

Kadet Newsletter

Peacock Military Academy
Alumni Association

(210) 733-7766

Henry Allen (Butch) Daughtry, '58, Editor

Address of Record: 113 Emery Lane, Boerne, Texas 78006

May, 2008

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



My Dear Fellow Ex-Cadets –

Your Board of Directors met on April 5, 2008, at The Wesley Peacock House, our old Headquarters Building, in San Antonio. There were 19 out of 25 members present at the Board Meeting.

Everyone is looking forward to our Alumni Reunion on October 3rd, 4th, and 5th of 2008. Our Reunion will be held at the newly renovated Gunter Hotel in downtown San Antonio. This ought to bring back a lot of memories for some of us who would go into the Hotel to cool off in the nice air conditioning after walking the streets of San Antonio in our wool uniforms. Details about the Reunion will follow at a later date.

There are also plans for a Rededication Ceremony for one of the renovated Peacock water fountains which were in front of Johnston Hall. The fountains were removed when The Salvation Army began construction of a new apartment facility. The fountains were donated by the Class of 1938. The one with the Peacock logo and 1938 Class Plaque will be rededicated on Sunday, October 5th at 10:00 a.m. I wonder how long it has been since you had a drink from that fountain? Well, that's too long! The newly renovated Peacock water fountain will be located on the Senior Terrace close to the Peacock Alumni Memorial which was dedicated ten years ago in October. It will be a working water fountain for everyone to enjoy a nice drink! Thanks to our CEO, Mike Vlieger, Class of 1962, and David

Shelden, Class of 1970, for working on this project.

So, fellow Ex-Cadets, call your old roommates and classmates. The ones you have not seen in decades and make it a Reunion for you to remember. I guarantee that if you come to the Reunion, you will not regret it. It will be a lot of fun seeing everyone again. Come renew old friendships and make new ones. You are one of us and that's what is important to us and your Alumni Association.

Maybe you would like to be more active and become a member of the Board of Directors? We can always use new ideas. We meet twice a year in April and October. Bring your wife, fiancé, girlfriend, or sidekick and have some fun with us. We would really like to see you! Remember, we don't care how rich, successful, or important you are or have been. The fact that you went to Peacock Military Academy makes you especially important to us. Come join us and keep the spirit of Peacock Military Academy, your school, alive and well. Thank You and God Bless.

Frank R. Torres
"Pancho, '63"

HENRY CULLINS, CLASS OF 1950

Henry reported to the Alumni Association that he has had some health issues this past year. Henry has fond memories of PMA and has supported this Association for years. A note or card to Henry wishing him Good Health! would be appreciated.

Henry L. Cullins, Jr., Class of 1950
5322 Norborne Lane
Houston, Texas 77069

PMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Board of Director's Meeting

April 5, 2008

12:00 Noon

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Frank Torres, President.

Roll call

A quorum was present – the meeting proceeded.

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes of the previous board meeting were read by William Whitfield, Secretary. The board approved the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was given by Ed Ford, Treasurer. Ed discussed the balance sheet and said he had filed the IRS report of the association's status electronically. Rudy Johnson moved to accept the report as given; Bill Morse seconded; the motion carried.

PAR Report

PAR held its annual meeting in early March at the Wesley Peacock House. Mike reported that the \$30,000 CD was earning 5.18 % interest and the checking account of \$17,760 was getting 1.6% interest. Expenditures were made for an hp laptop computer and hp scanner/printer for converting the records to disk. Besides keeping the original files, 2 copies of disks will be made, one kept in a fire resistant safe. There was also an expenditure of \$2,151 for repairs to the Wesley Peacock House. Mike also said that the VHS tapes had been converted to DVD. At this time, Mike mentioned that the Peacock Fountain was to be placed on the Senior Terrace in time for the October Reunion.

Kadet Medals

Rudy Johnson said we were continuing to present medals to the schools and additionally a K-Bar knife to the Marine Academy. Earl Adams was given the medal for presentation to the Marine Academy.

Other Old Business

Mike Vlieger received a letter of resignation from Jerry Houston. Mike also reported we were nearly out of *PARADE REST, Book Two*.

Reunion 2008

Reunion 2008 will be held at the Gunter Hotel, San Antonio, Texas. Mike Vlieger brought up using Gerald Ragsdale, Class of 1971, with his karaoke equipment. It was recommended to use him Friday night on the roof garden of the St. Anthony, and try to get the Sentimental Journey Orchestra for Saturday night at the Gunter. It was moved, seconded and the motion carried to leave the budget and choice up to Mike Vlieger.

Motion for adjournment

Russ Doty moved to adjourn; Butch Daughtry seconded the motion – the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:37 PM.

COLONEL DON'S LAST ARTICLE FOR THE PMA NEWSLETTER

PARADE FOR MAMIE

By Donald W. Peacock

She didn't rate Secret Service Agents, but, if she ever needed protection, Ike had plenty of help available: he had just been double-promoted from Colonel to Major General and placed in command of all American forces in Europe.

Later, as the U.S. participation in World War II intensified, Ike was again double-promoted – this time to Five-Star General, Supreme Commander of all Allied Forces.

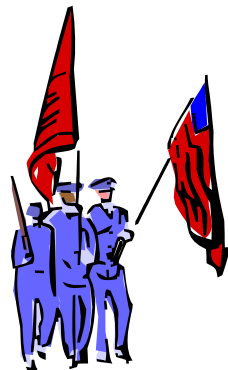
On April 18, 1944, Mamie was visiting her sister who lived in San Antonio. While in town, Mrs. Eisenhower accepted an invitation to be the honored guest at “Mamie Eisenhower Day at Peacock Military Academy.”

Mrs. Eisenhower received a tour of the campus and ate with the boys in the Mess Hall. She spent the greater part of the day reminiscing with the Peacock family about her courtship days – when she watched the 1915 football team practice and cheered the boys on at games. Most especially, she remembered watching the young football coach: U.S. Army Lt. Dwight D. Eisenhower. “My Ike,” she called him.

World War II was in full force in April of 1944. On other fields, in other parts of the world, battles raged while preparation was underway for the upcoming Allied invasion of Normandy in June. On the fields of Peacock, however, it was a peaceful spring day when PMA cadets -- in full dress uniform -- proudly honored Mamie and the school's longtime association with the Eisenhowers with a special parade.

It wouldn't be many years more before Mamie did rate her Secret Service Agents -- when she became First Lady of the United States.

April, 2000



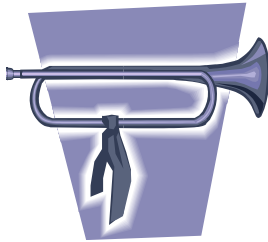
KENNEY VISITS PMA

On February 7th, James Kenney, Class of 1959, and his wife, Mecca, visited The Wesley Peacock House. Jim had not been back to the Campus since the Final Commencement in 1973. Jim was a 1st Captain, Battalion Commander and a six-year Cadet. He was surprised to see his Adjutant's (Bob Scoggins) uniform on display in The Peacock House. Jim lives on a ranch near Carlsbad, New Mexico, and was in town for the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo. If you would like to contact him, his address is:

James Barrett Kenney, Class of 1959
HC 66-478
D-Ranch
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

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TAPS



Phillip Ripley Coffin, Jr., Class of 1948
Roland Earl O'Donnell, Class of 1950
Colon J. (Buddy) Lott, Class of 1953
Benjamin R. Epps, Class of 1954
Donald L. Gretzer, Class of 1956
William S. (Bill) Lentz, Jr., Class of 1958

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DON GRETZER, CLASS OF 1956

We are saddened to report the passing of Don Gretzer on January 20, 2008. Don was an avid supporter of the Alumni Association. He was great at locating lost cadets and updating addresses. This assistance helped us keep the data base as current as possible. To Don Gretzer - SALUTE!

ARTICLE OF INTEREST

Submitted by G. Weldon Slaughter, Class of 1947

Here is a photo of Ex-PMA Cadets taken in the early 1960's at a Shamrock Hilton Poolside Liana to honor the Air Force Thunderbird pilots (and Bell) who were visiting Houston for an Air Show. The Cadets shown are (left to right):

Leslie Stoner, '47
Robert G. Bell, '47
(BC '47, Major USAF, Thunderbird Pilot)
Jimmy E. Cain, '47
G. Weldon Slaughter, '47
Joel Paseman, '47
Thomas Knight, '47
William (Bill) Edwards, '49
(BC '49, 1st Captain Cavalry)

Bell (nee Edwards) was the honored guest - he was in the final 12 selected for the initial astronaut program - 7 were taken. He was a test pilot, graduate of the Naval Academy. He served as an "Upper Classman" for a year at the opening of the USAF Academy to guide the freshman cadets. Was "Mr. Everything" at PMA. Six-year cadet. Killed in Viet Nam in 1965. Buried beside his father, Marine Sgt. Robert Bell (killed in Indo China in 1932!) at the Cisco Cemetery.



MOVING?

Please be sure to let the Alumni Office know if you are planning on a move and a change of address! Call us at (830) 816-5013, drop us a line at 113 Emery Lane, Boerne, Texas 78006, or e-mail us at gingervlieger@aol.com.



EMAIL FROM PAUL MANTLE, CLASS OF 1973

PMA Alumni -

I am doing a history of the 384th Bomb Group, 8th Air Force in the ETO, and the associated fighter groups - 20th, 352nd, 356th, 359th, and 364th. I am looking for any and all members, Cadets, and/or family members who participated. If anyone remembers a teacher like Colonel Joe Williams from 1972, please advise me.

P.S. Anyone who served in the USAF in the ETO or Pacific, contribution will go a long way in filling in the picture of this segment of "The Greatest Generation."

Thanks,

Semper Fi
Paul Mantle, Class of 1973

Contact Paul at:

ontos0311@sbcglobal.net
baseballsquared@msn.com

ANOTHER ARTICLE OF INTEREST

Submitted by G. Weldon Slaughter, Class of 1947



"MRS. MINIVER" - MOVIE SHOWN 3/14/08 AFTER SOUP SUPPER

This movie brought tears to my eyes. It was released in 1941 and in 1942 won the Academy Award for Best Picture. Greer Garson won Best Actress and Dame Mae Widden won Best Supporting Actress. It is the story of a suburban upper class English family during the start of WW II and the Nazi blitz.

My Mother's birthday was December 6th and on December 7, 1941, my brother, Lee, and I took her to lunch and to see that movie at the Wichita Theater in Wichita Falls.

It was a wonderful movie and as we walked to the car, we talked about how terrible it was to be at war. The newsboys from the Times were hawking an EXTRA. We purchased one - it was that the Japanese had attacked Pearl Harbor and the USA was at war! A week later it was Nazi Germany. We were in WW II!

My brother, Lee Slaughter, Class of 1944, later joined the Navy and was on the Aircraft Carrier Saratoga during the 1945 Battle for Okinawa, the southernmost island of the Japanese Empire. He was on a 5" sponson gun mount and was at battle station for almost 3 months as the Jap Kamikaze planes tried to sink our ships. We lost over 80 ships. He was a hero - not wounded but was emotionally scarred by the battle. I was young but did my part - trained as a "Minute Man" to deliver messages in the event of an invasion and joined the Texas State Guard - the National Guard had been mobilized early in 1941. Also, I helped in War Bond drives and greeted the movie stars who came through town on bond drives.

Long story and I told most to the movie and popcorn group after dinner. They all enjoyed the story and applauded.

G. Weldon Slaughter, Class of 1947
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

P.S. - Oh yes, we won the war!!

PMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 25 YEARS!!

The PMA Alumni Association was started as a non-profit corporation in 1983. Twenty-five years ago!! The first five Board members were: Lynn Powell, '66; Mike Vlieger, '62; Rudy Johnson, '53; Pat Boscamp, '60; and Mark Hawkins, '65. The Board was later expanded to 25 members. In the twenty-five years since, the Association has held reunions every two years bringing Cadets from as far away as Guam and Germany. We have helped publish two books – *Parade Rest, Book One and Book Two*. Together we have published an Alumni Directory and a Newsletter twice a year. We award PMA Medals to schools with a military curriculum. We make available memories through the DVD Library, Alumni Memorial and opening The Wesley Peacock House to visiting former Cadets. We all should be proud of these accomplishments as I know the Peacock Family is.

Mike Vlieger, Class of 1962
CEO

2008 DUES!

The Alumni Association is now collecting dues for 2008 and a Dues Form is included with this Newsletter. If you have already paid your dues, please disregard this note. The Dues Form may also be used to make a contribution to PAR.

THANKS!

a special salute to
jack whittiker, class of 1963

Jack manufactured the Medal awarded military schools. Jack available to the charge. It is a great which will be displayed reunion.



Thanks, jack!!

designed and new PMA Kadet annually to has made these Association at no looking medal at the October 2008

HOW TO CONTACT PMA

(210) 733-7766 – PMA Answer Machine
(830) 816-5013 – Mike's Home Phone
gingervlieger@aol.com – Best Choice
jabonero@aol.com – Next Best Choice

PMA REUNION 2008

It is not too early to begin making reservations for the October 2008 Reunion. See President Frank Torres' Message on the front page. You must call the Gunter Hotel direct to reserve your room. The number is 1-888-999-2089 for Central Reservations or contact the Hotel at 210-227-3241.

A complete Reunion Package will be mailed out in June to all Alumni. We are making plans to make this a Reunion to be remembered. OUR GOAL IS TO MAKE IT SPECIAL!! See you in October.



PMA BOARD MEMBERS

The PMA Alumni Board meets twice a year, in April and October. All board members pay their own travel expenses which as we all know are increasing. They arrive at The Wesley Peacock House ready to take care of the "Business of the Alumni" and share a few memories. I would like to thank all past and present Board Members for a job well done!!

Mike Vlieger, Class of 1962
CEO