

Norman I. (Skip) Lee 63119 E. Cat Claw Lane Tucson, AZ 85739-2058 Home: (520)825-7980

Cell: (520)241-3498

E-mail: 54wrs63@gmail.com Class Web Site: www.usafa63.org

The Association of Graduates recently learned of the death of our classmate Klem F. **Kalberer**, CS-14. Klem passed away last year on 20 Jan 2016 in Dallas, TX. A graveside service took place on 14 Apr 2017 at 1200 hours at the USAFA Cemetery. He was inurned along with his daughter, Kim, who passed away on 17 Mar 1972. Condolences may be sent to the family in care of his wife, Ann, and daughter, Kloe: Mrs. Ann Kalberer; C/O Mrs. Kloe A. Barcus; 3481 McFarlin Blvd; Dallas, TX 75205-1827

Jimmie Butler sent the following picture of our classmates at Klem's graveside service.

Many thanks to Jim **Gaston** for taking the picture.



Classmates with Ann Kalberer L-R: McCracken, Hauser, Bredvik, Vaughn, Steinbrink, Shutack, Maher, Kuhn, Fain, Butler Thacker, & Hayes.

Class Fund: Diff provided a summary of the Class Endowment Fund activity for 2016: A gift to the Center for Character and Leadership Development (CCLD) for \$11,255 and a gift to the Department of History Center for Oral History (COH) for \$11,255. Other information includes \$30,400 remaining pledged funds of and an investment gain of \$58,347. The end balance for 2016 was \$807,922.

Mini Reunion 2017: Bob Hayes reported that the local Golden Boys concluded the Sep 23rd weekend would be good for our mini-reunion. The football game on the 23rd is Air Force vs. San Diego State. With only 3 home games in September and October the other games available were Sep 2^{nd} and Oct 14th. We can expect activities similar to those last year but the game kickoff time

of 5pm will impact the schedule. Bob says he will be providing details via his e-mail list so if you are interested please check if you are on his list and if not give him a call or drop him an email. Contact Bob at 1-719-481-9693, bcahayes@comcast.net. Bob added that he will happy to arrange game tickets as he did last year,

55th Reunion Update: Note from Bill Ball: you'll remember the dates selected for our 55th, 3-7 Oct 2018; the Antlers Hotel has been selected as Reunion HQ, and we'll be playing Navy that weekend. Well, all that is firm. The AOG is still not letting us sign a contract for the Antlers until this coming fall. This is a new rule since an unnamed class overbooked on an early hotel contract, had many no-shows, leaving the class/AOG with a very large bill. This later date for contracts will delay us a little on our hotel meal planning but shouldn't be a show stopper. What is a planning problem right now is that the Academy is still working the decision on timing for a Chapel closure for a complete teardown and rehab. Their decision is expected sometime this April or May. The current word is that the chapel closing will be in the summer of 2018; but that date has not been finalized. Potential locations for chapel services are being looked at now and will obviously affect our Cup turning service location and timing. Bill went on to say the first planning meeting for our 55th is going to be sometime in June or early July. This will give many issues time to hopefully get solved before we start working a real reunion schedule. He added the committee will put out a planning meeting email soon enough for you to work your schedule to attend. If you have questions don't hesitate to email or call Bob Hayes, bcahayes@comcast.net Vic Thacker vlthacker@mac.com or Bill Ball balljw@msn.com.

The following photograph came across from a Face Book post that was part of a transition in a community program that Lou and Karen **Matjasko** have worked with for some time now. Karen is the Program Director and Lou who is stepping down as the Executive Director of Circle of Change Veterans Dog Program. Circle of Change is a community partner of the Madison VA Hospital and its Rockford Satellite Clinic. Veterans with Post Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury are referred to our program by VA Mental Health. Circle of Change has two classes operating in Northern Illinois and one class in Madison Wisconsin. Lou says the program was developed over ten years. It provides dog training experiences in a small group and safe venue for vets referred by the VA who have ptsd/anxiety issues. There's no cost to the vet or VA. Over 250 vets in Rockford/Madison corridor have been helped. See www.circle-of-change.org. The photo sent with the announcement was a great picture of Karen and Lou. However, when I clicked on the picture to save it in my Class News file I saw another picture that I couldn't resist. You can, I hope, see why. Congrats and many thanks to both Lou and Karen for their work in this important project.

Lou, Karen and friend

Another Face Book post included an article in the *Aurora Villager* about Larry **McLaughlin** that was entitled "Service Before Self." Larry is called a "professional" volunteer. Larry and Jeanne live in Heritage Eagle Bend in southeast Aurora, Colorado and typical of Larry, when he retired he started a new venture, sprinkler service, as well as his volunteer activities among others Rotary Club, Lamplighters who change neighbor's outdoor and garage lights in the community, driving cancer patients to their appointments and acting as an usher at the Parker Arts and Lone Tree Arts Center. The article had a photo of Larry with his sprinkler gear blowing out a sprinkler system for a neighbor. Unfortunately, the photo is a reproduction of the newspaper article and not of the quality to show here. So, Larry sent a recent photo. Note the Rotary emblem on his polo shirt.



Larry and Jeanne

I received some quality feedback from the Warrior discussion in the March issue of *Checkpoints*. As a follow-consider looking at a couple of videos put out by the Academy and the AOG. First and foremost watch the video "State of the Academy" address by the Superintendant, LTG Michelle Johnson. It lasts about 30 minutes and I know we all have plenty of time. I found her to be prophetic about what challenges the Academy will be facing as it goes forward into the next half century of its existence. A little math was required before my mind grasped the fact the Academy has been around for over 60 years. Take a look: https://youtu.be/K0M-LsRyb5U. Another video, this one is short, worth watching is the USAFA 2017 Founder's Day Video produced by the AOG. https://youtu.be/6nIVFeA7Mwo.

Just one more video; this one for grins: In a recent Face Book post Steve **Savonen** shared a SIERRA HOTEL AERONAUTICS's video, *Aviators of the Silver Screen*, which is full of clips from movies many, I'll wager, you will remember. https://youtu.be/4KSAa8x2kg.

That's all for this time. Please let's be careful out there and hope to see you at the 55th Reunion if not before.