

## May 1, 2023

## From the Desk of Our President: 2022-2023 Year in Review

## **Greetings Parents!**

It's hard to believe we are closing in on the end of another Academic Year. We want to congratulate all our Firsties on their impending graduation and upcoming commissions:

Cadet Graham Aldredge Cadet Marquel Broughton Cadet Alex Burgess Cadet Reikan Donaldson Cadet Dhuti Gopalakrishna Cadet Jacob Gurley Cadet Denver Jackson Cadet Denver Jackson Cadet Nicole Khayyam Cadet Connor McGurk Cadet Rhett Perry Cadet Sebastian Russell Cadet Jacob Seyers Cadet Kyle Terry Cadet Skye Williams Cadet Andrew Woodman Cadet Randall Batson Cadet Alex Burgess Cadet Ashley Clegg Cadet Darielicia Finley Cadet Ethan Green Cadet Jay Hajost Cadet Edwin Jang Cadet Aires Cadet Michael Polk Cadet Michael Polk Cadet Miles Silva Cadet William Van Pamelen Cadet Kayla Williams-Wright Cadet Malachi Wright Cadet Justin Bennett Cadet Abram Budge Cadet Garrett Dalley Cadet Joseph Garcia Cadet Matthew Greiner Cadet Quidrelin Hammonds Cadet Gordon Keadle Cadet Caroline Maurer Cadet Caroline Maurer Cadet Daniel Parrish Cadet Paul Robinson Cadet Paul Robinson Cadet Mario Saparoni Cadet Taylor Stalheim Cadet Sawyer Williams Cadet Jacob Wilis



WPPC-GA's own Firstie and WP FB Team Captain, Marquel Broughton

If any of our graduating Firsties will be in town for our Annual Hail and Farewell, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM at Woodward Academy, please let me know. We want to take the opportunity to personally congratulate them on their success and we would love for them to be a part of our panel. In conjunction with the West Point Society of Atlanta, our gift to each graduating Firstie is a paid firstyear membership to the West Point Society of Atlanta.

We believe the Society's continued support for its members proves to be as valuable to our grads as the Parents' Club's support of their 47-month journey at West Point. Parents of Firsties, we hope you will continue to

join us at our events throughout the year. Your wisdom and guidance are welcomed and appreciated.



As we close out this Academic Year, I want to highlight the Club's accomplishments during the 2022-2023 year and make you aware of upcoming events!

The Club's accomplishments were significant this year:



• June 2022 Governor's Send-Off and Hail & Farewell resulted in record numbers of new members from the Class of 2026.

• R-Day 2022 Welcome Table for Georgia Families.

• Store Re-Launch & Merchandise Refresh.

June Hail & Farewell Cadet Panel

• Group Me Launch.



2026 Parent Rep, Kelly Brannock & VP Chris Van der Walt at R-Day

- Mid-Beast Barbeque hosted by the Metz Family.
- October Family Picnic & Boodle Packing of 155 care packages.
- **\$150 Candy Donation** towards West Point's Annual Cadet Trick o' Treat.
- Attendance at the WPSA Vietnam Veteran's Day Memorial Service Luncheon recognizing WPSA graduates who served during the War, along with a \$500 table sponsorship.
- \$300 canned food donation to a local food pantry.
- Army-Navy Watch Party in conjunction with WPSA at Hudson's Grill.
- As President, I completed the **Field Force Representative Training** so our Club Board has its own active **Field Force Representative** assisting prospective cadets and aiding in the Georgia Field Force Representatives' load of all Georgia USMA applicants. <u>All parents are welcome to train and join the Field Force</u>. <u>Please ask me how</u>!
  - To that end, our website will be updated with a new page specifically to address the needs, questions, & concerns of prospective candidates & their families. It includes the establishment of a travel scholarship to assist highly qualified cadet candidates experiencing financial hardship; granting the ability to visit and tour USMA.



October Picnic & Boodle Packing



- WPSA's Founder's Day Ball included 60 WPPC-GA attendees. We recognized our incoming 2027 cadet candidates and their families at the Reception prior to the dinner.
- April Family Picnic & Boodle Packing of 155 care packages.
- Birthday & Holiday Cards to each cadet.
- \$300 Club Donation to WPAOG.



WPPC Parents' Club Member, incoming cadet candidate families, and our own Cadet J. Vagner.



The Club deeply appreciates each family that attended and/or donated towards our Fall and Spring Boodle packings and picnics. These events deepen our bonds and grant us opportunities to support our cadets as they approach their exams.



April Picnic & Boodle Packing

Items we included in our Boodle shipments:

- Candy and Mints
- Shout/Purell Wipes
- Emergen-C Packets
- Hot Hands Hand Warmers
- Compressed Towels



Historic Naylor Hall, Roswell, Georgia

- Protein Bars
- Goody's Powder
- Chips
- Small Toys
- Lip Balm

- Highlighters & Pens
- Electrolyte Powders
- Popcorn
- Fruit Snacks
- Notes of Encouragement

We also have a great deal of exciting news to share! First, we have secured a catered tailgate at Family Weekend (date TBD) at Daly Field. Those tickets will go on sale in August. Secondly, the 2023 Black & Gold Holiday Ball has been scheduled for December 29<sup>th</sup>, at Naylor Hall, in Historic Roswell, Georgia. This formal event will include music, dancing, fine dining, and a guest speaker. Tickets will go on

sale after the June Hail & Farewell. They are first come; first served. Attendance is limited to 200 people (including cadets.) <u>Thank you to our Corporate Sponsors: Delta, Southwire, and Tinsley Bacon Tinsley, LLC</u>.



## Below is our list of upcoming events. Please SAVE THE DATE and plan to attend!

- June 11<sup>th</sup>, Hail & Farewell, 1PM, Woodward Academy Cafeteria, 1662 Rugby Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30337; *if you have a current cadet in town and willing to join our panel, please let me know!* 
  - Speaker from 50-year Class Affiliate
  - Recognition of our Graduates
  - Recognition of our Class of 2027 New Cadets
  - o Current Cadet Panel & Question and Answer Session
- July 1<sup>st</sup>, Mid-Beast Barbeque, 1 PM, hosted by the Vagner Family, 3855 Raeburn Rd., Cumming, Georgia 30028 – <u>all classes and families are welcome</u>! *This is a great opportunity for New Cadet parents to socialize and ask questions!*
- Fall Family Weekend Football Tailgate, TBD, Daly Field, USMA, tickets to go on sale in August!
- October Family Picnic & Boodle Packing, 1 PM Bethesda Park, Small Pavilion, Date to be Posted in Conjunction of Family Weekend Date Announcement
- December 9<sup>th</sup>, Army-Navy Watch Party in Conjunction with West Point Society of Atlanta, Time/Location TBD
- December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Black & Gold Holiday Ball, 6-10 PM, Naylor Hall, Historic Roswell, Georgia, tickets go on sale in June!

Parents, none of what we do would be possible without your participation and financial support along with dedicated work by our amazing board. We rely on your continued participation and support. To coin a class motto, "Together We Thrive!"

Thank you to our **Executive Board**: **Chris Van der Walt, Connie Craig**, and **Dana Spivey** for the daily diligence it takes to successfully fulfill our mission. Thank you to **Sherry Jo Barlow**, our Webmaster, to **Marion Metz**, our Merchandising Coordinator, and to our **Parent Representatives**: **Dan & Jean Maurer**, 2023; Tammi Ryley, 2024; Connie Craig, 2025; Kelly **Brannock**, 2026; and please welcome Tiffany Flanders who will begin her role in June as the parent representative to the Class of 2027!



We are always looking for assistance! We need help in the areas listed below. If you would be interested in volunteering, please email Connie Craig at <u>conniecraig2022@outlook.com</u>.

• Photography

• Web Services

• Tailgate Coordinators

- Black & Gold Ball Family Table Sponsors
- Print Services Coordinator
- Community Sponsorship
  Coordinator

- Black & Gold Ball Silent Auction & Wine Pull Coordinators
- Ball Decorating Committee Chair
- Club Donations/ Fundraising Chair

We are always open to suggestions for additional Club activities and events. Some suggestions include a Bowling Night, more Watch Parties, and a Day at the Braves. Please continue to keep your suggestions coming.

Finally, if you did not pay for a four-year membership, your annual payment of \$80 per family is due July 1<sup>st</sup>. You can pay online on our "Join" page or you can send your check to WPPC-GA, c/o Dana Spivey: 149 Laurel Lakes Drive, Carrollton, Georgia 30116.

Thank you parents and families for another successful year. We are excited about the upcoming year and look forward to seeing you in June!

Go Army, Beat Everyone!

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Joanna Vagner, WPPC-GA President & Proud Mom of Cadet Jackson Vagner, 2025 Joanna@VagnerGroup.com | (404) 877-8778