



West Point Society of New England 4th Quarter 2017 Newsletter

2017 Society Board of Governors

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Dena Caradimitropoulo '81

Chris Putko '83

Pete Perez '85

John Duhamel '88

Iris Sobchak '92

Jason Halligan '05

Nadi Kassim '10

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Message from the President

“Baby, it’s cold outside!” A line from a song I’ve heard many times in the past few days. While it may be cold outside, the West Point Society of New England continues to keep things hot with activities and programs throughout the year. If you have ideas for various events or activities; comments on past or proposed events or wish to pitch in and help guide your organization; let any of your Board of Governors hear from you or attend our Board meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of the month at the Bickford’s on Montvale Avenue in Woburn. Our meetings begin at 6:30pm. We also have a presence on Facebook, West Point Society of New England, like us there. You can also reach us via our web page, wpsne.org. Your input is important to your Society.

Events planned or in planning stages for the first quarter of 2018 include a day at the Lego Discovery Center on March 4, Founder’s Day and Candidate Reception on March 24, a Grad Mixer and a Women’s Graduate Luncheon as well as local sports teams events.

WPSNE had a busy year in 2017 and a year in review is included in this newsletter as are details on some of the planned activities for the first quarter of 2018.

I want to remind you to know where your DD 214 (your discharge document) is located and more importantly that your family knows where it is. This is the most important document a veteran may have.

Have you shopped at the Exchange On Line, shopmyexchange.com? It is easy to do and the service has been very good. The profits from the exchange, in store or on line, go to the MWR funds for our troops and their families.

The Veteran’s ID Card issuance has been suspended due to the overwhelming requests received when the cards became available. I will try to keep you posted with updates on the resumption of issuance of the cards.

There are a few questions that have surfaced recently about the conduct of members of the Corps of Cadets. I will continue to search for verifiable information or statements from official sources to share with you.

Be involved. Help make your society what you want it to be. We are always looking for ideas for events and of course assistance in making our events happen.

You received a survey from Survey Monkey about Founder's Day. Please provide feedback whether you have attended a Founder's Day recently or attend every year.

As we begin this new year, please keep our service members in your thoughts and prayers.

Happy New Year and I wish you a very wonderful 2018!!

Dale

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MEMBERSHIP

You can update your membership status on our web site www.wpsne.org. You can check your current status, renew your membership, find out if your classmate is a member (then convince her or him to join). Membership is now maintained on a rolling basis to make it easier for tracking. Remember that your membership dues enable us to support many of the activities that we have including our Leadership Awards, Candidate Receptions, support of the Field Force, Grad Mixers, Leadership and Ethics programs, team tailgates and other cadet activities.

The activities mentioned in our Year In Review at the end of this newsletter are all supported by your membership dues. Help us continue to keep these activities going.



SOCIAL MEDIA

We have a new face! Visit us at www.wpsne.org. Contribute information, questions, articles and we will publish what we can on our web site or on our new Facebook page – **West Point Society of New England**. We are also on LinkedIn.

Visit, post, read. Contact any board member directly via our website.

WPSNE COINS



We have a limited number of coins still available for sale, \$20.00. Contact John Duhamel or Dale Kurtz for information.

WPSNE LEGO DISCOVERY CENTER EVENT



Come and join other West Point graduates and their children or grandchildren at the Lego Discovery Center in Boston on 4 March 2018 @ 1:00 PM. The fee for the event is \$17.50/person (this price is for children and adults). This is significantly lower than the general admission fee (\$29.95) and includes a pizza lunch and cupcakes. We have negotiated a package that will allow us to host up to 40 guests and it includes:

1. Admission to LEGOLAND® Discovery Center Boston, including all rides and attractions.
2. A one hour social event in a private room with pizza, drinks and cupcakes.
3. A free lego build session where the children complete their LEGO build to take home (age appropriate).
4. Stay until closing on your own time and experience unlimited LEGOLAND® Discovery Center fun!
 - a. Ride the Kingdom Quest laser ride as many times as you want and see who can get the high score!

- b. Check out the Boston skylines in MINILAND
- c. Go for a spin on the Merlin's Apprentice ride
- d. Build the ultimate race car at LEGO® Racers Build and Test
- e. Watch while our 3D film changes before your eyes to a 4D cinema experience with rain, wind and even snow, all under one roof

Register on the WPSNE website; wpsne.org

Remember, we are limited to 40 guests, so register soon to avoid being shut out.

General Information:

Please arrive at 12:40 PM to check in. There will be a “will call” list of participants at the front door so you will not have to wait in line at general admission.

Free Parking is available near the Center at Assembly Row.

Address: LEGOLAND® Discovery Center, 598 Assembly Row, Somerville, MA 02145

Directions By Car

From the North: Take I-93 South to exit 28 toward Sullivan Square/Charlestown/Assembly Square. Merge onto MA-38 South. Turn left following signs to Assembly Square.

From the South: Take I-93 North to exit 29. Stay right at fork to merge onto MA-28 North Everett/Malden. Follows signs to Assembly Square.

From I-90 East: Follow I-90 East and merge onto I-93 North. Take exit 29. Stay right at fork to merge onto MA-28 North Everett/Malden. Follows signs to Assembly Square.

Directions by Public Transportation: Take the Orange Line T to the stop at Assembly Row. The Lego Center is a short walk from there.

The Lego Discovery Center does not allow adults to enter without children for these events. Children are required!!!

FOUNDER'S DAY 2018

WHEN: 24 March 2018

WHERE: Devens Commons

Registration and details will be available soon.

We need items for our silent auction. Details on the auction will also be available soon.





ARMY SPORTS TEAMS IN ACTION IN **NEW ENGLAND**

Date/Time	Team	Opponent	Location
Jan 17 7pm	Men's Basketball	Holy Cross	Worcester, MA
Feb 14 7pm	Women's Basketball	Holy Cross	Worcester, MA
Feb 16 7:05pm	Hockey	Bentley	Waltham, MA
Feb 17 7:05pm	Hockey	Bentley	Waltham, MA

Feb 24 2pm	Women's Basketball	Boston U.	Boston, MA
Mar 18 1pm	Men's Gymnastics	Springfield College	Springfield, MA
Mar 28 1pm	Women's Lacrosse	Holy Cross	Worcester, MA
Apr 7 1pm	Men's Lacrosse	Boston U.	Boston, MA
Apr 14. 12pm	Men's Tennis	Lehigh	Worcester, MA
Apr 18 5pm	Baseball	Holy Cross	Worcester, MA

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

2017 IN REVIEW

The year started with our Founder's Day celebration, candidate reception and silent auction.

Eleven candidates for the Class of 2021 and their parents and guests joined us at our candidate reception.

Our speaker for Founder's Day was the 76th Commandant of Cadets Brigadier General Diana Holland. The highlight of the night was her leading us in the Rocket!

The beneficiary of our Silent Auction was the American Legion Boys State/Girls State where WPSNE presents our Leadership and Ethics Program. We raised \$5,000.00 for Boys State/Girls State.

The West Point Glee Club performed at Simmons College in April and a highlight of that evening was the Glee Club inviting all graduates present to join the Club in singing our Alma Mater. A number of participants said that joining the Glee Club to sing was a very special moment for them.

At our annual meeting, held at the Samuel Adams brewery, we welcomed Essex Fowlkes '79 and Nadi Kassim '10 as members of the Board of Governors.

Albert Barese presented the Sylvanus Thayer Leadership Award to Meghan Murphy at Braintree High School.

Tom Smith presented The Patton Family Leadership Award to Alex Renaud at Hamilton- Wenham Regional High School.

The West Point Society of New England conducted its second Leadership & Ethics Course (WPLEC) in collaboration with Massachusetts Boys/Girls State in June at Stonehill College. The program was attended by approximately 70 students. The case study based program centered on ethical leadership's being based on the Ethical Values, Character, and Leadership hierarchy.

The West Point Society of New England hosted the 25th Ken Kronlund Charity Classic, the All Academy Golf Challenge on 22 July. The Charity Classic is named in honor of the late Ken Kronlund, USMA '52 who founded the All Academy golf Challenge in 1993.

It was a great day for Army as we swept both the All Academy Challenge and the Open as well as all of the contest holes.

The greatest winner of the day was Honor Flight New England! The event raised \$3,000.00 which was presented at the post golf luncheon to Joe Byron, Founder/Executive Director of Honor Flight New England

About 40 graduates and guests joined together for a wonderful afternoon of picnicking and relaxing at the Patton Homestead in Hamilton, MA on July 22nd. We were very happy to have our hostess, Mrs. Joanne Holbrook Patton join us for the afternoon. We were fortunate that her daughter Helen was visiting and joined us as well.

The Patton Archivist, Carol Mori gave tours of the house and the general's office to all in attendance. The highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of Vietnam War 50th Commemorative lapel pins to five attendees. Society President,

Dale Kurtz, is a Veterans' Service Officer and presented the lapel pins to the veterans.

The AOG announced the Rockbound Highland Home Program. There are three aspects to the program: Grad Perks, Grad Pass, Grad Insider Tour. Go to WPAOG.ORG to learn more about this program.

Seventy-five graduates and guests watched the Red Sox take on the Houston Astros in the final game of the year and what proved to be a prelude to the American League Divisional Series. The future World Series Champions were victorious, but the Red Sox were in the game until the final out.

And to end our Society Events for the year, over 150 graduates and guests from Annapolis and West Point joined together to watch the Army Navy game at the Cask and Flagon. It was a very exciting game and those watching at the Cask and Flagon were much warmer than those in Philadelphia in the stands!