



Kadet Newsletter

Peacock Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

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Greetings Peacock Brothers,

I want to thank all of you who attended the Peacock Reunion in October. I hope that you had a good time during those 3 days. I sure did. If you did not attend, we missed you and we hope that you will make an effort to join us for the next one in October 2023. We always have fun, since we are a wonderful group of Peacock Kadets from different ages and generations but with a lot in common.

We must point out that the next Reunion will mark the 50th Anniversary of the closing of the Academy. My, how time flies! It is difficult to imagine that it has been that long since our cherished school has been closed. This past October, the General Assembly of Peacock Alumni gave me the honor of serving as the new President of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association. I am truly grateful and I realize that our group faces challenges ahead of us. First of all, we are not getting any younger, not that we need to be reminded of this fact, but it does make us reflect on our future school reunions. Should we change the formats? Should we have them more often? What will be the future of our beloved Peacock

House Museum and all the display artifacts, memorabilia in it?

Fortunately, we have done quite a bit of work in preserving the legacy of Peacock. We are working with the Texas State Guard, through their historical records and museum people.



They have been putting together a Peacock historical display in their facilities. This has been possible through the cooperation of Captain Adam Gonzales who has done a great job in this project. Peacock and the Texas State Guard share an important mutual history thanks to Colonels Wesley and Donald Peacock, especially Col. Don who provided them with a vast amount of training materials and was a great contributor to the Guard. As many of you know Col. Don was awarded the rank of Brigadier General but never adopted

the title and preferred to be known as Colonel Donald Peacock. He did this in consideration for his older brother Colonel Wesley Peacock, not wanting to outrank him.

Another challenge ahead of us is the continuum of our Peacock Scholarship Fund. We have been very successful in creating this fund which will preserve the memory of Peacock. I commend the individuals in the Scholarship Committee and all who have contributed to this worthy effort. As we go forward, we must think about how the Scholarship Memorial Fund will continue when we are gone.

I feel that with the great team of people on our Board and the input of the rest of our wonderful alumni, we will be successful in resolving these challenges with positive outcomes.

I look forward to working with everyone on the Board and all the great Peacock Alumni.

Best,
David Lewis
President



PMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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1st Vice President	Robert (Butch) Good II '67
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Raul Gonzalez '68	Frank Reyna Torres '63
Rudolph M. (Rudy) Johnson '53	Michael A. Vlieger '62
James Barrett (Jim) Kenney '59	William Tandy Walker '73
Robert D. (Bob) Meuth '72	James Neil (Jim) Zachary '64

ALTERNATES

Byron W. McKinnon '73
George A. Veloz '66

TAPS

Louis Bry Jr. '38
Arthur Girard Hamilton Jr. '40
Alfred M. Guijarro '43
James E. Sarrells '43
Lee J. Molesworth '44
William I. Buchanan '46
George C. King '46
George W. Elliott III '48
Edgar C. Christensen '50
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Robert Alvin Garza '53
Toy Eugene Echols '57
Fred Eugene Fisher '58
Col. Fernando D. Cuellar '59
Karl Dorr '59
Danny Anthony Perugini '60
Richard W. Gillespie '62
Walter James Costello '63
Adlai MacMillan Pate III '66
Robert Birkenmeier '67
Sam Laviage '67
Morgan Curtis (Mike) Looney '67

John Robert Pierce '68
Joseph Earl Keezer '69
Billy Mack Arnold Jr. '71
Ramiro Jose Rodriguez Jr. '71
Donald McCall '72
Brian Bell '73



Welcome New Life Members!!!

Toy Eugene Echols '57 Anthony J. Wren '72
Lt. Col. Fernando D. Cuellar '59

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.

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
Paul Robert Weston '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.

PEACOCK NEEDS A WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR

The Peacock Military Academy Alumni Association is in deep need of a Website Administrator. Sadly, our administrator, Bob Birkenmeier '67 passed away and since then, our PMA Website is unattended.

Volunteers please contact
Arturo Wolf '73
at arturowlfs@gmail.com.



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		

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

Please add \$5.00 for shipping and handling.

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

2022-2023 Dues

The Alumni Association is collecting dues for 2022-2023 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!



PEACOCK ASSOCIATION VISITS CAMP MABRY

In March, Mike Vlieger '62 and Raul Gonzalez '68 made a trip to Camp Mabry in Austin, Texas. Camp Mabry is the home of the Texas State Guard.

Previously, the Texas State Guard had made two trips to the Peacock House to gather additional information on the Academy's connection to the Texas State Guard during and after WWII. They were also collecting information on Colonel Donald Peacock who was very involved with the Texas State Guard, even writing many of the training manuals. While the Guard was visiting the Peacock House, they took pictures and copied documents. A Peacock uniform was loaned to the Guard that would be part of a planned display at the Guard's Headquarters. It is the "Ike" jacket that belonged to George Slaughter '47.

A month later, Captain Adam Gonzales contacted Mike Vlieger with an invitation to come visit the display. Mike and Raul Gonzalez visited and were very impressed with the display and how the Guard had honored Colonel Donald Peacock. They also took time to visit the Texas State Guard Museum. This museum should be on all PMA Alumni list of things to visit. Raul and Mike left saying goodbye to Captain Adam Gonzales and Lt. Col. Geoffrey Conner, historians for the Texas State Guard. They also thanked S/Sgt. Pruitt, the Public Affairs Officer for the Guard and Major General Robert J. Bodisch, Sr. Commanding General of the Texas State Guard.

Donna Peacock also later visited the Museum and was impressed with the way that Col. Donald Peacock is honored and his biography displayed in the Hall of Honor. It has been agreed by the Texas National Guard to mutually cooperate with the Peacock Association in the recording and preservation of our connected histories.



*Donna Peacock next to Hall of Honor
Display for her
father Col. Donald Peacock*



*Mike Vlieger '62 and Raul Gonzalez '68
with Texas State Guard Staff.
Capt. Adam Gonzales on the right.*

KADET NEWS

Fred Rigby '56 and **Jim Ingram '56** generously donated several benches for our Senior Terrace. They have been placed by the Peacock Monument. They look great and they will surely be appreciated by friends and relatives who attend the Gray Line Ceremony during the Alumni Reunions. Thank you Fred and Jim!!!

Jim Oakley '65 informed us that he has a very complete collection of all Peacock Yearbooks ever published. He was able to collect them through e-bay and other sources. It is great to know that he has taken the time to save all those memories from our wonderful school.

Jack Whittiker '63 undertook shoulder surgery recently. He is doing well and living in Phoenix, Arizona.

Ed Ford '62 also had to spend his time on the operating table, and two months in the hospital due to surgery complications. He is thankfully doing better. We look forward to seeing him again at our Board Meetings.

Bruce McDonald Barrett '65 is doing fine and lives in Cantonment, Florida. He has written a book titled FLIGHT FROM ARABIA. In it he mentions his time at Peacock and interesting stories of his family in Saudi Arabia where his father served as Military Attache'. It is an excellent read with a lot of nostalgia about coming of age in Texas and Peacock. AVAILABLE ON AMAZON.

Marvin Bry, a nephew of **Louis Bry '38** contacted the Peacock Alumni Assn. to ask if we had any records of his uncle. He knew his uncle Louis had attended Peacock in the 30's. We were able to find his grade records and correspondence that included a very heartfelt letter written by his mother in which she expressed gratitude for the education her son received at Peacock. The Bry family was happy to receive copies of the documents.

Luis Bartheuneuf '69 lives in Torreon, Coahuila. He was the last of the 6 year Kadets. He and his wife Laura came down with Covid. We hope that they have fully recovered.



Ramiro Rodriguez Jr. '71 was Mayor of Palmhurst, Texas for more than 23 years. He passed away in April. His death was announced by U.S. Congressman Henry Cuellar from Laredo and Senator Juan Hinojosa. They had beautiful words for a "passionate public servant" who "served South Texas with pride and dignity".

Mike Rawson '71 and his wife Priscilla are living in Ajijic, Jalisco, Mexico since 2019. They enjoy life down there. They met with Ignacio **Rivero-Franyutti '72**, who came down to visit, since he has family in nearby Tequila, Jalisco. We are sure that a few tequilas were enjoyed.

Wallace Morgan '50 sent us this picture from a newspaper. It shows him (2nd from left) and **Ruffin Johnson '50** (deceased) in Peacock uniform (3rd from left). They are collecting scrap during WWII.



We found **Albert Franks Orozco III (Rosco) '61**. He is living in Hollywood, Florida. He told us he was a 6 year Kadet and bragged that he was an Expert shooter. Good to have you on our mailing list.



PEACOCK SCHOLARSHIP FUND AWARDS 3 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2022/2023



The Scholarship Committee met in July 2022 at The Peacock House to interview applicants to the Peacock Military Academy Memorial Scholarship Fund.

For the Fall Semester 2022 and Spring Semester 2023 our scholarship recipient is **John M. Wilburn**. John is a sophomore at UTSA. He was highly recommended by the University Army ROTC Department. He impressed our Scholarship Committee with his composure and intelligence.

John will receive \$10,000 for the current scholastic year. He will be our guest at our Board of Directors meeting this October.

The generosity of our Peacock Brothers is what makes us able to help deserving young people with an ROTC education. Through them 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. Your contributions are tax deductible since Peacock is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. Please use the enclosed form and return envelope for this purpose. Also, a donation in honor of a deceased Kadet, will list HIS name in the Peacock Memorial Scholarship Fund Honor Roll.

PEACOCK MEDALS



This past Spring, once again, the Peacock Military Academy Alumni Association awarded the PEACOCK MEDAL to the outstanding military cadet at 4 different Texas Academies. The medals were awarded at the different graduation ceremonies. A Peacock Alumnus was present at each Academy to give the award to each cadet.



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

It is in this manner, by rewarding high scholastic, character, and leadership qualities that we honor the spirit of Peacock. In this way, we also support and help preserve Jr. ROTC education. We hold the firm belief that ROTC education through its values, contributes positively to the future of our society.

The Peacock Medal Recipients for Spring 2022 were:

Marine Military Academy: Cadet William Webb - Presented by Earl Adams '62

San Antonio Academy: Cadet Lee Thornton Brockwell - Presented by Col. Raul Gonzalez '68

San Marcos Military Academy: Cadet Mitchell Howard - Presented by David Lewis '70

Texas Military Institute: Cadet Chaz Bregman - Presented by Jim Hyslop '62

PEACOCK REUNION 2021 WAS GREAT!

LET'S MAKE REUNION 2023 EVEN BETTER!

MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND

2023 WILL MARK 50TH ANNIVERSARY SINCE PMA CLOSED

Mark the date: October 6th, 7th, and 8th 2023 at the Westin San Antonio North Hotel. Rooms for Peacock will include breakfast, free parking and complimentary shuttle to and from the airport.

Contact your classmates and encourage them to come. It is a golden opportunity to share and reminisce of old times and catch up on new times.



Coach Cortez receiving award from Mike Vlieger '62



Wolf A. '73 with Glen Marshall '72



Donna Peacock with Renny Johnson (Daughter of Rudy '53)



Tom Knight '47, Julie Knight, Rudy Johnson '53



Bruce Burney '62 and Tom Perini '62 allow Rudy to pet ceremonial horse.



Meuth '72, Grunwald '72, McKinnon '73, Xaudaro '73, Hatley '73, Calvi F. '73



Meuth '72, Calvi C. '71, Ragsdale '71, Peggy Ragsdale.



Gonzalez R. '68, Williams '68, Clower '68, Pacheco '69, Keienburg '69, Lewis '70, Berglund '71



Jana and Rick Grunwald '72, Marty Cavanaugh '67



Fowler '62, Good '67, Wolf E. (son of Wolf A.) Renny Johnson, Gonzales V. '66, Cavanaugh '67, Xaudaro '73



Wolf A. introduces Byron McKinnon '73 to Tom Perini '62



Mary and Jose Pacheco '69

PEACOCK PROFILES OF CHARACTER

Col. Robert Coleman Bacon, PMA Class of '51: A good soldier in war and peace

In spring 1964, then U.S. Army Capt. Robert C. "Bobby" Bacon was leading South Vietnamese troops through the Mekong Delta in the early days of America's involvement in the Vietnam War.

Bacon was one of 100 American officers handpicked to serve as advisers to the South Vietnamese Army, with the dual purpose of leading troops against Viet Cong insurgents and assessing their ability to fight and win. The advisers were the leading edge of America's protracted involvement in the nation's most complicated and controversial war.

As Bacon led the men through a tall grassy field, famed English war photographer Larry Burrows snapped a picture. The image ended up on the cover of Life magazine. Larry Burrows later would die during the conflict when his helicopter was shot down in Laos over the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

Bacon's son, Robin, said his father considered being picked as one of the first advisers into Vietnam as his greatest military achievement. "It was a great honor," said Robin Bacon, now head football coach at Spring Valley High School.

Bobby Bacon was a Texas native with an impressive military pedigree. A West Point graduate, he was the grandson, son, and brother of West Point graduates, all Colonels like himself. His brother Col. Willis Garrett Bacon, Peacock Class of '49 also served valiantly in Vietnam. His Grandfather Lt. Col. Willis Bacon served under General Pershing in the Mexican campaign where he was wounded and in the Meuse-Argonne campaign in France during WWI. His father Colonel Robert Lynn Bacon led Task Force Bacon under General George S. Patton. His task force in the 95th Infantry Division is credited with liberating the fortress city of Metz, France in WWII.

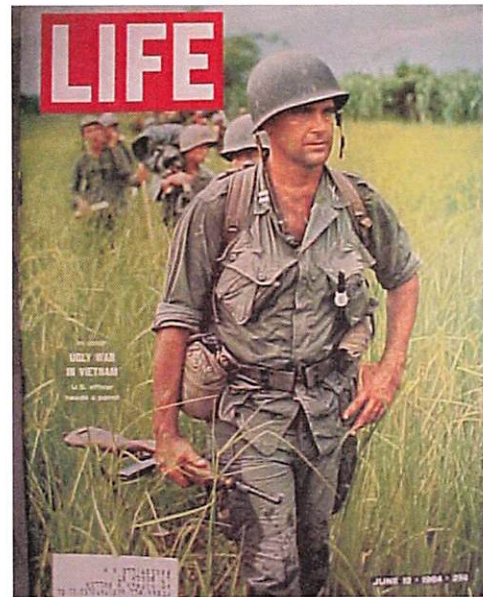
Growing up in Texas, Bobby Bacon and his brother, Gary, were adventurous, the family said. They would hop railroad freight cars and travel from Texas to destinations such as Pawley's Island in South Carolina and peach farms in Georgia. He earned money in the summers working shrimp boats off of South Padre Island, Texas and the South Carolina Coast.

After graduating from Peacock Military Academy Bacon earned an appointment to West Point and graduated in 1956. While at the military academy, Bacon's suite mate and friend was Norman Schwarzkopf, who later obtained the rank of general and served as commander of U.S. Central Command during the Gulf War in 1991.

Bacon volunteered for two tours of duty in Vietnam, during which he was awarded the Silver Star, the nation's third highest award for valor in combat. He also received a Bronze Star and twice the Legion of Merit.

Following his service in Vietnam, Bacon served as protocol officer for both Army Chiefs of Staff General William Westmoreland, who commanded all U.S. troops in that conflict from 1964 to 1968, and General Harold Johnson.

Under Johnson, Bacon helped plan the funeral of U.S. Senator



Robert Kennedy, who was assassinated in June 1968 while seeking the Democratic presidential nomination. Kennedy was the brother of former President John F. Kennedy. For his work, Bacon received a letter of thanks from Robert Kennedy's widow, Ethel.

Under Westmoreland, Bacon also helped plan the funeral of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1969. Eisenhower served as Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe during WWII. Eisenhower also was a former military trainer and football coach at Peacock Military Academy, and visited the campus during his presidency. This connection made the task rewarding for Col. Bacon.

Col. Bobby Bacon had a career with significant combat duty and significant peacetime duty. He held very sensitive positions and dealt with many high-level people, executing all assignments at a high level of performance.

In 1976, as commander of Fort Jackson's 2nd Infantry Brigade in South Carolina, he guided a pilot program to test training male and female recruits together. Before, women went through basic training separately and differently from men. "It was kind of interesting," Bacon said in 2011. "There were pros and cons. One of the things was that all the women were high school graduates, and a lot of the guys were Category 4s (without high school diploma). On things like verbal tests on the assembly and disassembly of a rifle, the women would ace those tests, and some of the guys just weren't equipped to get it all. But on the other side, the physical side of it, a lot of women who came in had difficulty with the physical fitness."

After retiring from the Army, he worked for the United Nations Peacekeeping Task Force in Israel and Egypt, as well as a military consultant in Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the Sinai Peninsula.

Colonel Robert C. Bacon, a Peacock graduate, a profile of character who made us proud in war and in peace.