, too.
- Rich is tossing around the idea of placing plastic flowers on classmates' graves twice a year.
- Dale Birch, Widows Care Lead, noted that he sent pictures of classmates' graves with flags on them to 10 widows. Eight responded, expressing their gratitude.

Bob Munson noted that '23 will go through the Heritage Trail at Doolittle Hall on 1 Aug. He volunteered to represent '73 and was looking for three others to fill an afternoon or morning. Rich Fazio, Trapper Carpenter and Dale Birch volunteered to fill the vacancies.

Bob Munson discussed plans for our 50th Anniversary class gift. The focus is on estate planning. There are several parts. Honorary chairmen for the Class Gift project are Steve Lorenz and John Regni.

- Goal of 100% of classmates have a will
- Of lesser importance, we will encourage classmates to consider including a gift to the Academy in their estate plan.
- Participation in Forged in Blue program to donate rings to the Academy to be melted down and included in future classes' rings.

- Bob is investigating getting a chunk of Academy Chapel aluminum when the Chapel undergoes renovation and giving pieces of it to those who participate in the class gift, similar to what was done for those who donated at least X amount to the 40th Reunion class gift.

Bob discussed the "Class of 1973 Long Blue Line Endowment Fund," a fund set up so that the proceeds can only be used for programs that directly benefit cadets and grads. The agreement is about to be signed by Class President Ron Scott and AOG President Marty Marcolongo.

Bob mentioned that not much has been released about next year's NCLS. The theme is "Valuing Human Conditions, Cultures and Societies." The dates are 20-21 Feb 2020. We provided the CCLD a list of potential keynote and session speakers. See attached list.

Ron gave a status of 50th Reunion planning.

- 50th Reunion Survey. There were 281 responses. See attachment for more details.
 - o The vast majority preferred a Fall (vs Summer) reunion.
 - o The vast majority preferred a home game weekend, which narrows the choice down to the 5 Nov 2023 Army game.
 - o Significant support for both game attendance and for live streaming the game at the hotel.
 - o Most preferred keeping the price below \$300, rather than spending more to have it at a luxury venue (e.g., The Broadmoor).
 - o About one-third of the respondees responded positively to the idea of a cruise.
- Venue. Preliminary discussions with the Antlers revealed they can provide rooms for less than \$200. They have approximately 300 rooms, but we will need to lock them in quickly. They can accommodate approximately 800 for dinner.

After discussion, the officers voted to hold the reunion in conjunction with the 5 Nov 23 Army game; to proceed with locking in the Antlers as soon as possible; and if Charlie Clatterbaugh wants to proceed with the cruise, to send out an initial announcement but leave all subsequent communication/involvement to Charlie and individual classmates, and to require Charlie to deconflict the cruise schedule with reunion activities, specifically to allow classmates to participate in potential Sunday activities associated with the reunion.

The next Class Officer Quarterly Meeting will take place on 14 October (Monday) from 9:00 to 11:00 AM at Pikes Peak 21C Library (tentatively scheduled).

Ron adjourned the meeting at 1300.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Arnett
Class Scribe, Standing In for Class Secretary John Stefanik

Attachments:

Class Officer Quarterly Meeting Agenda

AOG '73 Financial Statement as of 31 May 19

USAFA Endowment Fund Statement Class of '73 FY17-18

'73 Legacy Fund – March 2019

Illustrious Class of 1973 Classmates Buried at USAFA Cemetery

'73 Speaker Suggestions NCLS 2020

Acceptance Day Parade Info

50th Reunion Survey Results