



Kadet Newsletter

Peacock Military Academy

Alumni Association, Inc.

Arthur V. Wolf, '73, Editor
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Address of Record: 900 Montreux Ave., Colleyville, Texas 76034
Spring 2020 Vol. XXXIX, No. 2

Dear Peacock Brothers,

We had our Board of Directors fall meeting on the 5th of October 2019. Like always, the attendance from the board was great with 22 members present. It always gives me great pride to see the Peacock Board members because they are so supportive of our Alumni Association. The majority of the Board members come from out of town and travel great distances to attend. My hat goes off to them. With their support, the PMA Alumni Association has been able to move forward and will continue the legacy of Peacock Military Academy for years to come. My heartfelt thanks to all our members.

Facilities Committee Report: We have a brand new A/C system in the Wesley Peacock House. It was replaced last year with the Salvation Army sharing the cost. This year we are planning to paint the Peacock House; it is in dire need of painting. The cost of painting the house will be shared with the Salvation Army. We have received generous donations from the Alumni already. I ask all Kadets to please donate so we can accomplish this project. Be generous when giving. Remember this is your house. The facilities donations are used for the purpose of upkeep of the house and grounds. My thanks to Mike Vlieger and Butch Daughtry for heading this effort.

Scholarship Committee: We are very grateful

to the Scholarship Committee for awarding our first Peacock Memorial Scholarship to Kaitlin Smith. Ms. Smith will be attending our April meeting to give us an update on her studies and goals. In the next few weeks, the committee will be sending out applications for the 2020-2021 school year PMA Scholarship. Please continue to support and donate to the PMA Memorial Scholarship Fund. Two generous individuals will match dollar for dollar up to \$20,000 per year. Be generous with your donations.

2020 Reunion Committee: How time flies! We celebrated our 2018 Reunion two years ago and here we are getting ready for our 2020 Reunion. It will take place **October 2nd thru October 4th**. The **Omni Hotel & Resorts at the Colonnade** in San Antonio is the hotel where we will have our reunion. You can start making your reservations now.

Room Rates: Single rate (one person) \$139.00, Double rate (two persons) \$139.00, Triple rate (three persons) \$149.00 and Quad rate (four persons) \$159.00 plus taxes. BREAKFAST INCLUDED for each person in the room and there is FREE PARKING. You can make reservations by phone or online. REFER TO PMA REUNION when calling 1-800-THE-OMNI (1-800-843-6664). Or go online to: <https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/san-antonio/meetings/peacock-military-academy-10022020>

Deadline for reservations is: Monday September 14, 2020.

Our last reunion was a great success thanks to all our Peacock Brothers who attended. Let's make our 2020 reunion even better than the last one by contacting your classmates to remind them about the reunion and encouraging them to attend THIS ONE, not next one. Those of you who have attended know how wonderful it is to see your fellow brothers and tell stories about the good old days at PMA. See you on the first weekend of October 2020!

Special Note: On behalf of the Peacock Alumni Association I would like to thank Gerald Ragsdale '71 for the donation of a PA system, which will definitely be very handy at our functions.

The best to you and your families in 2020.
God Bless.



Raul Gonzalez
Class of 68
PMA Alumni Association

PMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President	Raul Gonzalez '68
1st Vice President	Robert Ogden (Butch) Good II '67
2nd Vice President	Steven C. Copenhaver '66
3rd Vice President	Ralph Travis Harvey '62
Secretary	Henry Allen (Butch) Daughtry '58
Treasurer	Martin James Cavanaugh '67
Chief Exe. Officer	Arturo V. Wolf '73

BOARD MEMBERS

Earl B. Adams '62
Robert D. Meuth '72
Peter Barbeck '73
Richard Miner '58
Lloyd J. (Buddy) Bell '52
Melchor Elvie Muzkiz '73
Robert Carl Birkenmeier '67
Gerald Leslie Ragsdale '71
Gary Allen Blum '62

ALTERNATES

Frank Reyna Torres '63	William Jeff Riggs '67
Edwin R. Ford '62	
Michael A. Vlieger '62	
Rudolph M. (Rudy) Johnson '53	
William Tandy Walker '73	
James Barrett (Jim) Kenney '59	
Ronald Bruce Williams '68	
David Foye Lewis '70	
James Neil (Jim) Zachary '64	

TAPS

Mrs. Amalia Garcia
(Wilson Hall mother and
wife of Captain Lino Garcia)

Mrs. Elaine Austin Palmer
(Peacock House Curator
and PMA benefactor)

Real Freeman Ransom II '58

Michael Ernest Comes '66

Arturo Rodarte '53

Charles A. (Chris) Salerno '60

Dr. Alfred Lionel Burden '51



Welcome New Life Members!!!

Paul Christensen '62
Robert Ogden "Butch" Good '67
Robert B. Bell '68

Peacock Military Academy Memorial Scholarship Fund



Created to perpetuate the Peacock Legacy

All contributions are tax deductible. You may send your donation along with your annual dues.

New Honor Roll Members

Theodore James Morris '68
Charles A. (Chris) Salerno '60

PMA Memorial Scholarship Honor Roll*

The Peacock Family	Terry L. Royal '57
Ben E. Sutton '42	Bernie L. Young '57
John F. Kiel '47	Gene G. Hughs Jr. '60
Edward Sebera '49	James C. Norman '60
Johan Heidenreich '50	David S. Hale '62
Arthur F. Wolf '51	Edwin R. Kollman '63
Joshua A. Tilton '52	Kenneth Earl Porter '63
L.B. Johnson '56	Edmund Valdes '69
William D. Morse Jr. '56	Arthur Anthony Wolf

Class of '53 Deceased:

Otho Bolton, Robert Bleuler, Richard Bradford, Jimmy Chamness, Charles Cole, Jack Gilpin, Robert Haley, Colon Loft, Leonard Millstead, Wyatt Myers, George Ochoa, Delbert Robertson, William Whitfield.

REMINDER!

Board of Directors will
meet at noon

Saturday,
April 4, 2020

The Wesley
Peacock House



2020 Dues

The Alumni Association is collecting dues for 2020 and a Dues Form is included with this Newsletter. The Dues Form may also be used to make a contribution to the Scholarship Fund.



THANKS!

Register on our PMA Website:
<http://www.pmaalumni.org>



Have Problems?

Contact Our Webmaster Bob Birkenmeier '67
at birk@pmaalumni.org

PMA Facebook Page: Wesley Peacock House
Peacock Military Facebook Page:
Academy Alumni W Peacock House

PEACOCK MERCHANDISE

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
DVDs	\$3.00
Sweatshirts	\$20.00
Parade Rest Book II	\$10.00

FOR PEACOCK MERCHANDISE
EMAIL ARTURO WOLF '73 AT:
awolf@pmaalumni.org

Please add \$5.00 for shipping and handling.

FREE SHIPPING & HANDLING
FOR ORDERS OF \$40 OR HIGHER.

The 2020 Peacock Reunion — The One You Must Attend!

When: October 2nd, 3rd and 4th

Where: The Omni Hotel & Resorts at the Colonnade in San Antonio

Reservations: 1-800-843-6664. Or you can go online to:
<https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/san-antonio/meetings/peacock-military-academy-10022020>

Room Rates: Single \$139, Double (2 persons) \$139, Triple (3 persons) \$149, and Quad (4 persons) \$159

BREAKFAST INCLUDED for each person and FREE PARKING

Hotel Reservation Deadline: Monday September 14, 2020

Come join your Peacock Brothers and remember past times. Contact your classmates and encourage them to attend. Time is precious and those who have attended before know how rewarding of an experience it is; filled with fun entertaining moments and reminiscing deliberation.

For further information call 817-581-7715 or email awolf@pmaalumni.org
(Pictures from past reunion Kadet Newsletter fall 2018)



Rudy Johnson about to lead us in prayer on Sunday by Senior Terrace.



Allen Hatley '73, Pete Barbeck '73 and Calvin Littrell "hanging out" behind Birkhead Hall.



Bob Meuth '72, Tim Zboril '71 and Chris Calvi '71 remembering the good ol' days.

KADET NEWS

Lawrence S. Angus '65 is doing well in Socorro, Texas (13 miles northwest of El Paso). He sent us a note correcting us on the spelling of his first name. He told us that the late **Pat Boscamp '62** was responsible for the mistake. They used to visit over the phone and Lawrence mentioned that he was named after someone who spelled their name with a "u". Boscamp took it upon himself to tell the Peacock Alumni Association to change the spelling. We now stand corrected. It is Lawrence with a "w".

Lester Hudson (Terry) '61 has moved to Belize. He still keeps a mailing address in Austin but he prefers to spend his time under the palm trees of that beautiful Central American country. It is 5 o'clock always now for Terry, as he sips tropical drinks overlooking the blue Caribbean.

Gerald Ragsdale '71 lives in Rosenberg, Texas. He is a member of the Peacock Board of Directors. The Peacock Alumni Association Gerald and his wife Peggy for their generous donation of a sound system equipment that will be very useful in the upcoming 2020 Peacock Reunion this October. Thank you Gerald and Peggy!!! May God Bless you.

Toy Echols '57 and his wife Donalee live in Crossroads, Texas. They sent a Christmas Greeting to the Peacock Association and this beautiful message: *Our friends are "the family" we choose to belong; our Peacock Brothers will be forever, a cherished part of that "family".* Thank you Toy for it is true.

Mike Hale '60 from Little Rock, Arkansas has retired after a distinguished 50

year career in law. He sent a message to his classmates **Tim Bemish '60**, **Mike Gallagher '60**, **Jose Gancz '60** and **Tony Nieto '60** that he is planning on attending the 2020 Reunion (their 60th anniversary) and that he hopes to see as many of their class as possible. **Jim Hale '62** and **Philip Crawshaw '63** were also included in the message.

We were very sad to learn that **Charles "Chris" Salerno '60** passed away peacefully in Roundup Montana. His sister Pattie called us from Oakland, California to inform us.

David Anderson '67 has surfaced in Youngstown, Ohio. We are happy to have "found" another brother Kadet who has joined our association. He mentioned that he misses bumming Mexican Raleigh cigarettes from **Bob Birkenmeier '67** in the Peacock smoking area. Birkenmeier informed him that he would gladly share a Raleigh, but he has since kicked the habit, and does not live in Mexico anymore.

The Association thanks **Robert "Butch" Good '67** for his recent donation of a new Peacock Military Academy embossing seal. Our corporate seal now proudly displays the Peacock emblem. Thank you Butch for your continued contributions to Peacock and all the work you do for the Association.



We Recognize Our Peacock Military Academy Alumni Association Life Members

In this Kadet Newsletter we have announced 3 new Life Members of our Association: **Paul Christensen '62, Robert "Butch" Good '67 and Robert B. Bell '68.** We thank them for their contribution and their loyalty to Peacock. Your generosity is extremely appreciated.

We would like to take the opportunity to recognize those that have become Peacock Life Members in the past, for their contributions have helped the Peacock Alumni Association continue to operate for the service of all our members. They are:



LIFE MEMBERS

Earl Burton Adams '62
Duane Henry Baker II '67
Robert B. Bell '68
Stephen L. Brownfield '62
Ernest M. (Buddy) Bruni Jr. '52
Paul M. Calvo '54
Monte Albert Cauble '7
Martin James Cavanaugh Jr. '67
Paul A. Christensen '62
James Edward (Ed) Claiborne Jr. '65
Gordon Cooper '73
Robert E. Crancer '54
Henry Allen (Butch) Daughtry '5
L. Russell (Russ) Doty Jr. '53
William Mason Dunn Jr. '68
Joe Patman Early '68

Wylie Sewell Evans '72
Edwin R. Ford '62
Johnny D. Gabriel '54
Galo Garcia '59
Manuel E. Gonzalez III '63
Robert Ogden (Butch) Good II '67
William D. Hadash '56
Charles L. (C.L.) Harris, M.D. '58
Allen Hatley '73
Jerry B. Houston '52
James Robert Hyslop '62
Johnny Lee Isbell '57
Rudolph M. (Rudy) Johnson '53
James Barrett Kenney '59
David Foye Lewis '70
A. Fred (Freddie) Longoria Jr. '60

Paul L. Mantle Jr. '73
James P. McDonough, Jr., '69
Raymond Thomas (Tom) McNutt '62
Robert D. Meuth '72
Vernon Lee Nelson '67
Ted Fletcher Nevels '73
Richard Gilmore (Rick) Paddock '66
Frank Thomas Perini '62
Thomas Wayne Porter '64
Robert L. (Lynn) Powell '66
Nelson Prida B. '71
Joe Ramon Jr. '64
Gerald Leslie Ragsdale '71
Fred A. Rigby, Jr., '56
Jerry L. Rogers '60
Mark J. Rosenfield '66

Stuart Lee Russell '62
Adalberto Santos-Benavides '57
Gerardo Santos-Benavides '73
Steven B. Schechter '72
Gerald Clifford Smith '64
Leopoldo R. Vasquez Jr.,
George Arthur Veloz '66
Michael A. Vlieger '62
Alberto Ricardo Volio '70
Dwight Anthony Weatherford '72
Edmond W. (Eddie) Wise II '69
Arturo V. Wolf '73
Victor F. Wolf '53
James Vincent Woodruff '58
Timothy T. Zboril, M.D. '71

DECEASED LIFE MEMBERS

Gerald A. Sears '56
Vernon Edwin Alexander III '61
Lawrence Craig Dublin '62
Edward V. Sebera Jr. '49
Mark Scott Barrow '61
Glaforo E. Montemayor Jr. '55

Paul M. Spear '43
Ben Mack Bishop '62
Sebert L. Pate '45
Ben E. Sutton '42
Patrick F. Boscamp '60
William D. (Bill) Morse Jr. '56

Frank Van Delden Jr. '46
Robert Brune Jr. '62
Col. Donald W. Peacock '23
Julian Watters III '47
Henry L. Cullins Jr. '50
Gene Johnson Potter '45

Walker Bryan (Dickie) Dixon Jr. '62
Robert E. (Bob) Ray Jr. '48
Arturo F. Wolf '51
Don Yust '71

The Wesley Peacock House Is Grateful To You

We want to thank all of you who in the past few months have contributed to the Wesley Peacock House maintenance drive. As President Raul Gonzalez states in his letter on page 1, the house has undergone several repairs to include new A/C and plumbing. This past fall we were fortunate to have 100 volunteers from NU Star Energy come to clean the Peacock House, fix the flower beds and place mulch on the grounds of the campus.



This year it is very important to paint the house and restore several exterior details. We will be able to achieve this endeavor thanks to the generous contributions of the following: **Stuart Russell '62, Jim Kenney '59, Buddy Bruni '52, D.H. Baker '67, Johnny Isbell '57, Dr. Charles Harris '55, Dorothy Peacock, Mark Rosenfield '66, David Lewis '70, Everett Wrightsman '65, L.C. Clower '68, and Thomas McLaughlin '60.** We also received contributions from many others. You know who you are, and we thank all of you. Every dollar is appreciated, for this is your house. It is the enduring shrine where we are reminded of how much we owe Peacock for molding our young characters.

Kaitlin Smith — Recipient of 1st Peacock Memorial Fund Scholarship



“Do or Dee”. We did it! The first PMA Scholarship has been awarded. The announcement of the Scholarship immediately resulted in requests for 30 applications by ROTC cadets. Our first Scholarship was offered to the University of Texas at San Antonio and Texas A&M San Antonio. In response to the 30 requests, we received four replies

with completed applications and essays. After review, one was eliminated. The remaining three, after further review and scoring, were essentially tied. This brought us to the personal interview phase to help us decide the winning applicant.

I have to say that all three were great candidates and it was very difficult to decide on the winner. Each and every one interviewed very well. Rudy Johnson had the opportunity to meet one of the



Kaitlin Smith

candidates, so he knows the level of quality individuals that were the finalists. The decision on the winning applicant was unanimous. Donna Peacock, Ralph Harvey '62 and I, all chose the same applicant to be the recipient of the first PMA Memorial Scholarship award. Her name is Kaitlin Smith, a Freshman at UTSA. She graduated early at 17 from High School. Kaitlin convinced her parents to sign for her so she could join the Army. She has completed basic training and has completed jump school “Paratrooper”. Kaitlin would like to become an

Army Ranger.

Kaitlin has been invited to our Alumni Board Meeting in October. This will give the Board the opportunity to meet PFC Kaitlin Smith. Thanks to the Board for all your encouragement, support and input.



Kaitlin Smith addresses Peacock Board at the October meeting



President Raul Gonzalez presents Kaitlin with Parade Rest 1 Book. L to R: Patrick Mouton, Director of Boys and Girls Club, Donna Peacock, Kaitlin Smith, Raul Gonzalez '68, Butch Daughtry '58

Elaine Austin Palmer (December 16, 2019)



Elaine Austin Palmer

With deep sorrow we learned of the loss of Ms. Elaine Austin Palmer. Elaine was a truly caring and generous lady who always worked to make life better for others. Elaine Austin supported many non-profit organizations, among them the Salvation Army and Peacock Military Academy.

Elaine Austin was a Life Member on the Salvation Army Advisory Board. She also was a Restorer and Curator of the historic Peacock House. She was a generous contributor to the Peacock Military Academy Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Other non-profit programs Elaine supported were the Whitte Museum, Japanese Garden, Parks Planning, Master Leadership Programs. Elaine Austin earned numerous recognitions, among them the Bexar County Individual Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award for 2010.

Elaine Austin Palmer, an outstanding lady who went from ballet dancing, modeling, dress designing and theater in New York City, to high executive levels in technical development with General Motors in Detroit. She will be missed.

Amalia Garcia



Amalia Garcia with husband Captain Lino Garcia

We were sadly informed of the passing of Ms. Amalia Garcia in September 2019. She was the dear wife of Dr. Lino Garcia (known to Peacock Kadets as Lt. Garcia). She was a dorm mom at Wilson Hall during the 1960's.

Ms. Garcia was a beloved “Peacock Mom” who provided a motherly presence to many PMA Kadets whom she grew to love. She attended several Peacock Reunions, encountering many of her Wilson Hall residents and sharing golden memories and recollections from the past.

Ms. Amalia Garcia was a truly devoted and elegant lady. Her teaching career in Edinburg Texas, continuing her calling for helping students, was inspired by her days at Wilson Hall mentoring young Kadets.

Ms. Amalia Garcia, a true Peacock “mom” since her daughter Cindy was born at Wilson Hall. Cannot get a truer testament than that.

The McKinnon Rifles



Cadet Lt. Richard Bradford '53 and McKinnon Rifles greet President Eisenhower

One of Peacock Military Academy's revered traditions was the performance at parades of the special unit called The McKinnon Rifles. This great drill team easily won every competition they entered. The unit was named for John McKinnon, Professor Wesley Peacock's great-grandfather who was an early settler of southern Georgia.

The McKinnon Rifles were formed during the 1947-1948 school year. They were a new attraction

for the Spring Parade of 1948. They were organized and supervised by Major Dick Thiesen, later Col. Thiesen, who had arrived at Peacock as a professor of English and Military Science in 1946. Col. Thiesen came to Peacock right after WWII. He had landed in Normandy on D-Day with the 23rd Infantry about 3:00 pm dodging sniper fire as they disembarked the landing barges. He no doubt was the ideal organizer for a special drill unit that became a great and illustrious Peacock tradition.

The first Peacock cadet commander of the McKinnon Rifles was Cadet Capt. Charles Ritchie '48. The last cadet commander of the unit was Cadet Lt. Lee Robert Montague '73. There were many other outstanding cadets between those years who lead the distinguished disciplined platoon.

One of the McKinnon Rifles greatest honors was to be selected as the Honor Guard that welcomed Dwight Eisenhower at the San Antonio Airport for his visit during the fall of 1952. Cadet Capt. Richard E. Bradford '53 from Houston, TX was the unit commander. President Eisenhower did not simply wave or nod when approaching the McKinnon Rifle Honor Guard; he asked Cadet Bradford if he "could review the troops". Mr. Eisenhower took his time reviewing and noted that Bradford and the other boys "were much larger than those he coached back in 1915 at Peacock. That team was undefeated.

Richard Bradford later played football at Texas A&M, and professional baseball. He became a famous Hollywood actor in dozens of movies along with famous actors. Some were: The Chase, along with Marlon Brando, Missing with Jack Lemmon, Little Nikita with Sidney Poitier, Trip to Bountiful with Geraldine Page, The Hoodlum with Andy Garcia, and The Milagro Bean Field directed by Robert Redford.



McKinnon Rifles 1952, Jerry Houston commanding. Vance Hyatt guidon. Note the short Eisenhower jackets

One of The McKinnon Rifles emblematic drill move was the King James Salute; the performance of its technique was perfected in 1959 under unit commander Robert D. Scoggins '59.

President Dwight Eisenhower returned to visit San Antonio and Peacock in 1961, and James Robert Hyslop '62 commanded the Honor Guard unit that welcomed him.



The McKinnon Rifles execute the King James Salute

For a while, a Junior McKinnon Rifles unit was formed. Cadet Officer Michael Vlieger '62 had the honor of supervising and training the group.

The highest ranking cadet military leader in 67/68 was 1st Capt. Joe Patrick Early '68 from Avinger, Texas. His Adjutant was Roger Henson '68. Following a tradition of military excellence, the Peacock Military Academy cadets swept the General Maddox invitational for the 3rd year in a row. This time, the school sent a different group for the Drill Team Competition. Instead of the Zouaves who had taken top honors for the previous 2 years. A special group of McKinnon Rifles members represented Peacock and also won.

The McKinnon Rifles, they still march and drill in our hearts. Many have left us and no doubt they are entertaining crowds in that parade field beyond. President Eisenhower, Col. Wesley, Col. Don and Col. Thiesen are watching and enjoying their heavenly performance.



McKinnon Rifles precision drill team 1950, John Gill commanding