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Class News: 1963

2011 Mini-Reunion: It's not too early to start thinking about attending the annual mini-reunion. **Bob Hayes** and I spoke about the mini-reunion and he says the Falcon football schedule works best for having the mini during the Tennessee State game on Saturday, 24 September. The aspen should be at their best at that time. The TCU game will likely be more competitive but that game, scheduled for the 10th of September, has a to-be-determined start time of either 1pm or 5pm and depends on the TV coverage (Versus). Kickoff on the 24th is set for 1pm. The tailgate should start around 10 am and then, following the game, cocktails, dinner and the annual cup turning ceremony at Arnold Hall. According to the guys working the Class Gift project we can expect to see a good working preview of the Class Gift Kiosks with the computers and software installed. See the photograph and short blurb below. Bottom line, we need an early afternoon start time to accommodate our preferred mini format and schedule so, for now, annotate your calendars for the weekend of the 24th and the 10th. More details will be available in e-mails from Bob in a couple of weeks. Recent turnouts at the mini have been growing each year so don't miss the fun. If you want to be on Bob's e-mail list and get in on the fun give him your e-mail address. He can be reached at Telephone 719-481-9693 and e-mail bcayahes@comcast.net. The graveside funeral service for Jim McDonald was held at USAFA Cemetery on Friday, April 8th. Jim passed away on 22 July. His daughter, son, and daughter-in-law were present. Classmates who attended were **Jim Olson**, **Drue DeBerry**, **Jim and Eileen Fain**, **Jimmie Butler**, **Jim Hauser**, and **Bob Hayes**.

Class Gift Team Update: As I write this edition of the Class News the Gift Team is preparing for their Spring meeting beginning the 26th of April. **Lou Matjasko** sent a status report plus several photographs of the new Kiosks that were recently installed in Arnold Hall on the 6th of April. Lou wrote "The kiosks are constructed of matching cherry wood and integrate elegantly with the design of the display cabinets and the adjacent surroundings. Power is in place and computers and touch screens are installed. **Gil Merkle** loaded the software into the computers before they were shipped and he will commission them on April 26th to assure proper operation." Lou added: "I can already picture cadets and others huddled around each one taking in our Heritage Display presentation. There are sections on the Commemorative Cups, JFK cup, **Pat Wynne's** ring, the Baldacci Ceremonial Cabinet, the Gyr, and our turning ceremony. **Bob Hayes** was able to be there with **Doug Logue**, who built our other cabinets [and provided these pictures]. **Scott Saxon** of the Arnold Hall staff and **Paul Martin**, the curator of collections, provided their usual top-notch support."



Kiosks are in place

AOG Election News: My thanks to all who voted in the recent election. Many of you received an e-mail from me, via the AOG, about the poor voting turn out. A goodly number of you let me know they were accepting the action item to vote which was very encouraging. More than one person asked about the 25% quorum requirement for passage of amendments to the Bylaws. I remember discussions about this number from the Blue Ribbon Council (BRC) commissioned by the AOG Board of Directors. The BRC submitted its report in January 2006 and the AOG membership adopted the recommended Bylaws on May 4, 2006. The BRC's charter was, essentially, to propose governance arrangements for a membership non-profit organization such as the AOG. Our Ron **Fogleman** was a member of the BRC. You can get the BRC report on line by going to the AOG website: Click on About the AOG tab and go to Governance then Bylaws. There will be a link to the Report just above the Bylaws heading. Alternatively, you can put *AOG Blue Ribbon Council Report January 2006* in Google and the link will come right up. It's all easy reading and explains everything.

Wyman **Harris** sent a note reporting that all is well with them. He said "Gay and I just returned from an expedition to Antarctica, South Georgia and the Falkland Islands. Great trip!" That trip with Buenos Aires and Santiago as added stops is on my "bucket list". He also took the opportunity to tell me about a new book co-authored by his daughter Lisa McCubbin and United States Secret Service Agent Jerry Blaine. A best seller, The Kennedy Detail, JFK's Secret Service Agents Break Their Silence, included a forward by Jackie's agent, Clint Hill. The Discovery Channel has produced a movie based on the book that can be previewed at <http://dsc.discovery.com/tv/the-kennedy-detail/>. I went to Amazon and read a number of reviews of the book which is exceptionally well received. As Wyman put it, JFK dominated the politics of our time at the Academy and early on after graduation; to such an extent that he is an honorary member of the Class with a cup, turned over. I think this book would be a fitting addition to each of our libraries.

Hank **Hoffman** just published a memoir of his military and civilian career. The book is titled Aiming High, a Memoir of a Cold War Veteran, and covers Hank's life through 30 years of service from the USAF Academy through four tours of service in Vietnam and on through a career as a test pilot. You can download the book in .pdf format or you can order it in hardback or paperback; go to [Aiming High by Hank Hoffman in Biographies & Memoirs](#). When there you will see two books by Hank with almost the same cover. One, Playing With The Boys is, according to Hank, a family memoir, the other is military. The one you would be interested in, he says, is Aiming High. I read the book and it is classically Hank. You will be entertained, enlightened and, maybe, wonder who were those guys anyway?

Given the current events going on in Libya and the Middle East, and this being the 25th anniversary of Operation El Dorado Canyon, I thought the following photograph might be appropriate. Two of our classmates had a hand in those activities back 25 years ago and the picture of them visiting their old digs at Lakenheath in 2006 is an fitting memory.



The Venk and Sam

A slight correction from last time is required. When I stated that Garet **Nenninger**, Barney **Bartlett** and yours truly served as FACs in II Corps, RSVN during 1967, I mentioned that we all worked out of Bao Loc during that year but not at the same time. That was not entirely correct in that Barney and I overlapped each other at Bao Lac for close to 3 months.



FACs 1967

That's it for this time. Thanks again to all for their inputs and remember if you are as old as I am it is time to move forward to the next tee box and have more fun!