



Kadet Newsletter

Peacock Military Academy

Alumni Association, Inc.

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Address of Record: 900 Montreux Ave., Colleyville, Texas 76034
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Dear Fellow Kadets,

Things seem to happen faster the older we get.

How is it possible that our Academy closed 50 years ago and yet Arturo still looks 30 years old. We are so fortunate that he continues to want to lead us as CEO. He does a fine job, and we appreciate him very much.

Speaking of appreciation let me thank our Peacock Board of Directors for continuing to come together for discussions about our future. We can see a time in the not-so-distant future in which we will not be able to travel for these meetings and for that matter our great Peacock Reunions. I hate to think along these lines but our last discussion at the Board meeting made me look at this inevitable and sad reality.

We have been looking for a way to keep our Academy and the many items that we display at the Peacock House alive for the future when we are no longer here.

As you may remember, the Texas State Guard has had a display of many items of our Academy's past. The Commanding General of the Guard, Major General Anthony Woods, has been working with the Directors of PMA, along with

TSG historians coordinating with both organizations to assure that our combined history continues to live on in the future with their care. More about this venture is forth coming soon. We will maintain all of you updated in this endeavor.

Another discussion at the Board was about the upcoming Peacock Reunion



*Major General Anthony Woods with TXSG
Officers by Peacock Monument*

October 6th, 7th and 8th at the Westin San Antonio North Hotel, the same hotel in which we held our last Peacock Reunion in 2021.

We have been in contact with Ms. Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of our football coach Dwight D. Eisenhower. Since this is a special anniversary (50

years since the Academy closed), we thought we might have a special guest speaker for the event. We have already been honored with her acceptance and she will make a special trip from Washington D.C. to address our Alumni. We are very excited since she is a very accomplished speaker and expert in many subjects ranging from leadership, intelligence, international relations, space policy, and national security.

The details of the 2023 Peacock Reunion are set and there will NOT be fish served Friday or Saturday night! When checking in let the hotel know if you want the breakfast Saturday morning at a reduced price or not, it will increase your nightly rate Saturday but still less than if you just walked in for breakfast.

So, Brothers, we are looking forward to seeing everyone who can make it and we will surely miss you if you cannot come.

David Lewis '70
President



PMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President	David F. Lewis '70
1st Vice President	Robert (Butch) Good II '67
2nd Vice President	Ronald Bruce Williams '68
3rd Vice President	William J. (Jeff) Riggs '67
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Treasurer	Martin James Cavanaugh '67
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Raul Gonzalez '68	Frank Reyna Torres '63
Rudolph M. (Rudy) Johnson '53	George A. Veloz '66
James Barrett (Jim) Kenney '59	Michael A. Vlieger '62
Byron W. McKinnon '73	William Tandy Walker '73
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TAPS

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Pablo Andrade '41

Joe Bert Killough '47

William Robert Walls Jr. '49

Joe Alton Simpson '51

Roderic L. Boane '52

John Knott Jr. '53

Charles E. Prince '55

Amado Miguel '56

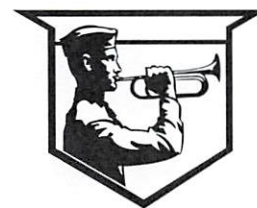
Herbert Lewis '59

Michael Gallagher '61

George E. Duncan Jr. '63

Charles R. Hunt '63

Arnold Alfred Reyes '63



Welcome New Life Members!!!

Harvey Charles Weil '66 Jeffery Clay O'Quinn '73

Bruce Williams '68 Jack Seigler '73

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

Joe Bert Killough '47
Honored By Diana Killough

PMA Memorial Scholarship Honor Roll*

The Peacock Family

Mark S. Barrow '61

Ben E. Sutton '42

John F. Kiel '47

Edward Sebera '49

Johan Heidenreich '50

Arthur F. Wolf '51

Joshua A. Tilton '52

Paul Robert Weston '52

L.B. Johnson '56

William D. Morse Jr. '56

Darwin W. Harris '57

Terry L. Royal '57

Bernie L. Young '57

Gene G. Hughs Jr. '60

James C. Norman '60

Charles (Chris) Salerno '60

Mark S. Barrow '61

David S. Hale '62

Edwin R. Kollman '63

Kenneth Earl Porter '63

Theodore James Morris '68

Edmund Valdes '69

Arthur Anthony Wolf

Class of '62 Deceased:

Honored by Jim Hyslop '62

George Alpert, Loyall Barr, Ben Bishop, David Blieden, Robert Brune, Jerry Collins, Robert Crain, Walker Dixon, Lawrence Dublin, Milby Dunn, Richard Gillespie, James Harvey, Ralph Harvey, Richard Hulsey, John Kountz, Thomas McNutt, Robert Oakley, Mark Perryman, Daniel Pletz, Hugh Plummer, Santiago Reach, Tommy Skeeters

PEACOCK MERCHANDISE

Caps (Green or Khaki)	\$10.00	Aprons	\$10.00
T-Shirts	\$10.00	Peacock Patches	\$3.50
Polo Shirts	\$25.00	Lapel Pins	\$7.00
Totes	\$15.00	DVDs	\$3.00
Pennants	\$8.00	Sweatshirts	\$20.00
Decals	\$3.00	Parade Rest Book II	\$10.00
Koozies	\$2.00	Challenge Coin	\$12.00
Coffee Mugs	\$5.00	How Ike Led Book	\$19.00

**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.**

2023 Dues

The Alumni Association is collecting dues for 2023 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!



Kadet News

Stephen Victor '72 is doing well and living in Arlington, Texas. He sends greetings to Peacock Kadets.

Ken Scoggins '66 lives in Santa Fe, N.M. and sent a letter stating: "I would like to thank the Peacock graduate Green Beret who came on campus one Sunday afternoon in 1963 when I was corporal of the guard. He was in bloused combat boots, green dress uniform and first beret I ever saw. He must have been one of the Special Forces. He had a sack with a BBQ sandwich and gave me half. It was the best BBQ sandwich I ever had..." Well Ken, we know who that Green Beret was: **Rudy Johnson '53** who is doing well in Comfort, Texas and will be attending 2023 Reunion.

Henry Sykes III '60 has surfaced again! He attended Peacock from 1956 through 1959. We welcome Henry to our Peacock Alumni Association.

Ken Barnes '45 is doing fine and living in San Marcos, Texas in a retirement center. He says that Mrs. Savage's food at Peacock was a lot better.

Art Stewart '62 went into a small pub in Castroville for just "one" beer. He started a conversation with a guy he slightly knew. Art mentioned he attended Peacock. The man excused himself and went out to his truck. He returned with an 11" Bowie knife in a leather sheath with the name "Col. Donald Peacock - Peacock Military Academy" printed on it. It looked very old and had an impressive carved handle. He convinced the man to sell him the knife. Art is coming to the Reunion. Hopefully we can see the knife.

Paul Mantle '73 sent in a video of the last Peacock Graduation Ceremonies. We are very grateful since we only had an audio recording of the commencement exercise.

David Randolph '65 informed us that **Bruce Barrett '65** is doing well and living in Danbury CT with his sister Dandy. We send them our greetings!

Ricardo Miner '58 has resigned from our Peacock Board because of surgeries, but is now recovering well. He says he will not attend this coming reunion but will be present at the next one. We wish him a speedy recovery.

A gentleman by the name of Hugh B. Ruckman III from Karnes City contacted **Mike Vlieger '62** saying his grandfather had attended PMA. We checked records and YES, we found him!!! **Hugh B. Ruckman** was in the Class of 1899. Our Kadets continue to live through our Association and its record keeping!!!

David Knight '42 graduated as Executive Captain of the Corps and Captain of the Zouave Drill Team. He is living in Houston surrounded by his wife of 65 years and 6 adult children. He is 97 years young and in a wheelchair and he sends a "Hail and Cheers for the Old Academy."

David Goettsche '73 and **William Apt '73** have surfaced and joined the PMA Alumni Association. They will both attend the Reunion 2023. They attended the academy as young Kadets. Welcome Brothers!

Lt. Robert Murphy, English Professor at Peacock, lives in Center Harbor NH. He recently underwent hip surgery and sent us a letter regretting not attending our reunion. He sent a generous contribution to the Peacock Scholarship Fund which was matched by other donors. He also sent a big salute to all his former students and the staff who were there during his time. Thank you Mr. Murphy for your love of PMA!

George Edwards Duncan Jr. '63 passed away last December. His brother Fred informed us of his peaceful passing in Wimberley, Texas. Fred and his wife Judy will attend the Peacock Reunion in honor of their brother George and brother **William Mason Duncan '64** who also graduated from Peacock. (see first picture)

The Peacock Alumni Association attended the **Annual Salvation Army Luncheon** on June 23, 2023. In the pictures we see three of our Board Members and their beautiful wives. (see second and third picture)

Steak Maestros **Lisa and Tom Perini '62** are celebrating 40 years of their historic **Perini Ranch Steakhouse in Buffalo Gap, TX**. They catered at the White House for President Bush with their chuck wagons and crew of cowboys. Tom is a famous celebrity Cowboy Chef who has appeared on many TV programs, as well as being an accomplished author of several cooking books. The trip to Buffalo Gap is worth it just to taste some of the Perini's delicious smoky treats and desserts. (see fourth picture)

Bill Bradford '65 sends his greetings to all from Katy, TX. He will be celebrating his 77th birthday in Rockport on the weekend of the Reunion so will not be able to attend.

Don Colbath '72 is coming to the Reunion with his wife Sue for the Sunday ceremony. His father Thomas Colbath '48 passed in 2006. Don says: It was fun coming to the Reunion with Dad. He would introduce me to one of "old men" and tell me "He was one of my little 8th graders when I was Barracks Chief".

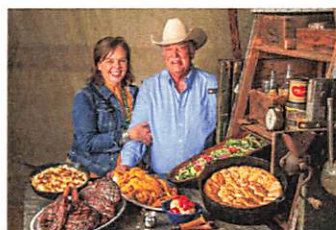
Paul Reichman '63 is doing well in good old Germany. He lives in Frankfurt and he sends his greetings and regrets for not being able to attend the Reunion on this occasion due to work. He will be there for the next one.

Michael Toler '68 is having a big family reunion in Cape Cod where he and his wife have a beach house. Michael is a West Point graduate and his wife is a Boston College alumnus. They met at an Army-BC game in 1970. They will be watching their schools play again. So...they will miss the Peacock Reunion. He told us that he and **Richard Bills '65** have been attending Military History classes via Zoom from his former West Point History professor. They asked if we could Zoom Susan Eisenhower's talk.

General Anthony Woods and Texas State Guard Officers visited the Wesley Peacock House to observe our memorabilia and discuss mutual historic ties between Peacock and the TXSG. (see fifth picture)

The Peacock Class of '73 Officers were guests at the Texas State Guard Leadership Conference in College Station, TX. In picture **Arturo Wolf V.P.**; **Miguel Valdes, President**; **Jack Seigler Student Council Rep.**; **Byron McKinnon Secretary Treasurer** Then and now. (see sixth and seventh—pictures)

the military ball



PEACOCK REUNION 2023 – THE EISENHOWER REUNION

50 YEARS SINCE PEACOCK CLOSED

GUEST SPEAKER FOR SATURDAY OCTOBER 7TH: MS. SUSAN E. EISENHOWER

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER! DO NOT LEAVE IT FOR THE NEXT ONE!

For Information/ Registration (important for dinner table reservations) email Arturo Wolf '73 at arturowolfs@gmail.com or call 817-581-7715



Happy Group!



Kadets by Birkhead Hall



*Bruce Burney '62, Tom Perini '62
and Rudy Johnson '53*

When:

October 6th, 7th and 8th 2023

Where:

The Westin San Antonio North

Address:

**9821 Colonnade Blvd.
San Antonio, TX 78230**

Hotel Reservations Phone:

(210) 691-8888

Ask for Peacock Military Academy Rate of \$139.00 (Single or Double).



President Eisenhower in 1961 visit

PEACOCK MEDAL RECIPIENTS FOR 2023



Once again, spring graduation for military academies came around this last May. And again Peacock representatives were present to award the PEACOCK MEDAL to the outstanding military cadets at 4 different academies who were appointed as next year's corps commanders.

Col. Raul Gonzalez '68 presented a Peacock Challenge Coin to Col. Steve Marshall, Commandant at the San Antonio Academy, who stated: "Thank you for spearheading the Peacock Medal Award each year; I find it remarkable that the Peacock Alumni Association is still strong and active."



*Col. Raul Gonzalez '68 presenting Peacock
Medal to Cadet Robert Alan Conn at San
Antonio Academy.*

THE RECIPIENTS FOR 2023 PEACOCK MEDAL WERE:

Texas Military Institute:

Alexis Block

Presented by Jim Hyslop '62

San Marcos Academy:

Layton Schawe

Presented by David Lewis '70

Marine Military Academy:

Patrick Omev

Presented by Earl Adams '62

San Antonio Academy:

Robert Alan Conn

Presented by Col. Raul Gonzalez '68

Boerne Public Library Hosted Event

“SALUTING THE PEACOCK ACADEMY”



Tom Perini '62, Dottie Peacock, Rudy Johnson '53, Donna Peacock



Peacock Kadet Attendees

On Saturday March 18th 2023, the Patrick Heath Public Library in Boerne, Texas hosted a wonderful event commemorating and saluting our iconic Peacock Academy in a retrospective of its history. It was an event filled with images and memories of Peacock.

The event was organized by local historian Mr. Bryden Moon from the Kendall County Historical Commission. Ms. Marlene Richardson acted as Master of Ceremonies. Despite the cold wet weather, attendance was close to 100 people including Donna and Dottie Peacock and several former Kadets.

Donna Peacock gave a great presentation with images about many aspects of the Academy, the Peacock family and about growing up on the Peacock campus. Butch Daughtry '58, Mike Vlieger '62, Raul Gonzalez '68 and Arturo Wolf '73 acted as members of a panel relating their personal experiences at Peacock and the benefits they received from its education. They later responded to questions from the audience

The event and an additional interview with last Peacock graduate Arturo Wolf were recorded by NPR (National Public Radio).

Many later attended the Wesley Peacock House. Two ladies who came to the open house asked Mike Vlieger about their father's records. They knew he had attended Peacock in the 30's. They never met him. He died at age 39 of a heart attack while riding a horse. When Mike showed them the records and picture of Mr. Luis Oliveira Class of 1940, they began to cry. Their father's name will be called at the Reunion during the Sunday Gray Line Ceremony.

2023 Peacock Scholarship Recipients

The Peacock Memorial Scholarship Fund continues its successful objective of providing tuition scholarships to deserving young individuals pursuing a College ROTC education. This year we are fortunate to be able to provide three (3) \$10,000 scholarship awards to three outstanding young students. This is a total of \$30,000 for the year 2023/24.

With skillful and experienced assistance from Donna Peacock, all applications and essays turned in were reviewed. The best candidates were selected and invited to the Wesley Peacock House on July 15th 2023 for personal interviews. The Scholarship Committee then approved scholarships for 3 students.

The selected recipients for the Peacock Scholarship for the 2023/24 academic calendar year are:

Nicholas Burton Jr. -	Air Force ROTC
Natalie S. Cleveland -	Air Force ROTC
Diego L. Benitez -	Army ROTC



All three are currently enrolled in the ROTC program at the University of Texas San Antonio with excellent GPA's. Checks were made to the school for \$5,000 each to pay for their tuition. Their grades will be reviewed at the end of the Fall Semester and if they are still performing at high standards, another \$5,000 will be issued for each student for the Spring Semester.

We are proud to announce to our Alumni Association that the Peacock Memorial Scholarship Fund has so far awarded a total of \$80,000 in College ROTC scholarship monies. This is a great accomplishment made possible through the contributions of generous donors who know that a society grows greater when older men plant trees knowing that they will never sit under their shade. This metaphor simply means that your contributions will help the spirit of Peacock continue to live through these young bright receivers of your generosity

Peacock Military Academy

by Jim Bond



I have the gift (or curse) of a phenomenal memory. I'm able to recall minute details of conversations and events from decades ago. So, today's blog begins with a conversation with my dad in the fall of 1962.

We were approaching Woodlawn Lake, adjacent to the fifteen acre campus of Peacock Military Academy, the 'West Point of Texas', where I would spend the next three school years.

Dad: "Well Jim, I suppose by now you're smoking."

Me: "Well..."

At my answer he reached in his pocket, pulled out a package of Benson and Hedges (very classy) and tossed them across the seat of his Bonneville. Then, Dad indicated he had already signed the 'Smoking Permission' document.

Before you judge this scene, remember the era. For generations, young boys had been smoking, sometimes as young as 12, purchasing 5 cigarettes for a penny at the local drugstore. Packages of non-filter 'Luckies' in olive-colored metal tins were delivered to US service men just 20 years before.

But this blog is not about underage smoking. It's about brotherhood. It's about camaraderie. It's about a shared experience, the memory of which spans half a century. It's about an experience few of us would ever want to have missed. It's about a concept of 'esprit de corps' that few understand.

My great-grandfather Donald Allen attended Virginia Military Academy and fought in the Battle of Newmarket. My grandfather Harvey Allen also attended VMI. My father William James Bond attended military academies. It was to me to fulfill a legacy.

And, not to get metaphysical or existential, it was my destiny.

The first few weeks were tough. I was convinced that something was going to change; either this prestigious seventy year-old institution...

or me. By October, I had determined the answer.

We were a disparate group. We came from Seattle, from Texas, from Maryland and Hawaii, from Central and South America. We were the sons of lawyers, career military men, oil producers, diplomats, businessmen, doctors. Most of us spoke English well, some of us stumbled.

I made instant friends. There was Howard Andell, who became my mentor in the armory to which I was assigned. There was Jonathon Hodell who taught me to 'spit-shine' my shoes and combat boots. There was Kurt Stine, another newbie. Many of us who discovered the shock of the first few weeks became 'confidantes'. It was rigorous.

In addition to high scholastic standards, there was military drill; military instruction and map-reading; first aid; marksmanship; how to take apart and re-assemble an M-1 rifle and the venerable Springfield 03. Sports were integral to the development of teamwork and inter/self-reliance. The catalogue described the goal as: "...to develop him (the boy) to his fullest capacity, and enable him to see his obligation to society".

Oh, and what you've heard about bouncing quarters on your blanket? True.

We had multiple inspections during the week; by our peers, by adult tactical officers, and there was an annual Federal Inspection to maintain our status as one of the best.

Dirty laundry was delivered in bags to the back of the San Antonio Laundry truck once a week. Everything was returned later in the week. Starched, like a section of Highway 66; socks, underwear...everything. During Parade Season when we donned our 'white duck' pants with our quarter-inch thick wool coats during the 90 degree, humid heat, we had a system. Each cadet would separate the starched sides of his trousers at the hem, run his hand up the length of the leg to separate the starched sides, then stand on a chair to put the pants on, to avoid wrinkling.

Closets? As you would expect. Underwear wrapped around cardboard so that all t-shirts and each pair of shorts were crisply and identically folded. Uniform shirts and pants hung exactly one inch apart.

The instructors were mostly retired military of high achievement, most of whom were surprisingly gentle in the nurturing of this group of 200 students. All were respected, many were revered, some were adored. The same English instructor who assigned us to memorize Shakespeare and the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam coached the Tri Champs Basketball Team. Dwight D. Eisenhower was a football coach in the early 20th century. American actors King Vidor, and Richard Bradford were alums, as were many prominent American leaders.

When you didn't meet the standard, you were quickly and firmly admonished. When you excelled, you were quickly rewarded.

Upon dismissal from morning classes in Johnston (academic) Hall, we would gather around the glass-doored bulletin board in the downstairs lobby to view any new 'Special Orders'. 'Special Orders' were either very good, or very bad. They announced the promotions we all coveted or the disciplinary actions we all dreaded, resulting from some infraction.

So how has it all tallied up compared to our public school counterparts?

Some of us have 401ks which would finance small nations. Most of us don't. Probably not a vastly different percentage than those who graduated from public high school.

What do we have that they don't? A love. A shared devotion to the ideals and experiences. A respect. A concern for the common good of our classmates. When one of us hurts, we all hurt. We all celebrate the accomplishments of our fellow former cadets, even those who attended at different times.

What amazes me is that some of my closest friends the past few years are those with whom I didn't share a friendship some 50+ years ago. We didn't dislike each other at the time, we just didn't experience a kinship then.

I have daily contact with several of them through Facebook, some less often. There are phone calls, despite the fact that I've come to detest cell phone conversations because of dropped calls, bad coverage, etc. A constant though, are daily thoughts of my former classmates and their families, many of whom I've never met.

Another constant? Our closets are neater than yours.