65TH REUNION --- CLASS OF 1962
OPTIONAL TOUR DAY"
Thursday, April 29, 2027

November 1, 2026

This memorandum relates to an "Optional Tour Day" associated with our upcoming 65th Reunion scheduled next year for April 2027. Please note that this is only the second time the Hotel Thayer is our reunion headquarters (the other being our 20th). Rather than a reunion hotel 45 minutes to an hour distant from West Point, being at the Thayer presents a marvelous opportunity to spend quality time at your alma mater visiting areas of special interest.

Hence, to capitalize on the Hotel Thayer's prime location adjacent to our beloved West Point, your reunion committee has designated Thursday, April 29, 2027, as an "Optional Tour Day". For those interested in taking advantage of this day, highlighted are numerous activities that may be of special interest to you.

- These activities cover those at West Point, including the annual Cadet Project Day and WPAOG's "Rockbound Highland Home" tour.
- We also have suggestions for day trips from the Hotel Thayer to places of interest in the surrounding local area. Most are within 60 miles of West Point and can be easily reached by POV from the Hotel.

This memo is organized as follows:

- **SECTION A: Activities At West Point.**
- **SE TION B: Day Trips from West Point.**
- **SECTION C: Updated West Point Visitor Requirement**

SECTION A: ACTIVITIES AT WEST POINT:

A1. Cadet Project Day (April 29, 2027):

This is a day each spring where Cadets present their capstone projects on a variety of academic endeavors. Projects Day offers attendees the opportunity for near unfettered access to the academic buildings and other areas where the presentations are given and access to Cadets and faculty, with the opportunity to converse with them. Strongly recommended!

"A WORK IN PROGRESS --- EDITORIAL COMMENT" *Note: Full details probably not known until February or March of 2027.* Based upon the process from last year to attend, one had to register with a representative from WPAOG and/or the Dean's Office. Once so doing, details as to cadet project descriptions, building locations, presentation times, cadet and faculty names, POV parking. bus shuttles between sites on Post, and so forth will be communicated to attendees vis-à-vis the link: Projects Day Research Symposium (2027) Event App.

A2. Grad Insider Tour: https://www.westpointaog.org/services/rockbound-highland-home

WPOAG operates several "Grad Insider Tours" daily that may be of interest to early reunion attendees. The tour visits several sites in and around the Central Cadet Area such as Central and North areas; Arvin Gym; Mess Hall; Jefferson Library; Thayer Walk; and the Cadet Uniform Factory.

The tour's duration is 2 ½ hours. Cost details currently are in negotiation with WPAOG. However, each tour participant may be expected to pay $10 per person, 14 persons maximum per tour. Once sign-up details for these tours become available, they will be communicated to early reunion arrivals.

A3. West Point Museum:

The mission of the West Point Museum is to collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret historically significant artifacts pertaining to the United States Military Academy, United States Army and the Profession of Arms. The museum is located just outside of Thayer Gate.

A4. Self-Directed Tour:

As many 62'ers will have a POV, one may wish to wander around campus on Thursday. Please remain aware of limited parking availability, particularly in the Central Post area where many cadet activities occur (barracks, mess hall, academic buildings, gym, etc)

A5. West Point Golf Course:

Nestled in the Hudson Valley just north of the Bear Mountain Bridge, the West Point Golf Course offers an unforgettable golf experience. The West Point Golf Course is an 18-hole challenge on a mountain layout, with well-maintained terrain normally seen only at private clubs or high-end courses. Don't let the length fool you, this Robert Trent Jones design course is a great challenge for all levels of golf. Pro Shop Tel: 1-315-774-9228

SECTION B: DAY TRIPS FROM WEST POINT:

Please note that the following visits represent day trips from the Hotel Thayer to places of interest in the surrounding local area. Most are within 60 miles of West Point and can be easily reached by POV from the Hotel. They are listed in no particular order.

B1. Hyde Park, NY --- National Historic Sites:

Hyde Park, New York features three primary national historic sites managed by the National Park Service in the Hudson River Valley: The Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site (Val-Kill), and the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site. Also included is the FDR Presidential Library. These national historic sites are located reasonably close to each other (within a 5-mile radius) although with separate park grounds, entrance gates, hours of operation, and separate entrance passes for site tours. Based upon April 2026 data, hours of operation are 7:00am until 8:00pm, with park entrance free, but a site guided tour entrance pass of $15 per adult. Note: In April, group tours of the Eleanor Roosevelt home remain on a winter shutdown schedule, i.e. no scheduled tours of the home.

B2. Hyde Park – The Vanderbilt Mansion:

https://www.nps.gov/vama/in.dex.htm

The Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site was established as a monument to an era rather than a tribute to any one person or family. More than a place to discuss the lifestyles of the rich and famous, the park offers a window into the philosophy of the American country house, the lives of its domestic staff, and its relationship to the surrounding community.

B3. Hyde Park – FDR Home:

https://www.nps.gov/hofr/index.htm

The Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site contains "Springwood", the lifelong home of America's only 4-term President. Also on the site is the Presidential Library and Museum, operated

by the National Archives. Note that Hyde Park is 30 miles from West Point on the east side of the Hudson River. Also home of the FDR Presidential Library.

B4. Hyde Park – Eleanor Roosevelt Home:
https://www.nps.gov/elro/index.htm

Once part of the larger Roosevelt family estate in Hyde Park, today the property includes the 181 acres (73 ha), buildings and other historic features that Eleanor Roosevelt called **Val-Kill**. It is located approximately two miles east of Springwood. The FDR home. The Roosevelts frequently used Val-Kill's relaxed setting for entertaining family, friends, political associates, and world leaders. After the death of Pres. Roosevelt in 1945. Val-Kill then became Eleanor Roosevelt's primary residence and the place most associated with her.

B5. Hyde Park – CIA School Tour:
https://www.ciafoodies.com/new-york-campus-visitor-tours-and-events/

B6. Hyde Park – CIA Lunch and Dinner:
https://www.ciafoodies.com/cia-restaurants

The Culinary Institute of America has been setting the standard for excellence in professional culinary education for more than six decades. Founded in 1946, the CIA is an independent, not-for-profit college offering associate and bachelor's degrees with majors in culinary arts, baking and pastry arts, and culinary science, as well as certificate programs. As the world's premier culinary college, the CIA provides thoughtful leadership in the areas of professional excellence, health & wellness, sustainability, and world cuisines and cultures through research and conferences. Students participate in intercollegiate, club, and intramural athletics. Its intercollegiate program began in 2004 and is affiliated with the Hudson Valley Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Many guests come to dine at the college's famous, student-staffed on-campus restaurants and café. The school's largest and primary campus operates four public restaurants for students to gain experience. Food served at the American Bounty Restaurant highlights Hudson Valley produce and is prepared in the style of cuisines of the Americas. The Bocuse Restaurant serves traditional French food using modern techniques. It was the first of the school's restaurants. It opened as the Epicurean Room and Rabalais Grill in 1973, before being renamed the Escoffier Restaurant in 1974. In 2012 it was again renamed to honor Paul Bocusew and given a $3 million renovation. The Ristorante Caterina de' Medici is a restaurant with a focus on Italian food. The Apple Pie Bakery Café has a casual atmosphere.[25]

B7. Sleepy Hollow, NY – Kykuit: The Rockefeller Estate:
https://hudsonvalley.org/historic-sites/kykuit

Kykuit is a preeminent Hudson Valley landmark. For architecture, remarkable gardens, art, history, and spectacular scenery, a trip to Kykuit is simply amazing. This hilltop paradise was home to four generations of the Rockefeller family.

B8. Tappan, NY – "76 House":
https://wwww.76house.com

Located 31 miles from West Point, the "76 House" is America's oldest tavern. This is where Major John Andre was captured and hanged in 1

B9. National Purple Heart Hall of Fame:
http://www.thepurpleheart.com

Extraordinary sacrifices of America's service men/women who were kicked or wounded in combat. The mission of the Hall of Fame is to collect and preserve the stories of Purple Heart recipients from all branches of service and across generations to ensure that all recipients are represented.

B10. Hudson Valley Sightseeing Drive: Another option considers a relaxing drive around the local Hudson Valley surrounding West Point. A proposed itinerary might be as follows:

- Begin with a relaxing breakfast at the Hotel Thayer prior to departure.
- Cross the Hudson River (Bear Mountain Bridge) for the side opposite West Point.
- Head north direction Poughkeepsie NY State Hwy 90
- To your left, observe periodic views of the Hudson River and West Point on the opposite side. Passing through Garrison, NY, drive down to the river's edge for an unobstructed view of West Point directly across the river.
- Continue north, direction Cold Spring and Poughkeepsie:
    - **B11. Garrison. NY - Boscobel House and Gardens:** https://boscobel.org/ Situated on a bluff on the east bank of the Hudson River overlooking the United States Military Academy at West Point, Boscobel House & Gardens offers its visitors inspirational and astounding views of the river and the Hudson Highlands. It is one of the area's favorite destinations, for tourists and locals alike.
    - **B12. Cold Spring, NY:** Visiting Cold Spring is a step into a postcard with its blend of nature and history. Main Street is pure Americana, filled with charming shops, cozy restaurants, and unique stores. Main Street in Cold Spring is where the magic happens. A parade of antique shops, unique boutiques, cozy coffee houses, and charming eateries line the main thoroughfare. The old buildings and the view of the Hudson River at the end are just the icing on the cake. Whether you're hunting for vintage treasures or craving a delicious meal, Main Street is a must-see and a great spot for a relaxing lunch.
- Continue north to Poughkeepsie and cross back over the Hudson into Newburg, NY.
    - If time remains and you feel especially adventurous, consider making a side trip to the **"B13. Walkway Over the Hudson River"** just north of Poughkeepsie. This is the world's longest elevated pedestrian bridge, 1.28 miles long from one end to the other end. Entrance and parking is available on both sides of the Hudson River --- Poughkeepsie on the east side and Highland on the west side.
- Finally, if open, drive back to West Point and the Hotel Thayer on Old Storm King Highway with its spectacular views of the Hudson River and West Point below.
- Total Elapsed Time Estimate Including Lunch: 3 to 5 Hours

SECTION C: UPDATED WEST POINT VISITOR REQUIREMENTS
WPAOG >Events >Class Reunions >Class of 1962 >Other Info >Access to West Point

Updated West Point Visitor Requirements
The following applies to those visiting West Point on a non-football game day and to anyone without a valid DoD ID: All non-DoD visitors are required to check in at the Visitor Control Center (VCC) in order to gain entry onto the military installation.

As part of enhanced force protection measures at West Point, the installation has implemented **100% ID checks at all access points, effective March 2, 2026, until further notice.** All visitors—regardless of affiliation—must present valid, government-issued photo identification and be registered in advance to receive a visitor pass in order to enter post for the event.

These updated procedures are in place to ensure the safety and security of cadets, staff, families, and guests and may result in additional wait times at entry gates and the Visitor Control Center (VCC). Please note that escort privileges have been suspended. All visitors age 18 and older must obtain their own official West Point visitor pass.

Accepted Credentials for Entry
Access to West Point requires one of the following:

- Department of Defense (DoD) ID Card / Common Access Card (CAC)*
- Retiree ID Card*
- Military Dependent ID Card*
- Grad Pass
- Parent Pass
- Temporary Guest Pass

*Please note: ID card/CAC holders may no longer escort additional adult passengers. Each adult must present valid identification (REAL ID compliant) and possess an individual visitor pass.

If you plan to arrive early at our 65th Reunion, and do not have a valid DoD identification, please see instructions below:
All non-DoD visitors must check in at the Visitor Control Center (VCC) to gain access to the installation. A valid driver's license or passport is generally sufficient; however, identification must comply with the REAL ID Act of 2005.

- The VCC is open seven days a week from 6:00am-6:00pm. We advise our guests to visit the VCC as soon as possible upon arriving in the West Point area.
- All visitors must fill out an application for a Local Area Credential (LAC) and present the completed, hard copy application upon arrival at the VCC.
- All visitors will undergo on-the-spot background checks at the VCC in compliance with the National Crime Information Center prior to being issued a credential. Please expect delays at the VCC and allow for enough time to receive your Local Area Credential.
- All visitors will need a LAC to enter post for this event.
- Remember to keep your LAC with you throughout your visit to West Point.
- Please allow at least one hour at the VCC to obtain your credentials.
- The Visitors Control Center is located at 2107 New South Post Road, West Point, NY 10996.

POVs and Parking On-Post:

On-Post visitor parking on-post is limited and restricted, especially in the Cadet Area. While the post shuttle bus is an excellent way to get around post, visitor parking is generally available in the following areas: Buffalo Soldiers Field; old PX parking lot (near the cemetery); K Lot (see West point map); Visitors Center (West Point Museum parking); and Herbert Hall. The Hotel Thayer does have 24/7 parking available, free for hotel guests. Use of the post shuttle bus and/or other special bus service on our "Optional Tour Day is strongly recommended.

FINAL COMMENT: For those of you returning a day early to participate in our "Optional Tour Day", we hope you will have a most enjoyable day revisiting your Rockbound Highland Home and rekindling fond memories from those days of yesteryear.

GO ARMY! BEAT NAVY!