

Kadet Newsletter

Peacock Military Academy
Alumni Association

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Address of Record: 2811 West Ashby Place, San Antonio, Texas 78201

MICHAEL A. VIEGGER '62, CEO

FEBRUARY, 1989

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BEAT THE DRUM!



BY WAYNE SPIVEY '51
President

I continue to be frustrated by the lack of support on the part of over 500 members who have been receiving the Newsletter, and in some instances attending Reunions, without ever paying the Association dues.

The Association cannot continue to be successful without your support. If you are in this category I urge you to send your dues today and thereby keep your name on the mailing list for future issues of the Newsletter.

Please make a concentrated effort to attend our next Reunion in San Antonio the weekend of August 4-6. We need your attendance and participation. There are several items of importance to be voted on and many items of interest planned for you and your spouse.

I ask each of you to contact your classmates now to be sure they pay their dues and plan to attend the Reunion in August. This is your opportunity to renew friendships and make many new friends. See you in August.

Wayne Spivey, '51

MEMORIAM TO AGGIE PATE, '38

The Association has lost one of its most dynamic and devoted members in the death of A. M. "Aggie" Pate, Jr. '38, October 6, 1988. For many years, both before and after the closing of PMA, Aggie and his brother Sebert '45, have been most generous in their financial support. The "Pate Challenge" to the Association offered up to \$5,000.00 in matching funds for donations to "PAR", the Trust Fund established by the Peacock family to help maintain and support the Academy student records, archives and memorabilia in the historic Wesley Peacock House, the home of the Alumni Association.

BILL HUDNELL ELECTED

W. T. "Bill" Hudnell, Jr. '65, has been elected Chairman of the Advisory Council of "Peacock Village", the Salvation Army's Home for Girls---one of the many programs conducted by the "Army" at Peacock Center, the old PMA campus. Three Peacock graduates are members of the Salvation Army Advisory Board: Joe Centeno, III '71, Bill Hudnell '65, and Ken Scoggins '66.

TMI MOVING TO NEW CAMPUS

Texas Military Institute, which narrowly escaped financial collapse last year, will open its new campus on March 15. Several months of intense negotiations led to the debt restructuring agreement.

The new campus is on Tejas Trail off Camp Bullis Road on IH-10.

DIRECTORS MEETING

The Alumni Board of Directors met in the Wesley Peacock House at San Antonio on January 21, 1989, with the following present: Steve Copenhaver, Doug Ham, Bill Hudnell, Rudy Johnson, Leon Lenox, Bill Morse, Lynn Powell, Robert Ransom, Wayne Spivey, Ben Sutton, Jack Turner, Frank VanDelden, Mike Vlieger and John Viles (Director Emeritus). Colonel Donald Peacock attended as representative of the Peacock family. Wayne Spivey, President, presided. Highlights of the meeting follow:

Mrs. Elaine Austin, Curator of the historic Wesley Peacock House and liaison for the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary, briefed the board on the redecorating work in the house since our last Director's meeting in June of 1988. She also discussed her plans for future projects, stating that it was essential that a security system be installed at an estimated cost of about \$2,000.00, and that the Salvation Army agreed to pay \$1,000.00 toward the installation.

Mrs. Austin also stated that for insurance purposes she was making an inventory of all artifacts and memorabilia in the house. She also expressed her desire to obtain a diorama of the grounds and buildings of the campus when the school was still in existence for display.

By unanimous vote of the Board, the Executive Committee was authorized to contribute up to one-third of the cost of a security system, not to exceed \$500.00.

Doug Ham and Frank VanDelden displayed an architect's drawing for a proposed Alumni building at a cost estimated at \$275,000.00. Doug Ham expressed his desire to seek approval of the membership (at the next Reunion) for construction of a new alumni building.

Lynn Powell resigned as Secretary of the Alumni Association, but will continue as a member of the Board of Directors. President Wayne Spivey announced he was appointing Jerry Sears of Houston '56 to complete Lynn's term of office, which will end during the next Reunion in August.

Treasurer Bill Hudnell distributed copies of the financial report as of January 17, 1989, showing a credit balance of \$5,644.62, plus \$1,000.00 in the Scholarship Fund.

REUNION 1989 was scheduled for the weekend of August 4-6. Doug Ham and Frank VanDelden were appointed Co-Chairmen of the 1989 Reunion Committee.

WESLEY PEACOCK HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

During the past year the interior of the Wesley Peacock House, built in 1890, has been completely refurbished by Co-Curators Elaine Austin and Katie Reed, and members of the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary, the official Custodians of the 99-year old house.

The project included removing all the old venetian blinds, repainting all the beautiful old woodwork, some new carpeting, all new drapes, reminiscent of the Victorian age, and rearrangement of the furniture, pictures and memorabilia of the Academy.

The Peacock family contributed \$1,000.00 to the project, the President of the Auxiliary gave \$500.00, and individual members of the Auxiliary raised a little over \$2,000.00. The Salvation Army's contribution in labor and material was about \$1,000.00. In addition to the above the Alumni Association contributed a total of \$450.00, including carpeting and painting of the Alumni office room.

The Reunion Program will include a visit to the house on the grounds at the Peacock Center.

Peacock Military Academy

"The West Point of Texas"

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78201

25 January 1989

Dear Former Peacock Cadet,

Fifteen years ago, on May 26, 1973, Peacock Military Academy held its final commencement after 79 years of operation, and, shortly afterwards, I sent a letter similar to this one to a random sampling of former cadets and associates of the school. My purpose then and now is essentially the same: to gather memories; to encourage you to share the kind of special details of your PMA days which can help me to finish the book I've been writing--Parade Rest.

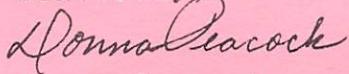
Other activities and projects have interfered with my completing the book until now, but the manuscript of Volume I of the Academy's history and personalities from 1894-1941 (with photographs) is finished. Volume II, 1941-1973, has been researched; however, I need more material, and those of you who attended the school during its last 32 years are my best sources.

I hope you will find the time to respond on the enclosed questionnaire or in letter form (or a simple list). Reminisce about those incidents, places, people, and emotions which--even if you shrugged off as insignificant at the time--you've never forgotten: the time you sneaked off-campus for a late-night snack; a wonderful or miserable blind date for a dance; your favorite or most dreaded mess hall food; forgetting your name when questioned by the federal inspection officer; dropping your sword or rifle during a dress parade; whispering on the hall pay-phone after Taps; personalities--Adolph, Rosales, Mr. and Mrs. Grace and their drug store; fellow students who made strong impressions on you (like one 1912 cadet, a "composite of Rudolph Valentino, Rhett Butler, Casanova, and Jim Thorpe"); of teachers or military instructors, perhaps like some of those recalled by students of the first 47 years: an early 1900's major whose rigid nature inspired one cadet's humorous revenge; a beloved professor who spit tobacco out the window during his lectures or another who threw erasers when irritated; both those despised and those appreciated and loved--individuals who made a difference in your lives.

Help me try to recreate a part of your life and a school which has and will continue to live in your memories.

Thank you for your assistance. Your cooperation will speed the book's completion and publication.

Sincerely



Donna Peacock

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RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRE IN THE
ENCLOSED ENVELOPE IN CARE THE
ALUMNI HEADQUARTERS. THANKS!

KADET UP-DATE
by Patrick F. Boscamp '60

Greetings from El Paso, Texas: As some of you are aware, I had a massive stroke about two years ago in San Antonio. I am now living in El Paso with my parents. It's been a long haul but with a bit-o-luck, persistance and a great deal of physical therapy, I am now able to walk with the aid of a walker.

Did you know we have a famous celebrity that attended Peacock? He is Richard Bradford '53. Richard has acted in many movies and has given superb performances in many TV shows including "Murder She Wrote" which follows "60 Minutes" on CBS Sunday evenings. He was very gracious and sent me an autographed picture with a note included. Thanks, Richard, keep up the good work and best wishes for your future.

Mike Vlieger '62 was out here recently and had dinner with my parents and me. Surely did enjoy his visit talking over old times at Peacock. Tony Nieto '60 flew in from San Antonio. It was great to see him.

Received many letters from Andy Anderson '60. He lives in McNeal, Arizona with his wife, Drenda and is involved in ranching. Also received a letter and snapshot from Rudy Johnson and his wife, Lois. He is located in Comfort, Texas, retired from the Army and a major in the Texas State Guard and is also very active in the American Legion.

Charles Bartlett '59 wrote to me. He recently moved from Burbank, California to New Haven, Connecticut. Luke Rampy '50 lives in El Paso and is the owner of Frontier Roofing Company.

Other former Kadets living in El Paso are Larry Lumpkin '63. His brother, James '59 lives in Detroit, Michigan. Also in El Paso are Richard Holcombe '50, Gary Turner '68 and Ralph Harvey '62. Ralph Sellers '43 has made me two visits and I really enjoyed them.

If I locate any other Kadets I'll keep you posted. I would like to hear from other Peacock Kadets and their activities. My address and phone is: Patrick F. Boscamp '60, 6738 Westwind Drive, El Paso, Texas 79912, (915) 584-8008.

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