



# Kadet Newsletter

## Peacock Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

Arthur V. Wolf, '73, Editor  
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Winter 2016-2017

Dear Peacock Brothers,

Hope that you all have had a wonderful Holiday Season and may the year 2017 be filled with blessings for you and your families. We had a great 2016 Peacock Reunion this past October. It was the most attended probably since the Centennial Reunion in 1994. We had about 190 Kadets and guests who attended on one day or another during the reunion. The number of Kadets who attended more than doubled that of 2014. There were a lot of "new" faces that we had not seen before at a Peacock Reunion, which made it a most successful and enjoyable event. Kadets attending ranged from the Class of '46, celebrating its 70th anniversary, to the Class of '73. As always we were honored with attendees from out of state and from out of the country.

The activities and ceremonies at the Reunion were enjoyed by all. A very special treat was the ceremony arranged by the Class of '66 who was celebrating their 50th Anniversary. We thank Brother Lynn Powell '66 for the work he put into such an organized drill which was also enhanced by the presence of the TMI Color Guard.

Another touching ceremony took place on the Peacock Campus on Sunday the 9th. About 100 Kadets lined up around the Senior Terrace while the names of our departed brothers were read out loud. A rider-less horse led by a young man in a Peacock

uniform marched on to the Terrace. There was also a Peacock uniformed young guard posted by the monument with a bayonet fixed Springfield rifle. And who can forget Caleb Griffin, Heidi Griffin's son smartly wearing a 1940's Peacock Dress Uniform. He looked impeccable in Eisenhower style dress jacket. Their presence enhanced the Taps ceremony greatly.

A very special thank you from the Association goes to Ms. Donna Peacock, who honored us with her presence and words at one of the dinners. She was also very emotive on Sunday at the campus during the Taps Ceremony. She stated that it was a very moving event and that she wished that the press would have been present to cover it. That was a great compliment to all involved in the organization of the Reunion. Donna may be glad to know that thanks to Jeff Riggs '67 the event was mentioned in the Athens Review.

As for the Association business, we had a good Board Meeting and a very well attended General Assembly Meeting. The Association commended the work of all the committees, especially the Search Membership committee with Allen Hatley '73 heading a big effort in finding 69 Kadets. The Scholarship committee gave their report as well as our Treasurer. The Association is in financially good shape and the Peacock Memorial Scholarship Fund continues to grow. Bob Birkenmeier '67 also

reported on progress of our Peacock website (www.pmaalumni.org) and Mike Vlieger '62 and Butch Daughtry '58 reported on the maintenance and condition of our beloved Peacock House.

A new Board of Directors was elected. We welcome new Board Members Dr. Phil Dunlap '57, Steve Copenhaver '66, Richard Miner '58, Bob Birkenmeier '67, William Tandy Walker '73, Mel Muzkiz '73 and Jeff Riggs '67.

We also welcome new Search Committee volunteers Tandy Walker '73 and Bill Brockman, new Scholarship Committee volunteer Rudy Johnson '53, Reunion Committee volunteer Jeff Riggs '67, and Treasury advisor Thomas Cole. The work of the various committees these past years have yielded increased participation and attendance to our Reunion. I want to extend my thanks and appreciation for all the work done by all.

I personally wish to thank members of the Association for electing me as your President for another two year term. I will continue to do the best that we can to perpetuate the legacy of our Peacock Military Academy Alumni Association. Have a great 2017!!!

Sincerely,  
Jose Pacheco '69  
President PMA Alumni Association



### NEW PMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### OFFICERS

President Jose Antonio Pacheco '69  
1st Vice President Raul Gonzalez '68  
2nd Vice President Robert Ogden (Butch) Good II '67  
3rd Vice President Peter Barbeck '73  
Secretary Henry Allen (Butch) Daughtry '58  
Treasurer Martin James Cavanaugh Jr. '67  
Chief Exe. Officer Arturo V. Wolf '73

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Earl B. Adams '62  
Lloyd J. (Buddy) Bell '52  
Robert Carl Birkenmeier '67  
Steven C. Copenhaver '66  
Philip Ira Crawshaw '63  
Dr. Philip Glenn Dunlap '57  
Edwin R. Ford '62  
Ralph Travis Harvey '62  
Rudolph M. (Rudy) Johnson '53  
James Barrett (Jim) Kenney '59

#### ALTERNATES

David Foye Lewis '70  
Robert D. Meuth '72  
Richard Miner '58  
Melchor E. Muzkiz '73  
Frank Reyna Torres '63  
Michael Vlieger '62  
William Tandy Walker '73  
Ronald Bruce Williams '68  
James Neil (Jim) Zachary '64  
Gary Allen Blum '62  
William D. (Bill) Morse Jr. '58  
Arnold Alfred Reyes '63  
William Jeff Riggs '67

# TAPS



Delphi C. Powell '34  
 Theo Leroy (Roy) Brown '40  
 Carl Garner Stearns Jr. '40  
 Joe Valdespino '41  
 William S. Chisholm '42  
 Ben E. Sutton '42  
 Jose Vazquez Castillo '44  
 Richard Hoefs '46  
 Wayne Simpson '47  
 Theodore Cole Van Delden '47  
 Allen Eugene Hoskins '48  
 Sheldon Anisman '51  
 Patrick E. Sullivan '52

Edwin R. Kollman '63  
 William Mason Duncan III '64  
 David Noser '65  
 Scott Hugh Chisholm '66  
 Richard Harry Moore '67  
 Edmund Valdes '69  
 Graham Hoefs '70  
 James E. Rice '70  
 Chang Sun Mun '72  
 Edward Xaudaro '72  
 William Romaine Wood III (Trip) '73

**2017 Dues**

The Alumni Association is collecting dues for 2017 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!

**PMA Web Address:**  
[www.pmaalumni.org](http://www.pmaalumni.org)

**PMA Facebook Page:**  
**Peacock Military Academy Alumni**

**Wesley Peacock House Facebook Page:**  
**W Peacock House**



**Welcome New Life Members!!!**

Raymond Thomas (Tom) Mc Nutt '62  
 Thomas Wayne Porter '64  
 George Arthur Veloz '66  
 William Mason Dunn Jr. '68  
 David Foye Lewis '70

**MOVING???**

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

[awolf@pmaalumni.org](mailto:awolf@pmaalumni.org)  
 (817) 581-7715

## Peacock Military Academy Memorial Scholarship Fund



**Created to perpetuate the Peacock Legacy**

All contributions are matched by a generous anonymous donor. You may send your donation along with your annual dues.

### PMA Memorial Scholarship Honor Roll\*

Ed Sebera '49                      Terry L. Royall '57  
 Johan Heidenreich '50        Bernie L. Young '57  
 Arthur F. Wolf '51                David S. Hale '62  
 L.B. Johnson '56

### NEW MEMBERS

Ben E. Sutton '42                      Edmund Valdes '69  
 Kenneth Earl Porter '63

\*Contributions made to the Scholarship Fund in the name of a deceased cadet earns them a place in the Honor Roll

**REMINDER!**  
 Board of Directors will meet on Saturday, April 1, 2017  
 The Wesley Peacock House



## REUNION 2016 VIDEO!!!

DVD's are available if you want a copy!  
 Email Mike Vlieger '62 at: [mikevlieger@gvtc.com](mailto:mikevlieger@gvtc.com)

FOR OTHER PEACOCK MERCHANDISE  
 EMAIL ARTURO WOLF '73 AT :  
[awolf@pmaalumni.org](mailto:awolf@pmaalumni.org)

Please add \$5.00 for shipping and handling  
 FREE SHIPPING & HANDLING FOR ORDERS OF \$40 OR HIGHER

Caps (Green or Khaki)	\$10.00
T-Shirts	\$10.00
Polo Shirts	\$25.00
Totes	\$15.00
Pennants	\$8.00
Decals	\$3.00
Koozies	\$2.00
Coffee Mugs	\$5.00
Aprons	\$10.00
Peacock Patches	\$3.50
Lapel Pins	\$7.00

# What Follows after a Half-Century?

By Jeff Riggs PMA Class of 1967 [jriggs@athensreview.com](mailto:jriggs@athensreview.com)  
(Article published in the Athens Review)

After a half century, most things are gone and forgotten.

That is just not the situation when I think of the times I have remembered my fellow PMA Kadets, and that was not nearly the case at the recent Peacock Military Academy Reunion in San Antonio. It was a major triumph in bringing back together people who were and are today the closest of friends.

I just find it difficult to believe that Arturo Wolf and his team of organizers could possibly pull this off, and to do it with such expertise. They took action to bring people in from all over the U.S., perhaps the world, to enjoy what I think was just about one of the happiest events of my entire life.

I was not one of the graduates who were celebrating their 50-year reunion. Since mine was 49 years, I was simply reminiscing over those from 50 years, and yes, from many other years. I came to PMA for my junior year and senior year. During my junior year, as I remember it, John Kenneth Scoggins and Robert Lynn Powell were among the top-ranking officers. I'm sure I am not mentioning everyone that fits the description of high ranking officer at the time. Please forgive me for neglecting anything in my memory pool during this half century. The people from the Class of 1966 were and are among my closest friends.

From my own Class of 1967, one that I will never forget (not before the day I die, or afterwards) is Vernon Nelson. During our junior year, he and I, like many of the other kadets, went to lunch or maybe to a movie in town during some of the weekends.

In my senior year, Vernon continued to live on campus, and I was a day student. I made the change because my father was transferred to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, and both my parents moved from Waco to that city.

As a day student, it was when I experienced my first and only punishment tour. Why? Well, I did the unthinkable. I let Vernon borrow civilian clothes from my home in SA on a weekend, so that we could have some time off from the military environment. I believe that one of the Kadet officers saw Vernon in town in civilian clothes, and reported it to the Peacock administration. As a result, I received one tour, and I believe Vernon received several. Back then, we understood why our actions resulted in those consequences, but neither of us were happy campers. Today, we look back, and almost lose our breath laughing.

At the October reunion, I recognized Vernon in a group of people. I just walked up to him and pointed at my name tag. I was smiling as he looked at the nametag, and he began smiling. The memories started floating in.

Another person I remembered well was Robert Birkenmeier. We were roommates for a while in Phelps Hall, and I learned a lot from him about how to mature. He seemed very discipline-oriented for his age, certainly more mature than I was. He was from Mexico City, as were some of our other kadets. At the reunion, he was "impressed" that I actually remembered his birthplace. I told him it was in Madison, Wisconsin, and he just couldn't believe I remembered that. Well, admiration for a person's character brings memories of some unrelated details.

I was so happy to see Steven Copenhaver. The last time I saw him was at the University of Houston where we were both students. We did not see each other again until the reunion.

There was also Martin Cavanaugh, Jr. I remember once hearing that he had gone to Vietnam as a sniper. It turns out that he was in Vietnam, but as a security officer, and not a sniper. Thanks so much for your service, and the service of all our armed forces personnel, whether they were former kadets or not.

There was also Robert Good, who I ran into at a government office in San Antonio after we had graduated. We were there to take a physical for military service after we were both drafted. He passed, but I didn't because of prob-

lems with my back. He told me during the reunion period that he didn't join the service either.

I was rather disappointed that some of the kadets I knew well from the early years were not at the reunion. One of them is Martin Freeman from my class in 1967. I saw this former Phelps Hall roommate of mine one other time the next year after we graduated from PMA. It was in Houston, where I met him and his girlfriend at the time, and we ate dinner together.

I was so saddened to hear of people who had passed away. I remember well Michael Don Joy and Gregory Wulfe Kuehler from my own class. One that I remember well, because it was someone that died soon after we graduated, was Jerry Walker. He and I were close friends as day students. On a day after graduation, I learned that he lost his life in the line of duty as a Texas State Trooper. I always remember that his dream in life was to be in law enforcement. I can only say that at least, he accomplished his dream. I just wish his death had not occurred so early in life.

At the reunion, it was so fantastic to be a part of the line of former kadets honoring those who had died. This was very appropriate, and such an honor for all the kadets. It was such a refreshing activity to once again salute together at the same moment on the Senior Terrace, as we did so many times years ago, and also to shake the hands of all former kadets in attendance at the memorial. The rider-less horse brought to the site pulled by a young man dressed as a Peacock Kadet was a wonderful accompaniment to the event, as was another young man also dressed as a Kadet guarding the Senior Terrace monument holding a bayonet fixed 03 Springfield rifle. It was so remarkable.

And then there was the young boy, Caleb who was wearing the former Peacock dress uniform from the 1940's. Everytime he passed me, walking or running, I had to stop what I was doing, and watch as if it were one of us kadets. It was like living in the past.

As for Donna Peacock, the daughter of Col. Donald Peacock, it was a great honor to meet the child of one of the absolutely greatest men I ever knew. It was so wonderful that she attended the event for Peacock Military Academy, and fully participated in each meeting of the kadets.

My wife, Jean, also enjoyed her own time at the reunion. She talked at length with Rob Bertoia, who was sitting at our table at one of the events. She had great positive conversations with many more. You probably know how great it is to have your wife get along well with your classmates. It was such a blessing. I'm just going to have a lot of problems waiting for the next reunion. But I must. Hopefully, I will be able to communicate with some of the kadets from any year of graduation. We all have something in common – something that other people cannot possibly have in common with us – unless they attended Peacock Military Academy.

Thanks again to Arturo Wolf, and all who worked diligently to make this wonderful event a reality. And, praise be to God. I just can't wait until the next reunion, when next time, it will happen beyond the half century since graduation. Please attend. You won't be sorry. You will be like me – ecstatic! Nothing will be gone, and nothing will be forgotten!

By Jeff Riggs

Peacock Class of 1967

Jeff writes for the Athens Review. Athens, Texas.

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# Peacock Reunion October 2016



Caleb Griffin, son of Heidi and Troy Griffin wearing a 1940's Peacock dress uniform.



Jose Pacheco '69 and Raul Gonzalez '68 in front of Senior Terrace Monument. Arthur Wolf III guarding monument.



Robert Good '67, Jill Williams and Bruce Williams '68.



Donna Peacock being honored as First Lady of the Peacock Military Academy Alumni Association..



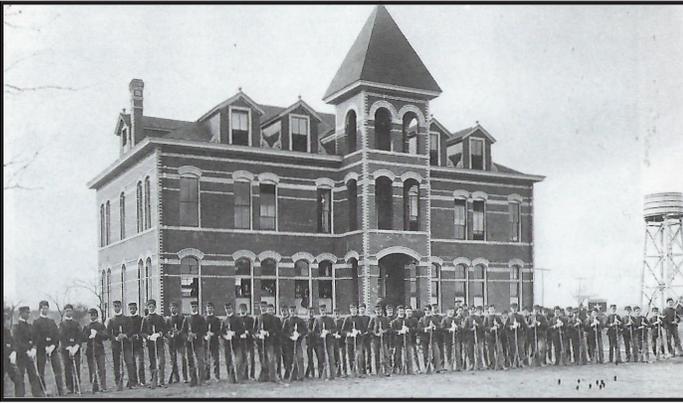
William Tandy Walker '73 conducting final inspection of ceremonial horse and "Kadet" Edward Wolf.



Tina Torres, wife of Frank Torres '63, showing ribbon with name of her uncle Olegario Losoya '32. Her cousins Olegario Jr. '60 and Jose Pablo Losoya '63, also attended Peacock. They were all present to honor their Father and Uncle.



Rick Grunwald '72 trying to squeeze into his uniform.



The Main Brick (later renamed Johnston Hall), c 1903 Cadets posing with bolt action Krag-Jorgensen rifles. Cadet quarters on 2nd and 3rd floors, classrooms on 1st floor. Steeple was removed in 1925. The 3rd floor was converted into rifle range in 1928.



## The Krag-Jorgensen Rifle

By Donald Peacock

(This is one of the last writings by Col. Donald in 2001)

Col Donald Peacock was an avid military historian. This is an excerpt of some of his last writings on the year that he passed. See note with Col. Donald's writing.

KRAG-JORGENSEN

IN 1890 THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HELD A COMPETITION TO FIND A SUITABLE SMALL BORE MAGAZINE RIFLE. MORE THAN FIFTY GUNS WERE CONSIDERED AND IN 1892 THE DANISH BOLT ACTION KRAG WAS ADOPTED.

— IT HAD AN INTERNAL PAN ACTION MAGAZINE THAT HELD FIVE ROUNDS, AND A CLEANING ROD WAS CARRIED IN THE STOCK.

— THE FIRST KRAGS WERE ASSEMBLED IN THE SPRINGFIELD ARSENAL, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

— IN THE PEACOCK HOUSE ROUND TABLE ROOM THERE IS A LARGE FRAMED PICTURE OF JOHNSTON HALL ABOUT 1904-06, WITH A LARGE GROUP OF CADETS ARMED WITH THE KRAG-JORGENSEN RIFLES.

— AT THAT TIME JOHNSTON WAS A RED BRICK BUILDING TRIMMED WITH WHITE BRICK AND HAD A STEEPLE. ~~IN~~ LATER YEARS THE STEEPLE WAS REMOVED BECAUSE IT HAD BECOME A BAT ROOST, ~~AND~~ <sup>THE BUILDING</sup> WAS PAINTED WHITE.

THEM IS A

Steeple

Roost

ROOST

In 1890 the U.S. Government held a competition to find a suitable small bore magazine rifle. More than fifty guns were considered and in 1892 the Danish bolt action Krag was adopted.

- It had an internal pan action magazine that held five rounds, and a cleaning rod was carried in the stock.
- The first Krags were assembled in the Springfield Arsenal, Springfield, Mass.
- In the Peacock House round table room there is a large framed picture of Johnston Hall from about 1904-06, with a large group of cadets armed with the Krag-Jorgensen rifle.
- At the time Johnston Hall was a red brick building trimmed with white brick and had a steeple. In later years the steeple was removed because it had become a bat roost, and the building was painted white.



## COACH CORTEZ INDUCTED INTO THE SAN ANTONIO SPORTS HALL OF FAME



Coach Joe Cortez (right)

Commemorative brick honoring his work at Peacock placed in Hall of Fame Plaza

Coach Joe Cortez was inducted into the San Antonio Sports Hall of Fame in a ceremony at the Alamodome that took place in 2013.

Thanks to a donation by Kadet Mike Vlieger '62 on behalf of the Peacock Military Academy Alumni Association, a brick with the following inscription was placed at the Alamodome:

**Coach Joe Cortez**  
**Peacock Military Academy**  
**1956-1960**

Congratulations to Coach Cortez and thank you for your contribution to Peacock. You have been an important factor in many men's lives. We salute you.

# Peacock in the Movies

## Fall of the Alamo 1911

### The Immortal Alamo

Also known as [Fall of the Alamo]

(1911) American

B&W : One reel

Directed by William F. Haddock (William Haddock)

Cast: William Carroll [Lieutenant Dickenson], Edith Storey [Lucy Dickenson], William Clifford [Colonel Travis], Francis Ford [Navarre], Gaston Méliès [padre], Donald Peacock [young boy], Anna Nichols, [?] Henry Stanley?, cadets of the Peacock Military Academy

Méliès Star Films [American] production. / Produced by Gaston Méliès. Scenario by Wilbert Melville. Scenic artist, Horace Young. Production assistance by Archie Stuart. Cinematography by William Paley. / Released 25 May 1911. / Standard 35mm spherical 1.37:1 format. / The production was shot on-location near San Antonio, Texas. The production utilized cadets of the Peacock Military Academy as Mexican soldier extras. [?] Thompson-Lost p. 3 notes that the following stock Méliès performers from 1911 may have been in the film: Mildred Brachen, Bert Brachen, Sam Weil, Joseph Karle, Richard Stanton, Fannie Midgely and Evelyn Selbie.

Drama: Western.

Survival status: The film is presumed lost.

Current rights holder: Public domain.



Scene from "Fall of the Alamo" filmed in 1910. A young Donald Peacock played the part of the Dickenson's "young boy". He is sitting on a woman's lap. His "parents" (The Dickensons) played by William Carroll and Edith Storey are on the right.



Peacock cadets as Mexican soldiers in the movie "The Fall of the Alamo", released in 1911.

Some of you may not know that Peacock Military Academy participated in the first film ever made about the historical 1836 Battle of the Alamo. A very young Donald W. Peacock starred in the film as the "Young Boy" of the Dickenson couple. He was listed in the films credits by the names of famous actors of the time. His "parents" were Lieutenant Dickenson and Lucy Dickenson, played by William Carroll and Edith Storey, prominent actors of the early silent movie era. Edith Storey (Col. Donald's "mom") was in many early silent western films. She was a good horseback rider performing her own stunts. She has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

The film "The Fall of the Alamo" was produced by Gaston Melies and is also known as "The Immortal Alamo". The movie was directed by William Haddock. One hundred cadets from Peacock Military Academy were cast as Mexican soldiers including a 14 year old Wesley Peacock Jr.

The filming started in January 1910 and took place on location in San Antonio. The movie was released May 25th, 1911.

On a separate note we must mention that Peacock Military Academy of the early 20th century also contributed with two famous movie directors, producers and writers: King Vidor '09 and Edward Sedgwick '08. They were partners in several productions. In 1915 Sedgwick filmed some comedy shorts at Peacock on what later became the Senior Terrace. Col. Donald Peacock was by then an 8 year old boy and he acted in one of them. He was supposed to cry in one scene when slapped by Sedgwick. He recalls: "I was slapped so hard that I actually cried".