



West Point Parents' Club of Georgia

Dear WPPC-GA Families,



2025 Families: WHAT A CRASS MASS OF BRASS & GLASS!

Congratulations to our 2025 Cadets! Ring Weekend is a significant weekend, and for families, it's the only formal event we attend after Plebe Parent Weekend. What an amazing contrast from PPW to Ring Weekend. Our cadets are not only so much wiser, so much more mature, but leaders. No parent would be able to deny the growth they've seen in their cadets. With 8 months until graduation, our 2025 cadets and parents are nearing the end of a 47-month journey with only single-digit months remaining. On behalf of Connie, Dana, Oliver, and myself, I would like to thank the families of the West Point Parents' Club of Georgia. It has been our honor to serve you for the past three and a half years. Personally speaking, the friendships I have made through the Club and the bonds I have formed with Connie and Dana will last throughout our lifetimes. I think it would be fair to say our husbands – Oliver, Andre, and David, feel the same way and have faithfully served in whatever role was needed - whether it be errand-runner, grilling expert, web expert, or as pack mule.

Now, it is time to pass the torch as follows:

- Joanna Vagner, President → Nancy Jester, '27
- Connie Craig, Vice President → Kelly Brannock, '26
- Kelly Brannock, Secretary → Brook Mallory, '28
- Dana Spivey, Treasurer → Vanessa Sykes, '27
- Nancy Jester, Communications Lead → Jennifer Boettcher, '28
- Oliver Vagner, Webmaster → Stan Jester, '27

While Connie, Dana, Oliver, and I will remain involved members of the Club and continue to provide guidance and advice to the incoming Board, the new leadership will ensure the Club continues to operate as a Distinguished Club and will continue to hold all the events you've come to know and attend. **We still need someone to head our Store and Merchandising.** This is the number one way the Club brings in funds for our events. The Store Lead will need (a.) access to an embroiderer or be able to use our current embroiderer in Cumming, (b.) knowledge of how to use Canva and create social media posts on Facebook and Instagram to promote our merchandise, (c.) willing to learn how to ship and print labels with PayPal (training will be provided), and (d.) access to a UPS Store. If you feel you meet these qualifications, WE NEED YOU! Please reach out to [Nancy Jester](#) to volunteer. Peak season is summer and fall, with most items shipping during the Academic Year. I will personally provide the training. We need this role filled before Thanksgiving.

In one of my final leadership moments, I had the honor of representing our Club at the West Point Association of Graduates Annual Leadership Conference. I served on a panel as an "expert" in running and managing a Club and was able to share our trials and successes with other Parent Club Leaders to highlight best practices. I was extremely humbled and honored to receive our 2024 Distinguished Club Award for the second year in a row. There are many requirements and standards a club must meet to receive a Distinguished Club Award including:



- 10 or More In-Person Club Events (See Our Website for a Complete List of Our Annual Events.)
- Events with 50 or More In-Person Attendees
- Monthly Board Meetings (Held the 4th Sunday of Each Month.)
- Community Service towards a Local, Non-USMA Non-Profit (Last 2 Years: Cumming First United Food Pantry.)
- An Annual Donation to the West Point Association of Graduates
- Field Force Involvement & Cadet Candidate Support of CCs
- Unable to Visit the Academy without Financial Assistance
- Society Involvement including Founders Day Participation
- An Annual Tailgate at a USMA Game (Don't Miss Our Annual Peach State Tailgate!)
- Participation at R-Day with Our Welcome Table
- Participation in the Leadership Conference
- Social Media Presence (Facebook & Instagram)
- Monthly Communications
- Functioning & Up-to-Date Website
- Community Sponsorship
- President's Newsletters (Website.)
- Cadet Boodle Box Packings



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Both Parent Club Leaders and Society Leaders came together to develop strategies for success not only as Clubs and Societies fulfilling our missions, but as resources to cadets and graduates and to ways to work together. Parents, when your cadet sees your involvement with the Club, they learn how important support resources and friendships through the Club have been of assistance to your family throughout their journey. Your participation sets the stage for new graduates to find their place in their local society wherever they may be posted. Both the Club and the Society take active roles in the Field Force to bring cadets into the Academy, provide support while at the Academy, and provide continued support throughout their lives. It is truly a cradle to grave support system that is deeply rooted in the Long Grey Line.



Speaking of **Boodle Packing**, 2025 Parents, you only have TWO remaining opportunities to pack boodle for our Georgia Cadets. Thank you to all of our generous parents who have supplied items from our Amazon Boodle Registry. Our cadets appreciate knowing parents gave of their time and treasure to support them and boost their spirits! Join us on **Sunday, October 6th, 2-4 PM** at [Newtown Park](#) (Johns Creek), Pavilion 1D and help us pack Boodle and stay for an **amazing picnic!** Dads, this is a great time to stand over the grill with the other Dads and enjoy a beer! Grandparents and siblings are welcome. We hope to see you there! **While you're there, be sure to allocate some time to check out the Vietnam Veterans Memorial: The Wall That Heals.**

Our [Peach State Tailgate](#) is coming up on **November 2nd** at **Daly Field as Army takes on Air Force**. ALL TICKETS ARE SOLD AT COST. The tailgate is a service the Club provides our families and their cadets to make the most of their weekend. Traffic getting in and out of Michie on game days (especially this game) will be heavy as it is expected to be Army's only SOLD OUT home game of the season and makes leaving Post to spend time with your cadet difficult at best. The tailgate offers breakfast and lunch/dinner so once you're on Post, you have a "home base." The Club does NOT make a profit holding this event.

Unlike a typical tailgate, tailgates at West Point run from the morning until the evening as cadets can attend the tailgate after the game. YES, West Point Tailgates run AFTER the game, too! Our tailgate tickets include unlimited food and beverages (including adult beverages for those over 21.) Cadets attending with their parents attend for free. Can't attend but would like to help feed a cadet? Donate an individual cadet ticket! Help us feed more cadets! WPPC-GA members have a reduced price on tickets. Other exciting features of our tailgate tent include:



- Satellite TV Broadcast of other football games (THIS INCLUDES GA/FL!)
- Plenty of Seating
- Unlimited exit/entry from Michie Stadium and The Tailgate
- Opportunity to buy tickets closest to the cadet section with our group tickets! (Sold at cost.)
- Socialization with Georgia Parents (including GA Air Force Families.)
- Opportunity for cadets to bring their friends, and for Clubs who are not holding a tailgate, another place to Post for the day!
- One shuttle stop away from Michie Stadium with convenient facilities.

Please be sure to check your email, our [Facebook](#) page (WPPC-GA), and our Instagram ([@wppcga](#) and [@wppcgapresident](#)) to ensure you don't miss out on important information!

Again, thank you for allowing Connie, Dana, Oliver, and myself the opportunity to serve this Club. We will treasure this experience and our memories forever.

For one last time, GO ARMY! BEAT NAVY!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanna".

Joanna Vagner, WPPC-GA President & USMA SE Admissions Field Force Representative