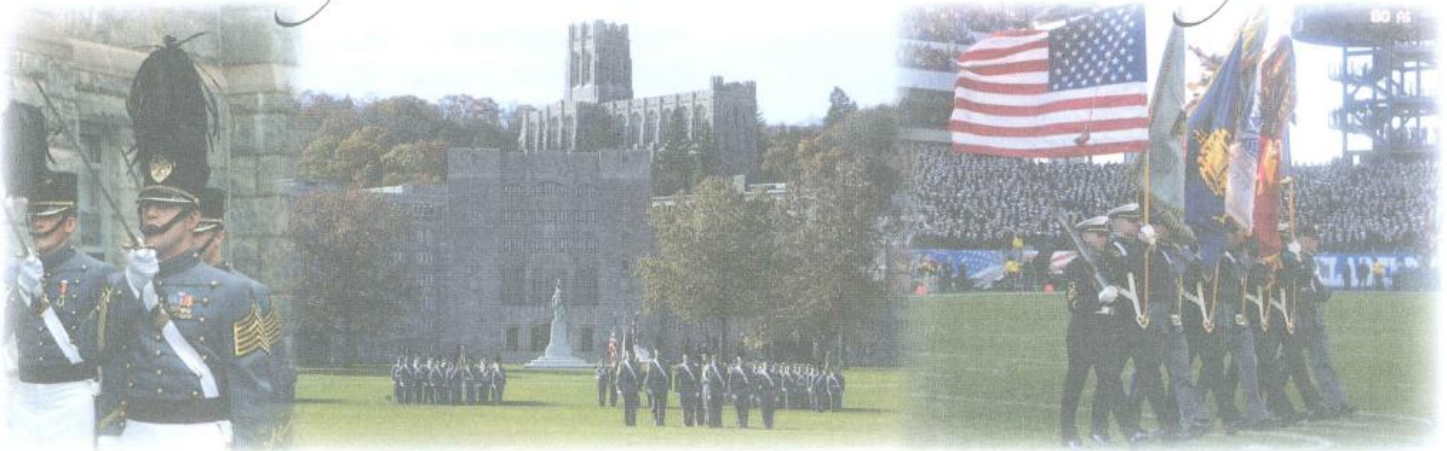


WEST POINT PARENTS CLUB

of

INDIANA

Duty · Honor · Country

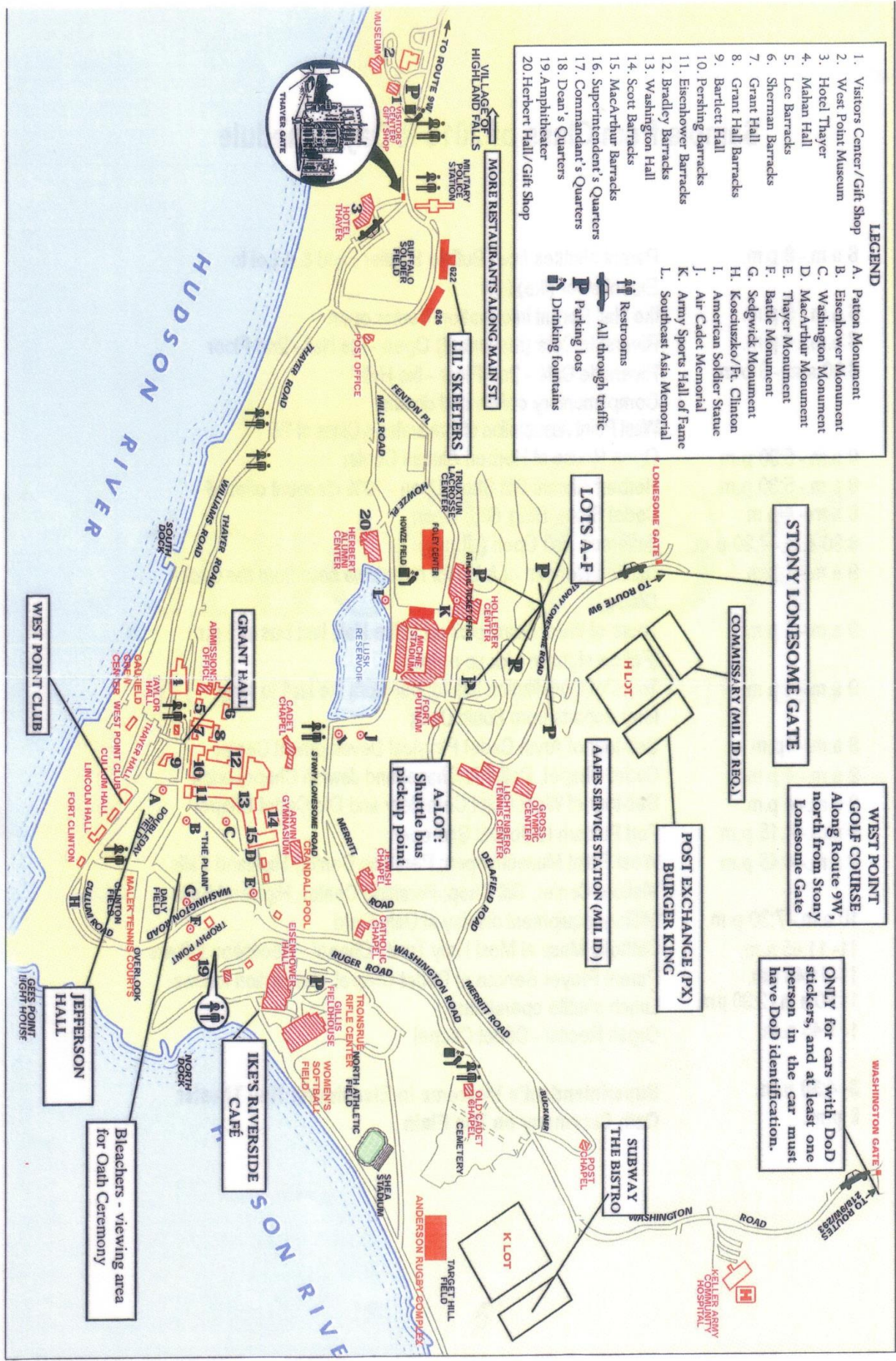


PLEBE PARENT HANDBOOK CLASS OF 2020

This manual is intended only to supplement information you will receive from the Admissions Office and the Commandant at West Point. Information contained within subject to change without notice.

MAP OF WEST POINT

- LEGEND**
- 1. Visitors Center/Gift Shop
 - 2. West Point Museum
 - 3. Hotel Thayer
 - 4. Mahan Hall
 - 5. Lee Barracks
 - 6. Sherman Barracks
 - 7. Grant Hall
 - 8. Grant Hall Barracks
 - 9. Bartlett Hall
 - 10. Pershing Barracks
 - 11. Eisenhower Barracks
 - 12. Bradley Barracks
 - 13. Washington Hall
 - 14. Scott Barracks
 - 15. MacArthur Barracks
 - 16. Superintendent's Quarters
 - 17. Commandant's Quarters
 - 18. Dean's Quarters
 - 19. Amphitheater
 - 20. Herbert Hall/Gift Shop
- A. Patton Monument
 - B. Eisenhower Monument
 - C. Washington Monument
 - D. MacArthur Monument
 - E. Thayer Monument
 - F. Battle Monument
 - G. Sedgwick Monument
 - H. Kosciuszko/Ft. Clinton
 - I. American Soldier Statue
 - J. Air Cadet Memorial
 - K. Army Sports Hall of Fame
 - L. Southeast Asia Memorial
- Restrooms
 - All through traffic
 - Parking lots
 - Drinking fountains



STONY LONESOME GATE

WEST POINT GOLF COURSE
Along Route 9W, north from Stony Lonesome Gate

POST EXCHANGE (PX)
BURGER KING

ONLY for cars with DOD stickers, and at least one person in the car must have DOD identification.

AAFS SERVICE STATION (MIL ID)

A-LOT: Shuttle bus pickup point

WEST POINT CLUB

JEFFERSON HALL

Bleachers - viewing area for Oath Ceremony

IKES RIVERSIDE CAFÉ

SUBWAY THE BISTRO

K LOT

COMMISSARY (MIL ID REQ.)

LOTS A-F

MORE RESTAURANTS ALONG MAIN ST.

LIL' SKETCHERS



HUDSON RIVER

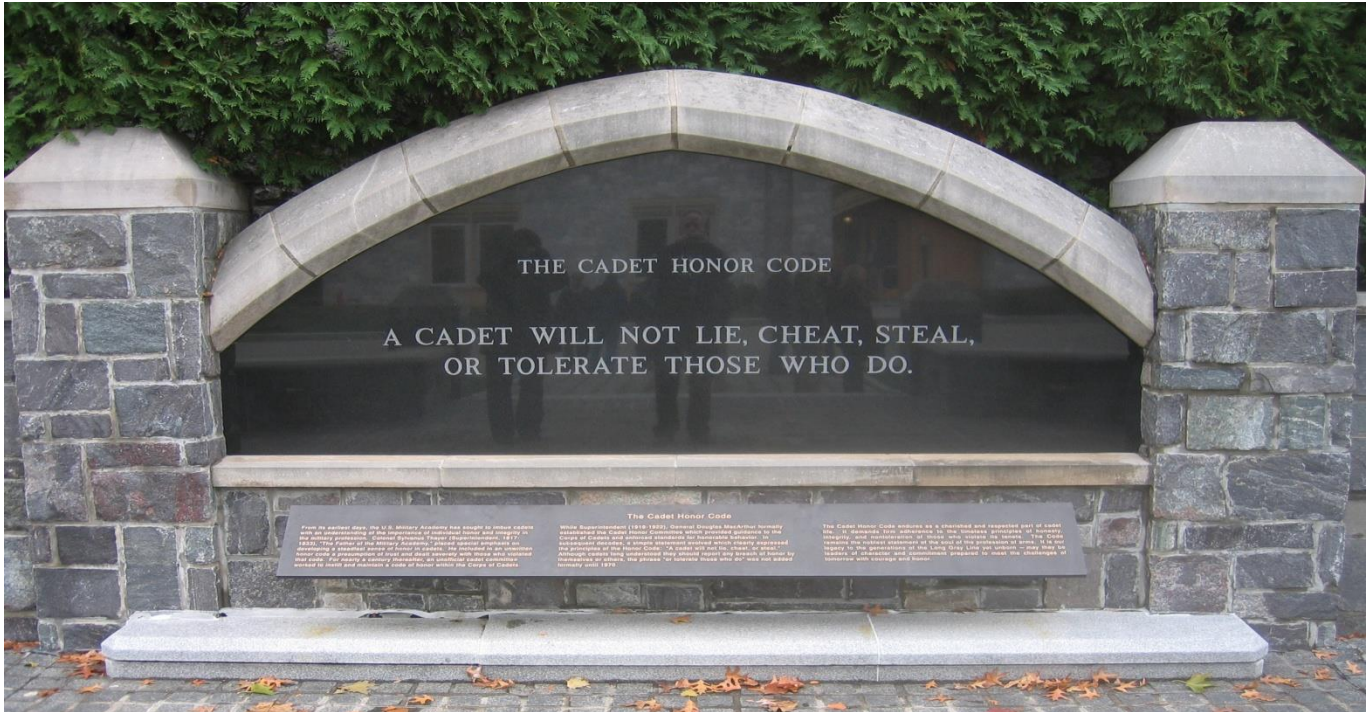
HUDSON RIVER

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THE WEST POINT EXPERIENCE

West Point is not only a place; it is a way of life . . . a new way of life which will affect both your offspring and you dramatically in the coming months. The United States Military Academy at West Point is a major source of the Army Officer Corps, which is the symbol of our nation's military strength. Nowhere is "tradition" stronger than at the Academy. It is a place where uniformity, obedience, duty and honor are the keystones of its existence. You are about to become part of this tradition!



Your son or daughter will enter the United States Military Academy on June 29, 2015 as "new candidates." They are there because they have displayed an impressive combination of academic, athletic and leadership credentials. They possess the potential to be successful.

Your son or daughter will enter into a time-honored tradition of Cadet Basic Training (CBT) or "Beast Barracks." During this time they are indoctrinated into the military life, and at the same time, are exposed to traditions that have, in great part, existed since the 1800's. This experience is, in effect, the final severing of the "umbilical cord" which linked your son or daughter to another way of life. During this six-week period, you will see a change in just about every aspect of your son's or daughter's demeanor and lifestyle. To help you get started, how about some new lingo:

Freshmen	=	4 th Class	=	Plebe
Sophomore	=	3 rd Class	=	Yearling or Yuk
Junior	=	2 nd Class	=	Cow
Senior	=	1 st Class	=	Firstie

THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING

West Point parents agree that the first year at West Point is the most difficult, not only for the plebes, but for their parents as well. This manual has been designed to help you through this special time in your lives as you give support to your son or daughter and still survive plebe year yourself.

We hope that this manual will handle most of your immediate questions and offer helpful advice. It is only intended to supplement the information you will receive from the admissions office at West Point.

The WEST POINT PARENTS CLUB of INDIANA is a friendly group of people and we hope that you will join us as members. Our functions will give you an opportunity to meet other parents who are going through, or have gone through, the same experiences as you will during plebe year.

BEFORE LEAVING FOR RECEPTION DAY (R-DAY)

- If your candidate has not competed in a spring athletic season, please suggest that they RUN, RUN, RUN, and then RUN some more. Using a backpack with evenly distributed weight (25-35 pounds) is suggested. Being in excellent physical shape before they arrive at West Point will greatly assist the new cadet through Cadet Basic Training (CBT) or "Beast Barracks".
- Complete and mail all paperwork requirements for West Point. Keep copies of everything in case of lost or misplaced originals.
- Purchase items needed for R-Day **as recommended by West Point**, as this list changes annually. Cadets at the June picnic will also make additional suggestions to your son or daughter based on their recent first hand experiences. Travel light - one bag.
- Strongly suggest making hotel/motel reservations for R-Day and A-Day now (see page 20 for recommended hotels).
- The candidate is still a Indiana resident. They should register to vote so they can vote absentee when the time comes. Call your County Clerk's office for information and the procedure for requesting applications for absentee ballots.



MAILING/SHIPPING INFORMATION (after Acceptance Day)

Once CBT has ended, keep those cards and letters coming. Now that the academic year has started you can send BOODLE BOXES - those care packages from home with HOMEMADE cookies, candy, snacks, etc. The first boodle box could also contain an airtight (plastic) container to hold future food such as baked goods from home or items delivered by specialty shops in the West Point area. Ask your cadet about the size of their container since storage space is severely limited. Cadets can also purchase boodle box containers at the Cadet Store, so this may be the best way to handle this item, since they know what size container will be able to fit in their space.



- **When mailing letters or flats using the USPS:**
Cadet John Doe
P.O Box <cadet's PO Box #>
West Point, NY 10997-<cadet's PO Box #>
- **When shipping packages regardless if mailed via USPS, UPS, FedEx or common carrier, use the following address:**
Cadet John Doe
745 Brewerton Road <cadet's PO Box #>
West Point, NY 10997-<cadet's PO Box #>

Mailing instructions for New Cadets during Beast Barracks is on separate sheet located in folder.

E-MAIL

In addition to phone and mail contact, your son or daughter can enjoy e-mail once they receive their USMA e-mail account. Each cadet has a computer that is tied into the West Point network and hence the internet.

Oovoo

Secure video chat that allows you to see your cadet and catch up on their week. One cadet called it "the long distance dating platform." Set up a weekly oovoo time for the whole family and it will be the highlight of your week.

WEB SITES

Several Web sites and networks provide a tremendous amount of information about West Point.

Web-sites that are sanctioned by West Point:

- For close by and personal help you can always contact us, your Indiana West Point Parents Club at <http://www.indianawpparents.org/> .

- The primary West Point Parents Information home page is <http://www.usma.edu/parents/SitePages/Home.aspx> This site will link you to many others for helpful and up to date information about the Academy.
- For Parent Information and Upcoming Events including the USMA academic calendar, bus schedules, and links to facebook, twitter, cadet counseling support and class information, go to: <http://www.westpoint.edu/parents/SitePages/Resources.aspx>

Web-sites that are **NOT** sanctioned by West Point but are helpful and resourceful:

- One site is <http://www.west-point.org>. This site has all sorts of information about West Point. From here you can subscribe to the Plebe Net (for plebe parents) or the Parent Forum (for parents of upper class cadets) which allow a free exchange of information and ideas among West Point parents.
- A popular site for plebe parents may be found at <http://www.west-point.org/parent/plebe-net>. This web page has a great deal of information of interest to plebe parents. You can subscribe to Plebe-net on this page. On Plebe-net you can ask questions and receive information that applies directly to you and your plebe.
- Especially important are the “helpful links” at <http://www.west-point.org/parent/plebe-net/links.htm>

SOCIAL MEDIA SITES:

All of these forums and sites offer valuable information and insight concerning the West Point experience.

- www.facebook.com/westpointparents This is a public page. Even if you do not have a Facebook account, you can see some of the content on this page; events and happenings at West Point, items of interest for parents and families.
- www.facebook.com/westpointUSMA This is public page that showcases the accomplishments of staff, faculty and cadets.
- West Point Moms’ Book Club: www.facebook.com/groups/106724552799045/ A gathering place for mothers to choose books, read them, and discuss them!
- West Point Dads: www.facebook.com/groups/171447702924549/ This is for DADS ONLY that have children in West Point Military Academy. (Grandfathers, Uncles etc. will be accepted) Please feel free to share photos, videos, stories, experiences, information etc.
- www.twitter.com/westpointparent Short burst messages from West Point. Content is also posted to Facebook.
- www.flickr.com/photos/westpointparents Photos are posted that showcase various cadet activities at West Point. Please visit the site and view the sets of photos from the summer of 2010. The pictures will give you a sense of the types of training and activities the “new cadets” will go through.
- www.youtube.com/thewestpointchannel Bi-weekly webisode called “The Point” is posted on this site. “The Point” is an 8-10 minute show highlighting events and cadet life.

PHONE INFORMATION

- Cell phones are normally allowed once the academic year begins, but may vary by company.
- If there is a family emergency you can contact your cadet's TAC Officer. You will receive their name and phone number on R-Day. After R-Day you can find their academic year TAC Officer by using the West Point Parents Resource Page.
- In case of a death in the family contact the **American Red Cross** to arrange for cadet leave at **877-272-7337**.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

- During plebe year it is often easier for the parents to make the flight reservations than it is for the plebes. Allow at least two hours for the cadet to get from West Point to Newark (EWR), LaGuardia (LGA) or Kennedy (JFK) and about one hour to Stewart International Airport (SWF). During scheduled Corps leaves, buses (from GMK Travel) run between the airports and West Point and round trip or one-way tickets can be purchased in advance at West Point. The bus schedules are listed on the West Point Parent Resource page.
- Stewart International Airport (SWF) in Newburgh offers good connections to Michigan airports, but the flight rates tend to be a higher and the airport is serviced by fewer airline choices. If flights are cancelled, there are fewer flights to be rescheduled on.
- Remind your cadet to **always** have his or her TAC Officer's phone number with them so they can call in the case of a delayed return.
- A frequent flyer membership for your candidate may also be worthwhile. Get a frequent flyer membership with the various airlines that they will likely use. Reservations at the time and day your son or daughter needs are not always available with the same airline all the time. Certain airlines are more military friendly and allow for a free checked bag and flight changes without fees, when there is a change in orders.
- Should your cadet get to the airport early and was scheduled on a later flight, they usually can be wait-listed on the next flight out and may get on the earlier flight with no trouble.



MENTORS

West Point Parents Club Mentors for Parents

- You will have many questions as your son or daughter makes their way from being a candidate through the first two semesters and summer at Buckner as a plebe at West Point, where upon successful completion they will become an upperclassman. We are available to you anytime you think you need answers, help, or just a sounding board. Do not hesitate to call. Remember that the only dumb question is the one not asked. We have all been through what you are about to begin and are here to assist you in every way.
- Should a situation arise during this time where you need guidance, help, or just an ear to bend, CALL a West Point Parents Club of Indiana parent or any one of the Board Members. We have "been there, done that".

West Point Mentors for Cadets

- Each plebe will have the opportunity to sign up for the West Point Mentor Program. Encourage your cadet to do so. Military personnel at West Point volunteer each year to help 3-4 plebes as personal mentors. They provide a "home away from home". This is a place where plebes can go, when invited, and relax in a family environment.
- If your cadet has a mentor/sponsor family at West Point, for Plebe/Parent weekend, it is a nice idea to select a gift of appreciation to take for your cadet's mentor family. Perhaps a homemade item or something from Indiana would be appropriate.

HEALTH INSURANCE

It has been recommended that you should keep your candidate/cadet on your health insurance while they are at West Point. However, each cadet is issued a Tri-Care medical card that they can use in case of illness or emergency.

LEAVES/PASSES

LEAVE is a vacation period scheduled for the entire Corps of Cadets at certain times during the year. Leave times are Thanksgiving leave, Holiday (Christmas) leave, Spring Break leave, and Summer Class leave following graduation. These periods of time off are scheduled on the calendar for the year. While on Leave, the cadet is authorized to leave West Point, to go where they want to go, wear civilian clothes, and return. The main point is that LEAVE is something that is scheduled on the calendar and pertains to the Corps of Cadets.

PASS is a privilege. A Pass must be granted. It is a reward to be earned. Cadets with no conflicting duties who have a Pass authorization, who have achieved satisfactory standards in all areas, and who have Tactical Officer approval may take a Pass.

Officially, plebes are only authorized one baseline "pass", or weekend away from West Point per semester. In the past few years, cadets have also been able to earn additional "performance passes." Many cadets chose to take their one baseline pass during the Labor Day weekend. For many plebes, Labor Day weekend provides a much-needed respite after the strain of Beast Barracks (CBT) and the tension of the first few weeks of academics. Other

plebes find it preferable to catch up on sleep and school work in a quieter environment, when many upperclassmen and fellow plebes are away. Some plebes even have their families visit them at West point during this weekend. Remain flexible, and let your son or daughter decide what works best.

Please keep in mind that West Point orders take precedence over parent wishes or desires regarding leaves and passes. Stay flexible and respect what your cadet is allowed to do their plebe year.

R-DAY (Reception Day) – June 27, 2016

We strongly suggest that you accompany your candidate to West Point for R-Day. A copy of last year's R-Day schedule is included in folder for your reference.



At a minimum, arriving Saturday will allow your family time to become acquainted with the West Point area. The Visitors Center, in Highland Falls, will be open Saturday and Sunday. You can purchase the Class of 2019 tote bag, and/or T-shirt which lists all the incoming candidates' names. This will save you one task on R-day. The price will be the same, no matter where you purchase the items.

With respect to arrival time, we would only suggest that you neither be too early or too late. West Point will be sending you detailed reporting instructions for this year. Pay close attention to them. Candidates will very rapidly learn to become part of the team by not drawing attention to them. Being first or last in anything only makes them stand out.

Be sure to say your good-byes BEFORE you get to the reporting-in at Eisenhower Hall. You only get 90 seconds for a quick hug after the greeting by the Officer of the Day. This will be the last time that you will have close contact with your candidate until Cadet Basic Training (CBT) is finished in August. If you should happen to come across your candidate during training on R-Day (very unlikely) or you are fortunate enough to spot them during the Oath Ceremony, DO NOT try to talk to them directly (a cheer that is general in nature from a familiar voice will be understood).

After your candidate has departed, be sure to visit the Parents Information Center held in Eisenhower Hall. You will have the opportunity to sign up for various future events, purchase lunch tickets, buy football tickets, buy Class of 2020 souvenirs which are only available



on R-Day, get your candidates' company assignment and P.O. Box number, mail your first letter to your candidate and visit various exhibits. Remember to bring pencil and paper to jot down any information from the various booths. Some of the special Class of 2020 souvenirs include: tee shirts and canvas bags with the names of the Class of 2020 members which will

include the name of your son or daughter. USAA booth will provide you with their tote bag, free.

Free donuts, bagels, and beverages are available in Class of '63, Benny's Lounge, Northeast corner third floor (Crest Room). They also have free bumper stickers, small tissue packs and info re: A-day picnic.

After your time in Eisenhower Hall, you will have time to walk around the Plain area and



Trophy Point, but will not be allowed in the Cadet Area, which is beyond the chains in front of the Barracks and Washington Hall. There will be some locations near the central area where you can observe the candidates being instructed by the cadre, but again remember even if you are close enough to talk to your candidate, don't. Also, the large grass parade area (commonly referred to as "The Plain") in front of the bleachers is off limits to pedestrian traffic. Post churches and chapels offer events, great info and contacts with chaplains.

The Cadet Store is open for all shoppers R-day. The Cadet Store is located in Building 606, behind the Admissions Office and slightly west of Grant Hall – best prices and good quality.

Lunch options, other than lunch tickets for the West Point Club which locks you into a timeframe, include: Riverside Café 2nd floor Eisenhower Hall where there is plenty of seating, air conditioning. Grant Hall Café (Bldg 602) no air conditioning, less seating, but close to everything taking place that day.

After lunch, be sure to attend the Academy leadership briefing for new parents. This will be an uplifting, emotional, and very informative introduction to Academy life along with a soft seat and an air-conditioned room to rest.

In early evening, there will be the R-Day Parade and swearing-in ceremony that is typically held on the Plain. Arrive early (up to 1 hour) to obtain a good location to observe this ceremony as it gets very crowded. Bring your camera (with telephoto lens if possible), video recorder, and binoculars. **Remember that all new candidates will look alike.** They are not easy to identify because all have the same haircut, uniform, and no expression. They will be lined up by height, front to rear of each company, and this may help you pick them out during the Pass in Review. The information on your candidate's company assignment will also help.



You probably have noticed that up until now, we have called your sons and daughters "candidates." Only when they have taken the Oath during the swearing-in ceremony parade will they be called "new cadets" (a form of address that they will grow to hate). Only after they complete Cadet Basic Training and are accepted into the United States Corps of Cadets

(USCC) at the Acceptance Day Parade, in August, will they be promoted to the rank of private in the USCC and can now be called "cadet". They remain plebes (or 4th Class Cadets) until graduation for the Class of 2017.

After the swearing-in they will march off directly to Washington Hall (Mess Hall) for their first evening meal as new cadets. The day is over for you and your family at the conclusion of the parade.

CADET BASIC TRAINING (CBT)

"Duty-Honor-Country. Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be. They are your rallying points, to build courage when courage seems to fail, to regain faith when there seems to be little cause for faith, to create hope when hope becomes forlorn."

General Douglas MacArthur - Excerpt from his Farewell Address delivered to the Corps of Cadets on 12 May 1962.



R-Day is the start of Cadet Basic Training or "Beast", as it is affectionately known. Some new cadets actually like it, but others hate it. It is a time when a group of high school graduates are molded into WEST POINT CADETS. A cadet's daily life begins very early in the morning and during Beast Barracks will extend into the evening hours. In addition to extensive military training - including military courtesy, marching and the handling of firearms - the new cadet will be schooled in the traditions of West Point.

Keep in mind that Cadet Basic Training (CBT) is probably the hardest time emotionally, physically, and psychologically your cadet will experience during their entire forty-seven months at West Point. During this time you should be supportive, positive, understanding and upbeat!

This can be a particularly difficult adjustment period for the new cadet. His or her lifestyle will undergo a complete change when they are totally immersed in a military setting. Stress is a major part of the program along with the ability to memorize data, learn military drill, courtesy and the "West Point Way."



For the first few weeks of Beast, new cadets will be very, very busy. New cadets receive limited and timed phone privileges during Cadet Basic Training. You will receive phone calls from your cadet at predetermined approximate times, and you should decide in advance what phone number that you would like them to call. The first call is a time to let your new cadet do the

talking and you do the listening as this is a supervised and timed phone call approximately 5 minutes in length. It will probably be a few weeks before your new cadet will be able to call again. If you do not get a phone call in the first couple of weeks, don't panic. Sometimes new cadets will intentionally pass on the first opportunity to call because they are not yet ready to hear your voice and all the emotions a call to home bring. Relax and let them choose the time that is best for them.

Keep sending those cards and letters. Don't be discouraged if another parent tells you that they heard from their new cadet and you haven't. Assignments and free times differ greatly throughout the various companies. Keep a pencil and note pad handy by the phone to write down questions you will have and to jot down information from your new cadet.

Toward the middle of July, just when the new cadets are starting to get comfortable with their cadre, the upperclassmen change with a whole new set of cadre and leadership. This is training in leadership for the upperclassmen as well as basic training for the new cadets. This change can be particularly stressful for the new cadets.

The last week of Beast is spent at Camp Buckner, a military camp on the West Point reservation. The new cadets will bivouac (camp out, for us laymen) learn military skills and really bond as a class with a variety/skit night and the selection of their class motto.

MARCH BACK - (August 9)

At the end of Buckner, the class marches back (called March Back) approximately 16 miles to West Point proudly displaying the new class motto at the head of the column. The entire community of West Point turns out to welcome the class of proud cadets as they march back in fine fashion. They are met at the North (Washington) gate by the military band and the Army mules as they proceed to march the last two miles, winding their way through the West Point community, culminating in a Pass in Review at the Superintendent's house (Quarters 100) where the Superintendent and honored guests will receive the Pass in Review. Check with your new cadet about the exact schedule if you plan to attend. Take your camera, video cam, and make up a large sign to welcome the class back to the Point.



REORGANIZATION WEEK – (August 8-12)

Reorganization Week is where your plebe transitions from CBT to classroom preparedness, commonly called "REORGY". During this week, each plebe will move in with new roommate(s) from their own class and company and become part of one of the 36 companies that make up the Corps. They will be assigned to a Yearling (3rd classmen) as their team leader. This company will be their HOME for the next two or more years.

ACCEPTANCE PARADE – A – DAY - (August 13)

On Saturday August 13th, the new cadets are accepted into the Corps of Cadets with the Acceptance Parade. This is one of only four Parades that are totally dedicated to a particular class during the entire West Point experience (R-Day, Plebe-Parent Weekend and Graduation are the others).



CBT training culminates with the Acceptance Day Parade. You will have been notified by your cadet which permanent company he/she has been assigned to and you will be able to place yourself in the stands aligned with his or her new company using the markers on the field. The upperclassmen march onto the field and the new cadets march along the outer edges of the Plain forming in front of the bleachers. After their "acceptance," the plebes take their places with their permanent academic companies as members of the Long Gray Line and

pass in review. The new cadets will wear their white hats for the first time and formally be accepted into the Corps. **CONGRATULATIONS** - your sons/daughters are now officially promoted to cadets (rank of private) of the United States Military Academy at West Point.

"A Day" is a wonderful experience and should not be missed if at all possible. Siblings provide additional support and congratulations to the new cadets and are always a welcomed site. If you attend, again be prepared for outside (warm) weather and bring your cameras and video cams. In past years, cadets have been released from duties by mid-afternoon and can spend time with you for the first time since R-day. This is a great time for a relaxing barbecue at one of the designated locations or for some rest at your hotel. They have usually also had all day Sunday off to spend with family.



1ST SEMESTER

ACADEMIC YEAR

The academic year commences immediately after REORGY week. Classes usually have less than fifteen students and are very challenging to even the brightest students. Encourage your plebe not to neglect their academics. It is 55% of their class rank grade. (Military 30% & Physical 15%) The Academy, while educating the whole person, stresses academics. Your plebe is well advised to study hard and develop good study habits. One of the most important lessons to be learned is TIME MANAGEMENT. The Academy offers an optional short course on this subject for plebes. Encourage your cadet to sign up. Classes begin creating stress of

another type. The Thayer method of instruction is study and application first with explanation later. This is a unique approach that usually creates frustration until adjustment can be made. The top honor student that has never had a grade below a "B" has now failed their first two quizzes or PR's (Partial Reviews). This is also normal, not to panic. On top of the NEW



academic strain, there are also plebe duties, room management, and personal military inspections. Upperclassmen are also "helpful" in reinforcing everything and then some. This is when your cadet learns the most efficient way to MANAGE TIME. Homework is done before the class, not after.

We would suggest that you encourage your plebe to become involved in clubs and similar activities in order to afford some outlet from academics. Several extra-curricular activities are performed outside of West Point and these will provide the plebes with an opportunity to leave the Academy for a while. Often times you may hear the worst from your cadet as you are the outlet for their frustrations. Most times your cadet will feel much better after the phone call while you

feel worse. Do talk with other parents for moral support. If you have concerns, call your WPPC mentor or a club officer. Calling the TAC officer should be reserved for more serious matters such as family emergencies, etc. Tactical Officer (TAC) and TAC NCO's (there are one each per Company), provide the military structure to the Corps. Working for the Commandant, they are the disciplinarians that watch over the Corps.

For those that are experiencing some problems with their studies, **Additional Instruction (AI)** is available to all cadets. Each instructor at the Academy has only one responsibility, and that is to help the students learn and succeed. They are available each day to provide special help to any cadet that schedules an appointment. They will not come to the cadet, even when they know the cadet needs help. The cadet must request this help. Encourage your cadet to avail themselves of this service as often as needed. Get help EARLY- don't wait till it is too late. Mentors have even been known to help cadets with additional instruction as well as other classmates in their company. There is always someone to help and all the cadet has to do is ask. Asking for help is not a sign of failure or weakness but helps all students succeed and builds teamwork among classmates.

LABOR DAY

Your cadet may be able to take a pass for Labor Day to come home. Cadets with pass privileges may depart after last duty Friday and must be present for formation on Labor Day at 7:00pm. Please note that everything is subject to change year to year, and your cadet will keep you informed as to what is applicable to his class or year.

Just a note - your cadet will tell you very little about what is going on. You will need to have other sources of information to be informed. However, your cadet does not need to know what you know as they typically like to feel that they are informing you as to what is going on.

WEST POINT PARENTS CLUB OF INDIANA ANNUAL FOOTBALL TAILGATE PARTY
Saturday, September 10, 2016



Each year the West Point Parents Club of Indiana sponsors a wonderful tailgate party at West Point after a home football game. All Indiana cadets are invited along with Indiana Army personnel at West Point. This is an excellent time to visit West Point, enjoy the unique experience of an Army football game, and see your cadet and the beautiful colors of fall as the mountain is "on fire" with reds, yellows, and gold. Scheduled halfway between R-Day and Christmas leave, many find this event a must and welcome break to visit their cadet at West Point. We usually have many parents from Indiana and cadets and guests attend this

exciting event. If you like full-dress parades, there is usually a parade a few hours before game time, along with parachute team demonstrations.

THE REST OF THE 1st SEMESTER

From Labor Day on, things start to settle down. There will be emotional ups and downs along the way. There may be poor grades on papers or an "F" on a quiz or not doing well on a WPR (Written Partial Review). At this time, the challenges seem like mountains to the students who have never had a "C" on a paper before. Encourage your cadet to seek Additional Instruction (AI) early on. By the end of the semester, they will be able to work things out and are doing well by the time finals roll around. Looking forward to Thanksgiving and Christmas leave and the Army/ Navy Game keeps them going.

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND LEAVE

Cadets are released at the end of their duty (after last class) on Wednesday around noon and are due back at 7:00 PM on Sunday. This is the heaviest travel weekend of the year - get airline tickets now for your cadet. Thanksgiving is a Superintendent's leave, i.e. he grants this leave and it is not a charged pass to the cadets. Check with your cadet before making final arrangements. Policies do change and your cadet MUST know the current policy. Transportation to airports is by bus. Cadets can purchase "round trip" bus tickets IN ADVANCE to travel to and from airports in the area of West Point. Cadets should buy these tickets early (a schedule will be posted). It is a good idea to schedule flights FROM West Point LATE in the day, and BACK to West Point early afternoon.

ARMY/NAVY GAME - December 10, 2016 – Baltimore, MD

"What counts is not the size of the dog in the fight; it's the size of the fight in the dog."
-- Dwight D. Eisenhower

This is the oldest collegiate football rivalry in the nation. The first game was played on the Plain at West Point following a challenge by Cadet Dennis Mahan Michie in 1890. The first game of the 1924 season was played in the new Michie Stadium at West Point. (Army 17- St Louis University 0).

The West Point Parents Club of Indiana sponsors an annual trip to the Army/Navy game with a bus trip, host hotel, group tickets to the game, and lasting memories. This is always a special event and another excellent opportunity to see and visit with your cadet and his or her fellow cadets. All cadets will be present for this game, so please block this weekend on your calendar now, and look for more information to come.

GO ARMY! BEAT NAVY!

CHRISTMAS LEAVE - Begins after last TEE (Term-End Exam) and/or duty on December 2016; Cadets report back on January 2017; 7 pm

To plan for Christmas leave, ask your cadet for their final exam schedule and details regarding dismissal from duties and time for reporting back so flight arrangements can be made. Your cadet needs to call you as soon as this schedule is released, usually sometime in mid-October. Getting the exam schedule in enough time to get cheap airfare can be a problem. Historically, plebe exams are over on the day before the last exam day which is usually Saturday of exam week, but your cadet's situation may be different.



Remember to have your son bring full dress uniform, and your daughter, dress mess home if you and they are planning to attend the **All Academy Ball** over the break. Do not be surprised if your cadet is reluctant to bring their uniform home. Many of them are just tired of wearing it and want to be a civilian for a short time. However, if you are planning on going to the Ball, their uniform is mandatory.

The hardest farewell often comes when your plebe returns to West Point after the Christmas leave. The time spent at home was so much fun, and the freedom felt good. It is tough to go back to the regimentation and all the "gray", including the weather. This is aptly named the "gloom" period. Prepare for a readjustment period. Cadets will have new rooms, roommates, and team leaders for the spring semester.

THE GLOOM or GRAY PERIOD

The first few days after winter leave will be for reorganization. The cadets will get new rooms, new roommates, and new jobs for upperclassmen and homework assignments.

From January through March, everything at the Point is GRAY - uniforms, buildings, the mountain and the weather. However, for Indiana cadets it is fun to watch the "southern" cadets learn to walk in their first snow storm.

PLEBE PARENT WEEKEND - March 2017

Make hotel/motel reservations for Plebe/Parent weekend if you have not already done so. Cadets may possibly have a 50-mile radius OPP (Off Post Privileges) that weekend.



Plebe Parent Weekend is an absolute must for all parents who can possibly make it. You will want to check the parent resource page for a schedule of events for the weekend. Your cadet will have the opportunity to show off the Academy to family and friends. You will have the opportunity to see your cadet's room, classrooms, meet their instructors and TAC officers, their Mentor, and get the grand tour of such places as the Superintendent's Quarters, the Uniform Factory, and the Mess Hall. Other than Graduation week this may be the only time you may

visit your cadet in some areas. On Saturday night there will be a formal banquet and Ball. Tickets are required for some of these events and some require reservations. Your cadet can order these in advance so remind them to do so. Cadets usually are given Off Post Privileges - within 50 miles, during this weekend, however they must be back in the barracks each night. Be sure to come to the WPPC-MI meeting in February of 2016 to get all of the details of this fun weekend. **This is a once in a lifetime experience that you should not miss and it is recommended that you arrive Thursday evening to hit the pavement running Friday morning.**



SPRING BREAK - March 2017

Plebes are required to remain on post until the conclusion of Plebe Parent Weekend. It will be a good time for you and your cadet to reflect on the experiences at West Point and relax a bit. Some cadets may even want to travel. Just be sure to have travel arrangements to have your cadet back by the necessary times. All cadets must be present for formation on Sunday, March at 7:00pm.

REMAINDER OF 2nd SEMESTER

After March, the weather and moods lift. Sometime in March or April, the APFT (Army Physical Fitness Test) will be administered again. Passing this APFT annually is required. It consists of doing sit-ups, push-ups, and a timed two-mile run. This is very important to all cadets. Multiple failures on the APFT are reason for separation from the Army. It is also reason for separation from West Point – West Point being part of the Army.

GRADUATION WEEK ACTIVITIES



On Graduation morning the plebes are promoted to the rank of Private First Class in the United States Corps of Cadets and are now Yearlings (Yuk or 3rd cadets). This new promotion and becoming a Yearling (along with departing from West Point for a well deserved summer leave) will render a sense of accomplishment.

All cadets **MUST** remain at West Point until after the graduation exercises have been concluded. Cadets are usually released between noon and 2:00 p.m. on graduation day, May 2017.

It is only after completion of the summer Cadet Field Training (CFT) at Camp Buckner that your cadet will be promoted to the rank of Corporal in the USCC. This will be a high point and is considered a major milestone.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Your cadet is joining the oldest fraternity in the U.S. with the likes of Lee, Grant, MacArthur, Eisenhower, and Schwarzkopf. This is not just a college education but the development of leaders of character to lead our Nation in the 21st century. You and your cadet have made it through the first year. The cadets are now on their way to being all they can be mentally, physically, and emotionally. They have withstood the test and they can be proud. You are button-popping proud of them. You are now experienced West Point Parents - we're proud of you. Take a bow.

Nothing comes without sacrifice and your son/daughter will make sacrifices during their years at West Point, but the reward is overwhelming in the education they receive and in the sense of pride that can never be taken away from them. They have paid the price and when they walk out to get that diploma on graduation day in just a few short years, they will be a part of one of America's greatest traditions - they will have joined the Long Gray Line.

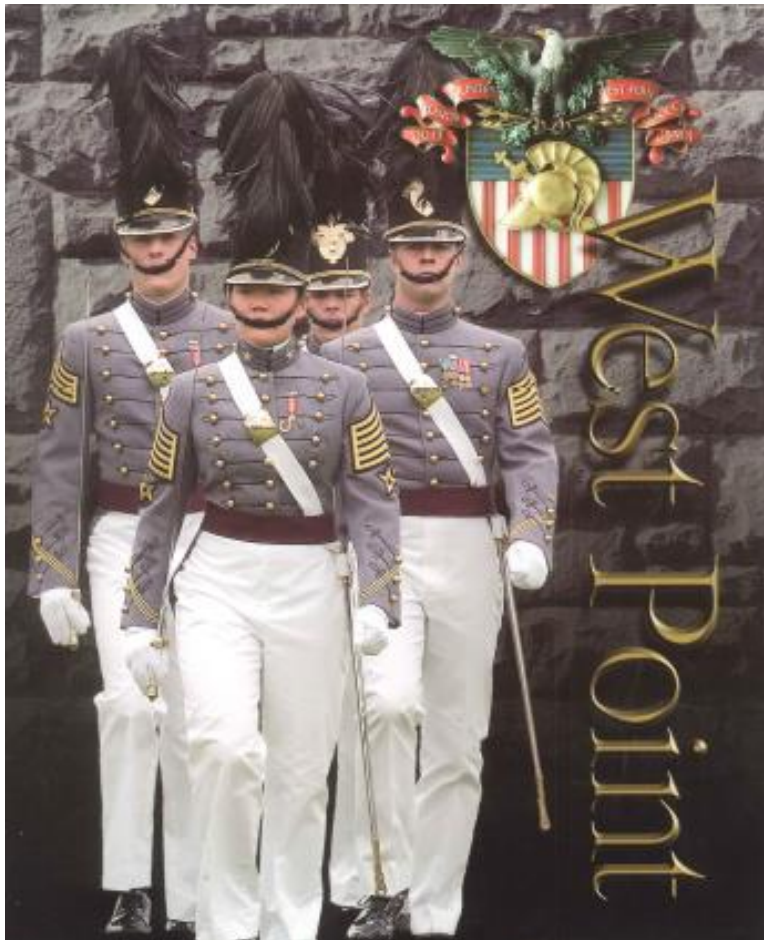
ANNUAL WPPC OF INDIANA PICNIC (JUNE)

Bring your new Yearling to the Plebe/Parent Picnic in June and help welcome the candidates for the incoming Plebe class.



OTHER TIPS AND ADVICE

- The Academy has excellent facilities in the cadet area and at Keller Hospital which is located on Washington Street on post. Since cadets are not allowed to remain in the barracks if they cannot attend class, they may be admitted to Keller Hospital for even the flu. If the problem is serious, you will be notified.
- Set a pre-arranged spot to always meet your cadet when you are visiting West Point. It seems as though something always comes up for your cadet and the set time to meet is usually long gone and still no cadet. Stay put, they will show up as soon as they can.
- Be prepared for at least one letter or phone call where your cadet wants to quit. This may happen after your plebe has had some contact with a friend at another college telling him or her about all the free time and parties and lack of rules and regulations, but more likely after contact with an unfeeling upperclassman.
- Sometime during your cadet's first year, you will receive letters and/or phone calls requesting a donation to fund cadets' special activities. This may be from West Point Association of Graduates (<https://www.westpointaog.org>), or from West Point – Org (<http://www.west-point.org>), or from West Point itself. You are not required to make a donation or pledge, but keep in mind that these organizations do support West Point and cadet activities.



HOTEL SUGGESTIONS

Newburgh (zip code 12550)

Hilton Garden Inn, 15 Crossroads Court.....	845-567-9500
Ramada Inn, 1289 Union Avenue.....	845-564-4500
Comfort Inn, 5 Lakeside Road.....	845-567-0567
Knights Inn, 90 New York 17K.....	845-564-9020
Courtyard, 4 Governor Drive.....	845-567-4800

West Point

The Thayer Hotel, 674 Thayer Road (On Post).....	845-446-4731
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Highland Falls (zip code 10928)

Econo Lodge, 17 Main Street.....	845-446-9400
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Fort Montgomery (zip code 10922)

Garrison House Historic Inn, 915 US 9W.....	845-446-2322
Holiday Inn Express, 1106 US 9W.....	845-446-4277

New Windsor (zip code 12553)

Days Inn, 915 Union Avenue.....	845-564-7550
Homewood Suites by Hilton, 180 Breunig Road.....	845-567-2700

Central Valley (zip code 10917)

Americas Best Value Inn, 139 Route 32.....	845-928-2266
Hampton Inn, 60 Centre Drive.....	845-782-9600

Fishkill (zip code 12524)

Holiday Inn Express, 21 Schuyler Boulevard.....	845-896-4001
Hampton Inn, 544 Route 9.....	845-896-4000
Courtyard, 17 Westage Road, Route 9 & I84.....	845-897-2400
Hilton Garden Inn, 25 Westage Road.....	845-896-7100



DINING SUGGESTIONS

West Point (zip code 10996)

Bistro (Bldg. 683, adjacent to the MWR Fitness Center): 6a.m.- 5p.m.
Burger King (Bldg. 1204 PX Mall): 10:30a.m. -7p.m.
Eisenhower Hall- Ike's Riverside Café: 7a.m. – 4p.m.
Grant Hall Café (Bldg. 602): 7a.m. – 6p.m.
Grant Hall Chock Café (Bldg. 602): 7a.m. – 2p.m.
Class of '57' Café – Jefferson Library: 7a.m. – 2p.m.
Lil' Skeeters BBQ at the Bowling Center (Bldg. 622): 11:30a.m. – 9p.m.
Subway (Bldg. 683, adjacent to the MWR Fitness Center): 10a.m. – 8p.m.
The Thayer Hotel: 7-10:30a.m., 11:30a.m. – 2:30p.m., 5:30-9:30p.m.
West Point Club: 11a.m. – 1:30p.m. – Buffet Lunch

Highland Falls (zip code 10928)

Shades Restaurant – Casual Dining - 457 Main Street 845-446-2626
Park Restaurant – Casual Dining - 451 Main Street 845-446-8709
Hacienda Restaurant – Mexican Casual - 145 Main Street 845-446-0406
Brothers Pizza – 234 Main Street 845-446-4988
West Point Pizza – 282 Main Street 845-446-5544

Garrison (zip code 10524)

Tavern Restaurant (@ Highlands Country Club) 955 Route 9D 845-424-3254
The Stadium – Sports Bar - 1308 Route 9 845-734-4000
The Garrison - Valley Restaurant – Fine Dining - 2015 US 9 845-424-3604
The Garrison - The Terrace Grill - Casual Outdoor Dining - 2015 US 9 845-424-3604

Fishkill (zip code 12524)

Il Barilotto – Italian - 1113 Main Street 845-897-4300
Maya Café – Mexican - 448 Route 9 845-896-4042
Joe Willy's Fish Shack – Seafood - 10 Old Route 9W 845-765-0234
Hudson Rib & Fish - 1099 Route 9 854-297-0002
Eleven 11 Grill & Spirits – Casual Dining - 1111 Main Street 845-896-0011

Cornwall on the Hudson (zip code 12520)

Painters Restaurant – Casual American – 266 Hudson Street 845-534-2109

Newburgh – Waterfront Area (zip code 12550)

Gullys Restaurant, Newburgh Municipal Launch Ramp 845-565-0077
Torches, 120 Front Street 845-568-0100
The River Grill – Contemporary American - 40 Front Street 845-561-9444
Havana 59 - Cuban/American - 50 Front Street #104 845-562-7767

Newburgh – (zip code 12550)

Cosimo's on Union – Italian – 1217 Route 300 Union Avenue 845-567-1556

The Alma Mater

Hail, Alma Mater Dear, To help us be ever near
Help us thy motto bear Through all the years.
Let Duty be well performed.
Honor be e'ever untarned.
Country be ever armed.
West Point, by thee.
Guide us, thy sons, Teach us by day, by night,
Keep thine honor bright, For thee to fight.
When we depart from thee, Serving on land or sea,
May we still loyal be, West Point, to thee.
And when our work is done, Our course on earth is run,
May it be said, "Well done:
Be thou at peace."
E'er may that line of gray increase from day to day
Live, serve, die, we pray West Point, for thee

The Army Song

First to fight, For the right,
And to build the Nations might,
And the Army goes rolling along.
Proud of all we have done,
Fighting till the battle's won
And the Army goes rolling along

(Refrain)

Then it's Hi! Hi! Hey!
The Army on it's way.
Count off the cadence loud and strong,
(TWO! THREE!)
For Wher – e'er we go, you will always know,
That the Army goes rolling along.

Valley Forge, Custer's ranks,
San Juan Hill and Patton's tanks,
And the Army went rolling along.
Minute men, from the start,
Always fighting from the heart,
And the Army keeps rolling along.

(Refrain)

Men in rags, men who froze,
Still that Army met its foes,
And the Army went rolling along.
Faith in God, then we're right,
And we'll fight with all our might,
As the Army keeps rolling along

GLOSSARY OF CADET SLANG

ACU Army Combat Uniform

AFC As For Class

AI Additional Instruction

AIAD Academic programs of Individual Advanced Development, such as foreign language, public policy, public administration, and international relations; usually related to a cadet's major, these academic opportunities are developed through the separate academic departments [cf: tutorial, internship, practicum, apprenticeship, understudy]

AMI morning (ante meridiem) inspection

APFT Army Physical Fitness Test

Army Brat son or daughter of a career Army Soldier

Area Tour punishment

ASAP As Soon As Possible; at once, immediately, forthwith

A squad cadet varsity intercollegiate team

authos authorization; permission to miss drill or other company training

AWOL Absent Without Leave

BDU Battle Dress Uniform

beast cadet basic training

bogus uncalled for audacity or temerity

boodle cake, cookies, candy, ice cream, etc.

BTO Brigade Tactical Officer

Bugle Notes the handbook of the Corps of Cadets containing historical and required knowledge that's issued to fourth class cadets

bust to reduce in rank as the result of a misconduct proceeding; to revoke the appointment of a cadet

butt the remains of anything, as the butt of a month, the butt of a tour, or the butt of a cigarette

butter bar the golden yellow bar of rank for a Second Lieutenant

CBT Cadet Basic Training; also a leadership tour for upperclass cadets

CFT Cadet Field Training, being an 8-week summer course at Camp Buckner; also a leadership tour for upperclass cadets

Charlie Mike phonetic alphabet for the initial letters of Continue Missions

civvies civilian clothes; mufti

Coastie any member of the Coast Guard Academy (USCGA)

Com the Commandant of Cadets

COR Cadet Observation Report

Corps squader a varsity or JV National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) athlete

Cow a member of the second class; a junior [allegedly derived from cadet resemblance to bloated bovines and/or cows coming home]

CPR Cadet Performance Report

dirt the core geography class taken by Yearlings / Yuks

DMI Department of Military Instruction

DPE Department of Physical Education

engineer one who is well up in studies, a cadet in the upper section in academic work; also, Corps of Engineers, a branch specialization in the U.S. Army

F.D. Full Dress uniform

find to discharge a cadet/candidate for deficiency in studies, conduct, or honor

Firstie a member of the first class; a senior [derived as diminutive]

flirtie Flirtation Walk; the scenic walk where only cadets and their escorted guests may promenade

floater a person without a table at a meal who stands under the poop-deck waiting to be seated

ghost a Fourth Class cadet who hides in his/her room to avoid the upperclass or to shirk duties; also refers to an upperclass cadet who is rarely seen around a cadet company

GI Government Issue; property of the U.S. government (not to be used when referring to enlisted personnel)

Goat a cadet in the lower sections; a cadet near the bottom of the class; the lowest ranking cadet on graduation

gray hog an extremely USMA-/USMAPS-oriented cadet

green-suiter an Army officer wearing the green Class-A uniform

Hell Cats musicians who sound reveille and the calls

hooah a response meaning 'yes' or 'I understand'

hop cadet dance; compulsory training in etiquette and socialization for knuckle-draggers

hours a punishment served by a cadet by walking with their rifle or saber in Central Area on a weekend

IKE Eisenhower Barracks or Eisenhower Hall

IOCT Indoor Obstacle Course Test

juice electricity; Electrical Engineering

knowledge information that all Plebes must be able to recite to upperclassmen

late lights cadet room lights on after midnight

limits the boundaries on the reservation to which cadets are restricted

Mac MacArthur Barracks

max maximum; a complete success, as to make a perfect mark in academic recitation, or to do something perfectly

minutes the time remaining before a formation or inspection

New Cadet a cadet who is not yet officially recognized as a member of the Corps of Cadets (ie: during CBT)

OC Officer in Charge; a commissioned officer from the Department of Tactics serving as the Officer of the Day

OD Olive Drab; also, Officer of the Day

Odin the Scandinavian god to whom cadets appeal for supernatural intervention (eg: rain before parades, inspector boredom or blindness, invisibility to upperclass, etc)

Old Grad one who has graduated from The Academy

P a professor; academic instructor; the teacher of a course or subject

PDA Public Display of Affection. Also, a Personal Digital Assistant (eg: Palm Pilot, Blackberry)

ping the quick pace for a Plebe to walk (180 steps per minute)

Plebe a cadet of the fourth class; a freshman [v: pleb, plebeian]

PMI afternoon (post meridiem) inspection

police to clean up, straighten up, or discard

poop information to be memorized

poop-deck the balcony in the USMA Cadet Mess from which orders are published (ie: read aloud to the Corps of Cadets)

poop-sheet a page of information

pop-off to sound off in a military manner; a directive to sound off in a military manner

post directive to "take your post" or to "assume (or resume) your proper position", as in formation or on guard duty

PT Physical Training

rabble rouser cadet cheerleader

RHIP Rank Hath Its Privileges (and responsibilities)

roger a procedure word meaning "I understand", that's used to expedite communication

RTO Regimental Tactical Operator; radioman or phone talker
sack cadet bed; also, to sleep
SAMI Saturday morning (ante meridiem) inspection
short close to graduation
slug a special punishment for a serious offense, which may result in a loss of privileges, special fatigue duty, walking punishment tours, or confinement to room during off duty hours; also, a lazy cadet, one who's out of shape, one who's not pulling his load, or one who's not doing his duty
SOD Senior Officer of the Day
SOG Senior Officer of the Guard
SOP Standing Operating Procedure; Standard Operating Procedure
sound off to voice a response powerfully; to shout loud and clear, so as to be heard and understood at a distance
spaz to make a gross error; an inept or maladroit cadet who repeatedly makes gross errors
spec to memorize verbatim, as "to spec blind"
Squid one who attends the Naval Academy (USNA); Midshipman
Star Man an academically-distinguished cadet/candidate
STRAC Straight, Tough, and Ready Around the Clock; being organized and excellent in appearance
Supe the Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academ
TAC a tactical officer assigned to supervise the four classes in a cadet company
TAC NCO a tactical noncommissioned officer assigned to supervise the cadets in a company
TED an intelligent person or one who learns quickly. Also, Tactical Eye Device
TEE Term End Examination; final exams or finals; formerly known as Written General Review (WGR)
Turnback a re-admitted cadet sent to the next lowest class
2% Club informal league of cadets who have sustained a committed relationship with the same individual throughout their USMA attendance, from R-Day through graduation
unsat unsatisfactory performance; an evaluation or rating for unsatisfactory performance
woop what members of other service academies call a West Point cadet
wopper pronunciation of 'WOPR', a Written Oral Partial Review
WPR Written Partial Review; major exam or midterm examination
writ a written recitation; an examination
Yearling a member of the third class; a sophomore [deriv: horse aged over one year]
you fly, I buy catchphrase meaning that "I'll pay for the food if you'll go get it"
Zoomie one who attends the Air Force Academy (USAFA); Doolie

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
WEST POINT
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