

Bi-Annual Reunion

June 4, 2011

...And I could eat raw fish. The other way was because I played golf. I was in the 80s, ranked low 80s, high 70s range and so when we had our meetings every quarter in Hawaii, they would ship the executives from Hawaii from Japan and we would spend the first three days in meetings, the next four days on the golf course. I got paid for playing golf-pretty good job. I wasn't a pro, I had fun. I got a lot of traveling, went all around the world, met lots of different people. For five years, I did entertainment insurance; I wrote the very first insurance policy for a robotic movie. Anybody know the name of that one? Jurassic Park, Jurassic Park. So I wrote the insurance on the very first one. The story of that one is, it was the first one we'd done; we gave them a premium quote of 4 million dollars for everything...they said that's too high, we can't afford it; would you do something else? So I thought about it for a few days, talked to my branch manager, called them back to say, we'll give you a premium 2.2 million dollars for your movie, however, we want 1% of your gross receipts. With five weeks left to shoot the movie, Hurricane Nikki hit. They were filming in Hawaii and it wiped out a lot of the robotics, one of the raptors that was going around and one of the bigger dinosaurs was ruined. An \$800,000 iMAX camera got ruined and so we had an \$8 million loss, \$2 million premium. The bottom line is the guys in the company...in New York comes down to talk to me. Said, what are you doing? You realize you have an eight million dollar loss already and you've only had a two million dollar premium? I said, don't worry about it guys; go home, we're gonna be fine. He looked at me and said, sure. By the time Jurassic Park got done with its production and global distribution, our company made over \$23,000,000 on that movie, just because of \$1 out of every hundred. Good story too.

I had some other...which was better because I met Whitney Houston when she wanted a new body guard and her butt-hole husband bought a...and I also met Barbara Streisand when she did a comeback show at the Anaheim Pond and the Las Vegas MGM Grand and the Great Theater, really important because she wanted everybody in the world to go with her for free and then I met Kevin Costner a number of times, helped him on some of his movies, Tim Cubb, body guard, body guard and Water World and so Tim and I played golf several times together. Next up. That's my story; I've been married 32 years to my current, you'll meet her tonight. The other story is, when she thought she was going to die a couple years ago in the hospital, she brought one of her friends over, she looked at me, she said, if I die, I want you to marry her. Good Mormon wife, huh?

*Did you ask her if you could practice beforehand?*

You'll see this girl tonight; I would be a little afraid to ask her. She's here with us, because I also...drive over here. So now, I'm going to pick on some of you and tell your story. Ok? Mr. Mode, would you be kind enough to tell us your story?

*Sure.*

Mr. Mode

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[Main Speaker] *Joe is from the class of '56, forgot that he had the award-winning basketball team and you played on a team, right? A lot of us, Bob Barber and a few others, Bob is here, so the only athletic team from Brown Military Academy that really did anything.*

[Michael Milligan] *No, that's not true.*

[Joe Mode?] After graduating from Brown, I was unfortunately one of the group, we had a big episode in 1956 and lost a lot of friends. We were, what you call expelled, I guess. There were 12 of us; they didn't appreciate what we did and the administration kind of took it out on us. But that was an experience for me. I wanted to go to West Point, but I couldn't, because I couldn't pass the test. But I took it twice anyway; it was probably good for me. One of my best friends did go-Hukrey Haunch and I was really proud of him, but in the meantime, I joined the service right after Brown and was very lucky, went with-I see someone here from the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborn, which is good; I was in the 101<sup>st</sup>, that's why when anybody had some experience in the service, got to play a lot of tennis and in high school, I did letter in five sports, which was very fortunate for my Senior year, I made all...Pastor Brown...baseball and then ran track and won the conference championship, so I was mostly in athletics and that kind of helped me in the service, because they had me play tennis for them in the 7<sup>th</sup> army; I was over in Germany, so I did that, and came back. I had an experience where I was redrafted or [*bagpipes ringtone plays in audience*] recalled back in after I got out when Vietnam broke out and got to be an advisor of all things.

[Audience member] *That was your 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborn.*

[Michael Milligan] *hey, never apologize for the pipes.*

When anybody had an experience, I lost my father during the second World War and my brother lost an arm, part of an arm in Korea, so when they sent me to 'Nam as an advisor, my mother said, get him out of there; my family's contributed enough and it was like Private Ryan, if some of you remember that movie. So luckily, I didn't have to stay in 'Nam, I came back and maybe she saved my life, but anyway, came back, went on to college, went to Chico of all places, Chico State and played tennis for them, got to play one famous person, Arthur Ashe and beat me 6-0, 6-1. I think the one he gave me, I think he let me win that one; that was a good experience for me. I had a good teacher there who wanted me to go on in school, so she got me a scholarship to the University of Missouri for my masters and went there, got my masters, met the governor, who was my neighbor, Christopher Kidd Bond, he said he was going to run for governor. [He] wanted me to stay there and run his department of corrections and I chose to come back to California, luckily, because I eventually met my wife and that was a good move for me. Then I was hired with the Probation Department out of Monterrey County and I was there for 40 years, retired and I'm still working. After retirement, ...judges talked me into doing an investigation with the family court, so I'm still doing that. Probation still has me doing reports and I also run a fitness program for a Carma Valley Manor, that's a retirement community and we developed the first exercise facility, probably twice the size of this, but they gave us about \$300,000 and we bought all the equipment and my oldest is 100 years old, so I work out every day with him, feeling like I'm in pretty good shape. In fact, I had to try to prove that one time; I was in a bar and some guy saw me at the end of the bar. He said, oh I'll wrestle anybody in this place for five dollars and I had a couple of friends there say Joe, go

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arm-wrestle him; you can take him. I said, no, I don't want to. So finally, he did look at me, and he says, I'll take you on for five bucks. So I got up there and they turned the tables and all that. This was a big, pretty big bruiser, 280 pounds, so I got him on the table and I held him for about two minutes and he finally took me down and I took the five dollars, put it in my pocket and he was a little upset with me; he says, what are you doing, he says, well I told you I'd arm-wrestle you, I didn't tell you I'd beat you...five bucks and went down to get a drink. Those are my experiences, thank you very much.

## Chucks Barn

I don't really have much of a different story than any of you have, other than just looking back over the years, the opportunities that came my way and came your way as a result of some of the fundamental, foundational training. It's hard to quantify the value of what some of our instructors, teachers, commandants and fellow cadets gave us through those years. I think another thing, I was an only child and I started around in 6<sup>th</sup> grade there in San Diego and graduated in '63, but one of the things I found in going to Brown, I suddenly had a few hundred brothers and it was really neat when I think back of a lot of the friends, a lot of love I had from my brothers and all of you and it was really great. And another thing I want to mention-it was sort of cool was in San Diego, really in all of the classes, even up in Glendora, one of the classes we all went to was Bible study and I'll tell you something that stuck with me and certainly is going to take me through to eternity was the meeting of the word of God and Christ and all the great things that I got and the power which you get from that, that again, I got from a very young age, through a lot of the training and everything that we had, as well as the camaraderie and all the great stories. So anyway, I've got a great and wonderful life and I do attribute a lot of that to Dr. Brown and the schools and all of you, so thank you very much.

## ? and Mindy Stogsdill

...We know that. They're the ones you tell us, get your butt in here and register for the reunion; let's go, let's get there.

[Mindy Stogsdill] My name's Mindy Stogsdill; I'm L.J.'s wife, he's class of '56. I'm going to take just a second to say, you know, being at several of the reunions with all of you, there's a common trait or characteristic from all of you gentlemen and several of them are that you're gentlemen and you're fun, you're real, you're genuine, you're down-to-earth, you're successful and you're just warm and giving and loving and every single person that I've met-and the wives as well-you're just real people and people that I'm happy to come to know and be around and I imagine that all you have a large circle of friends because the type of gentlemen and people that you are, people that other people want to be around, so I just want to say thank you for being the wonderful people that you are.