



Kadet Newsletter

Peacock Military Academy
Alumni Association, Inc.

(817) 581-7715

Arthur V. Wolf, '73, Editor

Address of Record: 732 Cliffmoor Drive, Keller, Texas 76248

Summer 2015

Vol. XXXV, No. 1

Dear Peacock Brothers,

It's that time again to give you an update of the latest board meeting held at the Peacock Headquarters in mid- April. We had record number in attendance with only two Board members absent. It was great to see everyone's enthusiasm and willingness to work on keeping our association active. The Board spent a lot of time coming up with committees that will enable all of us to devote a little time on PMA business.

Committees are as follows:

Communication Committee / Lead by Arturo Wolf Class of 1973

This group will be responsible for communication to the public about obituaries, and other news about our association to the Board and the newsletter.

Reunion committee/ Lead by Raul Gonzalez Class of 1968, assisted by Mike Vliieger class of 1962

This group will be responsible for the selection of our next reunion location and all the activities associated with the weekend.

Scholarship Committee / Lead by Arturo Wolf Class of 1968/ Assisted by Jose Pacheco Class of 1969, Butch Daughtry class of 1958, Raul Gonzales Class of 1968 Mike Vliieger Class of 1962

This group will be responsible for the investment of the funds received for the creation of scholarships

Membership and Search Committee / Lead by Bruce Williams Class of 1968 and assisted by Alan Hatley Class of 1973, and Pete Barbeck Class of 1973

This group will be responsible for searching for alumni that are not in our directory and encourage them to not only to join our group but also to attend our next reunion. If you know of the whereabouts of any fellow Cadets please let this group know so we can contact them.

Treasury Report / Marty Cavanaugh Class of 1968

Marty will be responsible for the associations Financial

Reporting.

Secretary / Butch Daughtry Class of 1958

Butch will be responsible for keeping the board minutes for the association, and other duties pertinent to the Secretary position.

Facilities / Mike Vliieger Class of 1962 and assisted by Butch Daughtry Class of 1958.

This group will be the liaison with the Salvation Army in order to maintain the Peacock House and all the memorabilia.

Alumni Administration / Frank Torres Class of 1963

This group will be responsible for maintaining letters to the association with respect to Genealogy request and communicating with our Web Master for periodic updates.

If you would like to assist on any of these committees feel free to contact Jose Pacheco 214 693 0330 or Arturo Wolf at 817 312 3674. We need and want everyone's input and assistance in order to make our organization continue to thrive.

Please mark your calendars for the first weekend in October 2016 for our next Reunion. We are making plans to bring together as many Cadets from all the classes for an event we all can remember. We love to have all the spouses in attendance and we will have plenty of free time for to visit with each other and time to explore the city.

PLEASE CONSIDER COMING!

Thank you for your continued support and prayers!

Jose Pacheco Class of 1969



TAPS

Johnnie Chuoke Jr. '49
Edward (Ed) Sebera '49
James Laland McCormick '50
James Womack '50
Leslie Reagan '56
L.B. Johnson '56
Gene Hughes '60
James (Jim) Norman '60
David Hale '62



PMA Web Address:
www.pmaalumni.org

PMA Facebook Page:
Peacock Military Academy Alumni

Wesley Peacock House Facebook Page:
W Peacock House

Peacock Swords

If you wish to order a Peacock Sword with your name and class etched on it, contact Mr. Kevin Harrington at Marlow White - 1-800-255-6136. Swords are made in Germany by WKC. They are the sword suppliers to West Point. Price is \$355 each + \$25 for etching your name. You may also contact Arthur Wolf '73 at awolf@fscfoods.com or Butch Good '67 at rogjan73@gmail.com



MOVING???

If you are moving, please let the Alumni Association have your new information: address, telephone numbers, etc.

awolf@fscfoods.com

(817) 581-7715

REMINDER!

Board of Directors will meet on
Saturday, October 3, 2015
The Wesley Peacock House



2015 Dues

The Alumni Association is collecting dues for 2015 and a Dues Form is included with this Newsletter. The Dues Form may also be used to make a contribution to the Scholarship Fund. If you have already paid your dues, please disregard the reminder!

THANKS!



Peacock Military Academy Memorial Scholarship Fund

Our scholarship fund continues to grow thanks to your generosity. You may send your contribution along with your annual dues.

PMA Memorial Scholarship Honor Roll*

Ed Sebera '49
Arthur F. Wolf '51

Johan Heidenreich '50
L.B. Johnson '56



*Contributions made to scholarship fund in the name of a deceased cadet earns them a place in the Honor Roll.



1934 Peacock Senior Ring

March 10th of this year, a lady named Judi Seiders of Temecula, California posted on our Peacock Military Academy Forum on Facebook. She was asking for help with information about Peacock. It so happened that she had come across a very old Peacock senior ring. I sent her my phone number and asked her to please call me. She did call and we had a good discussion. I told her all about our school's history. She told me that she bought, sold and collected antique jewelry. Ms. Seiders bought a jar of trinkets at a yard sale for \$5.00 and found a 1934 Peacock senior ring in the contents. I told her about the Wesley Peacock House where we display our memorabilia. I also told her that we would love to have the ring. She agreed that we should have it, and if the owner could not be found, it should be put on display with our other memorabilia. I provided her with my mailing address, and she sent me the ring.

Our Peacock directory lists 16 kadets in the class of 1934, and three show deceased. One kadet has contact information but cannot be reached. The remaining 12 kadets have no contact information.

The ring was so old that it could not be determined who had owned it. At our April Board meeting, the ring was placed in a glass display case at the Wesley Peacock House for all visitors to view and enjoy.

Judi Seiders was so generous to donate the ring. I told her to contact me if she was ever in the San Antonio area, and arrangements would be made for her to see our memorabilia and the ring she so graciously donated.

If any of you are on Facebook, search Judi Seiders of Temecula, California and thank her.

Ronald Bruce Williams

Williams, B. "68"

Note: Arthur Wolf '73, PMA Alumni CEO, sent a letter of appreciation to Ms. Judi Seiders on behalf of the Peacock Alumni Association.



2015 Peacock Medal Recipients

Marine Military Academy
- Cadet Dryden Phelps,
Presented by Earl Adams '62

Texas Military Institute - Cadet 1st Sgt. Ashley Kim, Presented by Rudy Johnson '53

San Marcos Academy - Cadet 1st Sgt. Jerry Sainah, Presented by David Lewis '70

San Antonio Academy - Cadet 1st Sgt. William Lawrence Conn, Presented by Raul Gonzales '68



Col. Raul Gonzalez '68 presenting medal at San Marcos in 2014

WESLEY PEACOCK HOUSE FACELIFT AND FACEBOOK

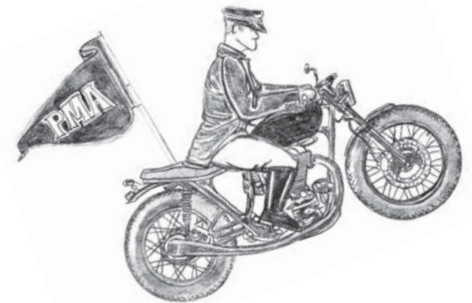
This spring, with the great help of Mr. Juan Reyes, Salvation Army Business Manager, the Wesley Peacock House received a beautiful facelift!

A volunteer group worked on our flower beds and new palm trees were planted in front. Mr. Reyes also created a Facebook Page for our much cherished historical site. Anyone wishing to visit or share pictures and information on the Wesley Peacock House should go to W Peacock House (on Facebook).

The Peacock Military Academy Alumni Association is very grateful to Mr. Reyes and all the volunteers who donated their hard work on this project.



PEACOCK CAVALRY RIDES AGAIN!



Motorcycle enthusiasts interested in riding with fellow Peacock Brothers. As of now Bruce Williams class 68, Jose Pacheco class 69, Ed Valdes class 69, and myself class 68 ride together. We have been riding together for about five years. We have two yearly rides to the Hill Country, March and November. Other rides as they present themselves. This Sep-



Picture with Bruce and Jill Williams (left) and Jose Pacheco (right)

tember we will be attending the Golden Aspen Rally in Ruidoso, New Mexico. If anyone is interested in joining us to the New Mexico rally please let us know. If you ride and are interested in riding with us (all makes of bikes welcomed) contact: Raul Gonzalez @ 956-206-7168 or raulgonzalez48@hotmail.com.



Picture of Left to Right: Raul Gonzalez '68, Bruce Williams '68, Jose Pacheco '69

Mike's Memories



Ready at all times: Cadets Crawshaw, Alpert, Kneisley, and Bishop set to fire.

105 Howitzer

The 105 Howitzer was developed just in time to see service in WW II. It was the standard artillery piece of every infantry division. The design allowed the Howitzer to be towed behind the 2 ½ ton truck. Thousands of 105 Howitzers were made and one found its way to the Peacock Academy lawn.

Apparently you needed a sponsor to acquire an artillery piece for a static display. A few years ago, I ran across a letter from the VFW Post 1533 in San Antonio. The VFW made the arrangement to have the 105 Howitzer placed on display at Peacock Military Academy. To my surprise, the letter was signed by my uncle - Russell Duryea - a WW I veteran and a member of Post 1533.

The Peacock Howitzer has survived and is on display at the San Antonio Academy East Lawn.

Conversations with Conrad Banspach PMA CLASS OF '37

Conrad Banspach is a Peacock Cadet who lives in St. Petersburg Florida. Conrad's accent denounces his Texan roots, and as he says, he is proof that "you can take the Texan out of Texas, but you cannot take Texas out of a Texan.

We start our conversation with "May I please speak to Mr. Conrad Banspach?" "This is he, who is calling?" I then respond with: "This is Arthur Wolf from Peacock Military Academy Alum..." which is quickly interrupted by a hilarious and witty: "What the heck did I do now?" from Conrad.

What follows is an hour long conversation that will always register in my heart and that proves to me once again how deep our Peacock bonds are. It doesn't matter what class we belong to, there is something deeply mystic about our school that transcends generations.

Conrad grew up in San Antonio, first attending Alamo Heights High School. I asked him how he ended up at Peacock and he hesitated for a moment. He then said that he would tell me as long as I did not share his secret. I told him I would only share it with other Peacock Cadets. So his secret will be safe. Conrad admitted that while at Alamo Heights, he had a disagreement with another student that ended being resolved in a manner involving fists. After that incident, his family decided that some of his "rough edges" needed some smoothing out. And that is how he came to Peacock. He graduated in 1937 and then attended St. Mary's University graduating with a degree in Physics and a minor in Math in 1941.

Conrad loves flying. He started flying at age 17. In 1941 the US had not entered the war, so he decided to go up to Canada and joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. Later that year "Roosevelt repatriated us all, because he had intentions of entering the war". "I was back in the U.S. at Scott's Field in St. Louis when Pearl Harbor was attacked". Conrad then went into action with the US Air Corps as it was known then.

During the war he flew all types of planes. "I got the jobs others did not want". He flew P-38 reconnaissance flights over China. He flew B-17, B-24, B-25's, etc. Basically, because of his abilities he got the opportunity to fly and gain experience that most others did not, since most individuals only flew one type of airplane. He was then fortunate to become a flight instructor and was also sent for radar training at MIT. Conrad was an APQ13 Radar Navigator instructor, "Isn't it amazing I can remember so much?", he says. Conrad trained the crews that flew the B-29's (Enola Gay and Bockscar) over Hiroshima and Nagasaki on radar operation and navigation.

After the war, Conrad who was a Communications Officer and Instructor, stayed in the military until 1948 when he started a construction enterprise. He was working in remodeling projects at Fort Sam Houston and Kelly Field when Korea broke out. Once again, he joined the military but his Quartermaster, as he had pledged on doing, had him stopped and sent back to San Antonio to complete his construction projects on the bases. Conrad later also flew commercial aircraft, including the first commercial jets.

Conrad Banspach was happily married to Beverly Anne, the love of his life, for 60 years. They had two wonderful boys together. Conrad and Beverly moved to Florida where his construction business flourished. Beverly Anne passed away 3 years ago. Conrad lives in St. Petersburg. He is still very active with his business, Conrad Construction Consulting Company, and other activities.

Conrad Banspach, PMA Class of 1937 is a true example of The Great Generation and an inspiration to many. I must say that I have not personally met Conrad, but when I speak to him (twice in the past two months), I feel a bond that is difficult to explain. I enjoy listening to him and I hang on every word. He talks about how Peacock influenced him and helped him be successful in the military. He felt he had "a certain advantage that made him go far". It is an honor to be linked to such a man through our mutual Peacock heritage. We will keep in touch.

Arthur Wolf '73