



Kadet Newsletter

Peacock Military Academy

Alumni Association, Inc.

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Dear Peacock Brothers,

We had our Board of Directors Spring meeting on the 10th of April. This meeting was held at the Wesley Peacock House with fifteen members present and three members by Tele-Conference, (Our thanks to Butch Daughtry for helping to set up the meeting for the three members who were unable to attend personally). We were able to meet quorum and the meeting was a success. As always my thanks to all members in attendance.

Scholarship Committee: Last year, due to Covid, no scholarships were awarded. Mike Vlieger informed the committee that he had not received any response to the scholarship offer for the 2020/2021 school year. He had no responses to his emails and phone calls. Probable reason was that instructors and students were working from home. The deadline for applying for the Peacock Scholarship was the end of July 2020.

This year (school year 2021/2022) we will be able to award 3 scholarships.

Mike Vlieger has received many requests for applications and has received several completed applications. Please continue to donate to the scholarship fund, as this is a wonderful cause that both provides a College ROTC education to a deserving individual in need and helps keep the flame of the Peacock legacy alive.

Facilities: Since our last newsletter the following repairs have taken place at the Wesley Peacock House: New A/C, new roof, new electric water heater and new exterior paint. Thank you for your donations but do continue giving. It is a grand old house and keeping up with the maintenance will insure we have a place of honor for our memorabilia and meeting place for many years to come.

Reunion 2021: Our 2021 reunion dates are Oct 8th, 9th and 10th. The Omni Hotels and Resorts at the Colonnade in San Antonio is the place you want to be on these dates. The phone number is 1-800-843-6664. Please refer to the

Peacock Military Academy Reunion when calling to get the group rate. I encourage all fellow Peacock Brothers to attend this year's reunion and contact your classmates to encourage them to attend. It's a time to share memories and to reminisce of times past.

NOTE: We will be electing new officers and board members, and we encourage you to volunteer for any of these positions.

I expect you in October. God Bless.

Raul Gonzalez
Class of 68
PMA Alumni Association
President



PMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President	Raul Gonzalez '68
1st Vice President	Robert Ogden (Butch) Good II '67
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

Frank Reyna Torres '63
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

ALTERNATES

William Jeff Riggs '67

TAPS

Col. Bill Feltner - Staff Member
Jack M. Cain '43
Alden Farnum Erikson Jr. '45
Herbert Lee Melton Jr. '46
Oscar Eugene Krause Jr. '47
William Kirkland Bruce '48
Charles Barry Fenberg '48
Ramon Salido-Longoria '48
Wayne Keith Gibson '49
Octaviano "Chito" Longoria '50

Col. Robert Coleman Bacon '51
Lindsay Jackson Crawford '51
Jaye Fenberg '51
Moses H. Goldberg '51
Richard Rayborn '51
Lloyd Grant Taylor '51
Arthur Boyt Zoch '51
Huey Long Zoch '51
Paul Robert Weston '52
Robert Louis Weston Jr. '52
Harry M. Melton Jr. '53
Melvin F. Reese '53

Douglas S. Ham '54
Dennis Hill '55
Michael D. Dennis '59
Maurice "Reece" Rose '59
David Marcos Blieden '62
Ralph Travis Harvey '62
Raymond Thomas "Tommy" McNutt '62
Larry Douglas Feldt '64
William R. Glover '64
Gregory Edward Arango '65
Steven C. Copenhagen '66
Arthur James Rogers '68

Jonathan David White '69
Jorge G. Schlesinger '71
Albert Paul Zepeda '72
William "Beau" Duncan '73
Jerome F. "Jerry" Grossenbacher '73
Kevin Wenke '73



Welcome New Life Members!!!

Thurman Wilson Jr. '56 Ronald G. Percival '67
Thomas P. McLaughlin '60 Col Raul Gonzalez '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 Member
Paul Robert Weston 52

PMA Memorial Scholarship Honor Roll*

The Peacock Family
Ben E. Sutton '42
John F. Kiel '47
Edward Sebera '49
Johan Heidenreich '50
Arthur F. Wolf '51
Joshua A. Tilton '52
L.B. Johnson '56
William D. Morse Jr. '56
Terry L. Royal '57

Bernie L. Young '57
Gene G. Hughs Jr. '60
James C. Norman '60
Charles A. (Chris) Salerno '60
David S. Hale '62
Edwin R. Kollman '63
Kenneth Earl Porter '63
Theodore James Morris '68
Edmund Valdes '69
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.

2021 Dues

The Alumni Association is collecting dues for 2021 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!



Peacock Challenge Coins Now Available !

Challenge Coins are rooted in military tradition and culture. They are used to boost morale, identify allegiance and a terrific way to extend one's appreciation by saying "thank you with coin in hand and a firm handshake. More importantly, in military units, they demonstrate "proof of membership". There is also the time-honored tradition of slamming your coin down in bars to see who has theirs. He who is last or without buys the first round. Challenge coins price is \$12. We will sell them for \$8.00 at the Reunion. Don't be left out of owning one.



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
Challenge Coin	\$12.00

FOR PEACOCK MERCHANDISE
EMAIL ARTURO WOLF '73 AT: arturowolfs@gmail.com

Please add \$5.00 for shipping and handling.

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

The 2021 Peacock Reunion — The One You Must Attend!

When: October 8th, 9th and 10th

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-reunion-10052021>

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
COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE TO AND FROM AIRPORT**

Hotel Reservation Deadline: Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Come join your Peacock brothers and enjoy good times. Contact your classmates and encourage them to attend. Follow the orders of **Cadet David Knight '43** (read his message below in Kadet News section).



Sunday Gray Line Ceremony at Peacock Reunion. Rider-less horse in honor of our departed Peacock Brothers.

KADET NEWS

David Knight '43 sent the following message: "Thank you for advising me of this year's reunion. Unfortunately my 95 years of age plus now being bound to a wheel chair, prevent me from gallivanting around. So ATTENTION EVERYONE: Have a wonderful time and enjoy the Reunion. Executive Captain Knight has spoken!" David was voted the most trustworthy cadet of his graduating class. He graduated with the rank of Executive Captain and was the captain of the Zouaves in 1942/1943. Let's obey his orders, attend the Reunion and have a great time!

Wallace Morgan '50 sent us this great picture of the Texas truck license plate frame he made. Beautiful! We put him in contact with his classmate Edgar Fischel '50 who makes birdhouses with license plates. Maybe they can make some more for us.



Mark P. Love '52 is doing great in Horseshoe Bay, Texas with his wife Carla Michelle who is originally from Holland. Mark has great memories of Peacock. One that stands out for him is marching in the Battle of Flowers Parade in Downtown San Antonio during Fiesta Week. He remembers kids above a bridge spitting at Peacock Cadets as they marched under the bridge. To this day, every time he walks under a bridge, he looks up.

John Knott '53 lives in Refugio, Texas. He and his wife Gladys are doing fine and keeping safe from the Covid virus.

William Tandy Walker '73 and wife Debra are enjoying life in Oklahoma with their horses. They have invested in shares of horses for their grandkids and have been fortunate in several races. Read article about William in this issue from his time in The Service.

Bill Bradford '65 donated his very ornate Peacock uniform to the PMA Alumni Association. It is now displayed at the Wesley Peacock House. We were very impressed by the number of decorations including the orange feather on his dress cap. See picture.



L.C. Clower '68 has a great collection of pictures in his Facebook. He has some very good ones of the 2018 Peacock Reunion. Check out this picture of some of the members of the Class of '68.

Dennis Hill '55 passed away in March of 2019 after a long bout with cancer. His daughter Erin Nelson informed us of the sad news. She shared with us that Dennis wrote the following about Peacock in his memoirs: "I am deeply grateful to have learned self-discipline and endurance and a tenacity that provided such a solid foundation for my whole life". Amen, Brother Dennis.

David Randolph '65 wrote a very nice greeting note to all Kadets. He mentioned that his classmate Bruce Barrett '65 has written a great book called "Flight from Arabia". Bruce's book mentions his time at Peacock and the summer he spent in Arabia where his father served as Military Defense Attaché to Saudi Arabia. The book is an excellent read. It has a lot of nostalgia regarding his time at Peacock and coming of age in Texas.

Robert Murphy, Instructor at Peacock in the early 60's sent a BIG SALUTE to all the Kadets and especially those in the class of 1960. That was his first year at Peacock. He said he has great memories after 60 years and sent a generous gift for the Association and the upkeep of the Wesley Peacock House. He lives in Center Harbor, New Hampshire.

Richard Wasteney's '53, lives in Gig Harbor, Washington state. He and his wife Carolyn are doing well. Dick Wasteney was the 1952-1953 Battalion Commander.

Don Colbath '72 and his wife Sue now live in Western North Carolina (Alexander). Don is enjoying retirement. He says he might make the reunion if he comes to visit their daughter in Austin. Hope you do Don!



PEACOCK SCHOLARSHIP FUND AWARDS 3 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2021/2022



The Scholarship Committee met on Saturday, July 17, 2021, at The Peacock House. Present were Donna Peacock, Butch Daughtry '58, Raul Gonzalez '68, Marty Cavanaugh '67 and Mike Vlieger '62. Three finalists had been invited for an in person interview. All three were truly exceptional, so it was decided to award all three the PMA Memorial Scholarship for the coming year.

Our first scholarship was awarded for the school year 2019-2020. Because of Covid we were unable to establish proper contacts for applicants for the year 2020-2021.

The following are the recipients for the 2021-2022 academic year awards:

Jerrome Hamilton - Texas A&M University San Antonio

Daniel Beaty - University of Texas San Antonio

Bernard Dzogbenuku - University of Texas San Antonio

Each will receive \$10,000. Checks have been made to their schools in their name. They are all enrolled in ROTC at their respective universities with outstanding GPA's. We have invited them to attend the Peacock Reunion in October so that we all have the opportunity to meet them.

The generosity of our Peacock Brothers is what makes us able to help three very deserving young men with ROTC education. Through these outstanding young individuals and others to come, the flame and legacy of Peacock will continue to burn in perpetuity. We encourage all of you to continue donations to this wonderful cause, so important for the future of our country and upcoming generations. Every dollar you give will be matched by two anonymous benefactors. And your contributions are tax deductible because of Peacock's 501 (c) 3 IRS status. Please use the enclosed form and return envelope for this purpose. Also, if you give a donation in honor of a deceased Kadet, HIS name will be listed in the Peacock Memorial Scholarship Fund Honor Roll.

PEACOCK MEDALS



The Peacock Medal is awarded every year to the outstanding military cadet in each of 4 Texas Academies. This cadet becomes the Battalion Commander for the next academic year. It is a symbolic way to continue the proud traditions of Peacock Military Academy by rewarding an individual with high scholastic, character, leadership and aptitude achievements. These are the traits that personify the more than 15,000 young men who formed the ranks of the Corps of Cadets of Peacock Military Academy between 1894 and 1973.



*Col. Raul Gonzalez '68 presenting
Peacock Medal at San Antonio Academy*

These are the Peacock Medal recipients for the Spring Graduation Ceremonies of 2021:

Marine Military Academy – Cadet David Stillwell – Presented by Earl Adams '62

San Antonio Military Academy – Cadet Samuel David Sytsma – Presented by Col. Raul Gonzalez '68

San Marcos Military Academy – Cadet Conner Irwin – Presented by David Lewis '70

Texas Military Institute – Cadet Omer Zafar – Presented by James Hyslop '62

THE "TWINS"

"We thought all of you would enjoy the following article written back in March of 1990 in an Army Newsletter called The Bulletin. The article describes a wonderful and fortuitous set of events between two 1973 Peacock graduates. William Tandy Walker and Byron Wesley McKinnon were both outstanding members of their Peacock class. Walker was the class Valedictorian. McKinnon was a class officer and yes, he was a dazzling member of the McKinnon Rifles drill team. The article was written just before Desert Storm operations. Both of them were in Ft. Irwin, CA together for that. Read on:



Byron Wesley McKinnon '73



William Tandy Walker '73

95th's Walker, McKinnon almost like twins

Maj. William T. Walker and Maj. Byron W. McKinnon, both of the 95th MTC, have a lot in common. Yet they are also quite different.

Both men were born on the same date: June 8, 1955. They graduated from Peacock Military Academy in San Antonio when they were 17. They also were

teammates on the football, basketball and drill teams. Those are some of the similarities.

There are some differences, however. Walker is white. He was born in Yuma, Ariz., and raised in Peru, South America. McKinnon is black. He was born and raised in San Antonio.

They went to college at the same time: 1973-77. But Walker attended Carleton State University in Stephenville, Texas, while McKinnon went to Texas A&I University in Kingsville.

Walker finished with a B.S. degree in agriculture, while McKinnon received a B.A. degree in Business Management. But both of them were commissioned second lieutenants after graduating from the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). Walker went into medical services, while McKinnon got into field artillery.

Both served on active duty for several years, and in 1981 the two men met again at Fort Sill, Okla.

Both are married, both have two children and both live in Oklahoma. Walker, however, is a county agent living in Watonga, while McKinnon is a software tester from Lawton.

Surprisingly, both men joined the 95th MTC at the same time: February 1989. Walker is Team Chief with Medical Team #2; McKinnon is Chief, Operations & Training Division.

As for their off-duty interests, Walker's into raising hogs, while McKinnon says he's into "raising hell."



Ela

TWINS? Maj. William Walker and Maj. Byron McKinnon of the 95th MTC were born on the same day, schooled together, and entered the 95th in the same month.

The Peacock-Eisenhower connection

James Baldwin '65, asked us to write about President Dwight "Ike" Eisenhower's connection to Peacock Military Academy. Our writings are based on Donna Peacock's Parade Rest Books and a Susan Eisenhower interview:

When we proudly mention our Alma Mater to people, we are often asked where Peacock Military Academy was. When we respond San Antonio, Texas, many of us like to add: "Eisenhower was a football coach there, you know?" Mentioning his name attached to our school makes us feel even more proud and it raises eyebrows in many listeners.

Peacock Military Academy had the honor of counting among its staff a young Lieutenant Eisenhower, recent graduate of West Point, who was stationed at the time at Fort Sam Houston. He joined the Peacock coaching staff in the fall of 1915.

Texas born Eisenhower excelled in athletics and was a starter in the West Point football team both as a running back and linebacker, gaining the honor of tackling the famous Jim Thorpe.

Shortly upon his arrival in San Antonio, Ike was introduced to a young lady named Mamie Doud. Their meeting became destiny. Much of their courtship took place on the Peacock campus. Wesley Peacock Jr. recalled seeing Mamie drive out to the school and park her car at the edge of the football field. In a 1973 letter, Mamie Eisenhower wrote: "I remember attending all the Peacock football practices. I sort of felt like a mascot." In fact, the Doud family became Peacock fans, coming out each week to cheer on "Ike's boys". They became genuinely emotional about Peacock beating their rivals, especially West Texas Military Academy, later known as TMI.

Peacock already had a good football team, and Ike made it an outstanding one winning the 1915 championship. Players such as Wesley Peacock Jr, and Yantis Taylor, first aviator to fly from the Mexican to the Canadian border, said that "Ike was great". "He really knew the game and instilled confidence in the team. He was able to get the most out of his boys who had to play both offense and defense, without relief."

A lasting bond was established between the Eisenhowers and the Peacock Family. General Dwight D. Eisenhower's appointment as Commander of the Allied European Forces in 1943 stirred a familial pride among present and former cadets whom he had guided on the playing field shortly before another world war.

Mamie Doud Eisenhower visited the Peacock Campus in the spring of 1944, six weeks before D-Day. She spent April 18th reminiscing with the Peacock family about when she'd watch the Peacock practices and games and especially young coach Lieutenant Dwight Eisenhower. She ate with the cadets in the Mess Hall and enjoyed a parade in her honor. Here is a note she wrote later:

To the Corps of Cadets of Peacock Military Academy - I send many thanks and deep appreciation for the beautiful orchid you gave me Sunday at the parade. Your gift and the thought made me very happy. I congratulate you on the fine Dress Parade and interesting drills. The best of luck to each one of you. Your friend, Mamie D. Eisenhower.



Cadet Lt. Richard Bradford and McKinnon Rifles greet President Eisenhower in 1952.

In the fall of 1952, then Presidential candidate, General Dwight Eisenhower requested an honor guard from Peacock Military Academy to greet him at the San Antonio airport. The McKinnon Rifles Drill Team- appropriately attired in West Point gray Eisenhower jackets - was commanded by Cadet Captain Richard Bradford '53 (who later became a Hollywood star). Bradford recalled he was "very impressed by the man.

He didn't give us the token nod, or wave." Instead he spent a good long time talking to Bradford and the unit, always politely and surprisingly asking permission: "May I inspect the troops?" or "Do you mind if the reporters take more pictures?" Ike noted that Bradford and the other boys were much bigger than those he coached back in 1915.



Maj. Donald Peacock and Lt. Col. Wesley Peacock Jr. with Mamie Doud Eisenhower on Peacock campus April, 1944.

In 1955 Col. and Mrs. Donald Peacock and their daughter Sue Ellen were graciously hosted by President and Mrs. Eisenhower at their Presidential living quarters on the second floor of the White House, a treat not usual for most guests. The Eisenhowers had come a long way from yelling themselves hoarse at Peacock games, but the bonds to the school and to the family still held.



Peacock championship football team of 1915, coached by Lt. Dwight D. Eisenhower, front row far left. Wesley Peacock Jr., member of the team, sitting directly behind Lt. Eisenhower.

President Eisenhower returned to Peacock once again in the fall of 1961. Once again, a Peacock Military Academy Honor Guard greeted him. James Hyslop '62 was commander of the Honor Guard. Eisenhower spent about 15 minutes talking with Hyslop about football and the forthcoming game with TMI. "Meeting him is something I'll never forget, an incredible experience," Hyslop said.



President Eisenhower inspecting Peacock Honor Guard 1961. Cadet Capt. Charlie Kettel commanded the Drum and Bugle Corps and Cadet Capt. James Hyslop commanded the Honor Guard.

Eisenhower was a leader who believed in self-discipline. He had the ability of remaining calm when facing problems or during a crisis. His description of a problem was: "the fear in the hearts of men". A true strategist looks at the fundamentals of an issue, with clarity that is not clouded by fear. "Not all fears are real threats," he would say. Eisenhower was indeed a true strategist, a very good and effective one, because he was a very articulate writer and eloquent speaker.

Ike was a non-assuming and modest man. He did not like to wear many ribbons or medals like the Soviet Generals. He was a soldier's General. He had to make many hard decisions during WWII. He was very analytical about decision making but never became cynical. On the eve of troops embarking for D-Day he spoke with many young soldiers. He did not engage in conversation about the mission, its importance or its dangers. He figured that all was planned accordingly. He knew that many would not return, so he talked with them about their lives back home, their families, their farms, their towns. That is the type of man he was.

Dwight David Eisenhower died in 1969: Soldier, author, college president, President of the United States, farmer, Peacock coach of the 1915 football championship team.