



The Kablegram



Stanton Military Academy Alumni Newsletter

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Fourth Quarter — November 2007

2008 reunion set for April 11-13

The weekend of April 11, 12 and 13 will see another generous influx of Stanton Military Academy alumni into Stanton, Virginia. Reunions over the past five years have produced steadily increasing attendance records, with the 2007 event hosting more than 130 “old boys”. Although no specific goal has been established, the SMA Alumni Association Reunion Committee is hopeful that the 2007 record can be surpassed.

The years of 1933, 1938, 1943, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968 and 1973 will be honored at the reunion (see separate story on page 5).

Headquarters for the 2008 event will be the Stonewall Jackson Hotel, where 100 rooms have been set aside at a special SMA Reunion Rate. Alumni planning to attend should take time now to make reservations by calling (540) 885-4848.

The Hampton Inn on Route 11 south of Stanton will serve as a secondary location for reunion attendees. The Hampton Inn provided a block of rooms in 2006 and 2007, and was a welcome haven for reunion attendees.

The weekend events will begin with a meeting of the Board of Directors on Friday, April 11, followed at 11:00 a.m. by registration in the Mess Hall. The annual SMA-VWIL Review is set for 4:00 p.m. on Kable Field. Alumni will form up on the asphalt in front of what once was North Barracks, and will march down the ramp and onto the field behind the Virginia Women’s Institute for Leadership (VWIL) Corps of Cadets.

As of this publication, the annual Memorial Wall Ceremony will not be held following the parade. There are no plaques to be installed on the wall this year.

The reading of the list of 2007-2008 deceased alumni will likely be incorporated into the Saturday morning business meeting.

A barbecue and reception will be held in the Mess Hall from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A cash bar will be available. The menu for the barbecue will be published in the February 2008 issue of *The Kablegram*.

Reunion events will continue Saturday morning with an annual membership meeting at 10:00 a.m. at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel, and a separate meeting of alumni ladies from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the hotel.

The reunion banquet will begin at 6:30 p.m., preceded by a reception in the main lobby of the hotel at 5:30 p.m. There will be a cash bar at the reception.

Guest speaker at the banquet will be Barry M. Goldwater, Jr., SMA ‘57, former U.S. Congressman from California from 1969 to 1983, and three-time All-American swim team member.



Headquarrters for the 2008 SMA reunion will be the Stonewall Jackson Hotel. 100 rooms, at a special SMA Reunion Rate, have been blocked for alumni. Reservations should be made at the earliest date by calling (540) 885-4848.

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Mark J. Orr, SMA '73 Webmaster

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Arlene Nicely SMA Alumni Secretary

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 Julian S. Lake IV, SMA '74
 Burdette W. Holmes, SMA '62
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 Robert W. Parker, Jr., SMA '67
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REFLECTIONS FROM THE HILL

Looking ahead – our goals are the same for 2008 and beyond

When I attended the April 14, 2007 meeting of the Board of Directors in Staunton, I did not have any reason to believe that I would, in just a few months, assume the presidency of our organization. However, as we all know, life is full of surprises. I stepped into the leadership role in August 2007 when Mr. Litzenburg became ill and could not effectively continue as the president of the SMA Alumni Association.



My time at Staunton Military Academy was brief — just one year on the varsity football team. But short as it was, it was long in terms of experiences and friendships that have endured the many years since and given me a keen appreciation of what SMA did for me.

My first official responsibility as president came in late August when our alumni sponsored a picnic for the returning upperclass VWIL cadets, and I felt a need to address the group. I told the cadets that only the leadership had changed, and reiterated that everything that the association and the Board of Directors had establish as goals and programs would be continued through 2007 and 2008.

Is there anything else I would like to accomplish? Yes! **I would like to see a more generous response to our requests for dues payments.** For the past several years, approximately 600 alumni have paid the \$50.00 dues. Since we have 3,000 registered alumni, the number of members paying dues is proportionately small.

The real value of your dues is not only the experience of belonging, but maintaining the heritage and values of SMA and encouraging the VWIL women in their quest to continue the same experience as we did and enhancing their futures through your contributions

There will likely be a few other innovations during my tenure. For the moment, however, I believe the best thing we can do is voice our support for our past president, and continue the programs that the Board of Directors established. We have a great organization and good people who are committed to perpetuation of the SMA legacy.

Let's make sure their dedication and loyalty are recognized and utilized to our association's maximum benefit.

— Harry W. Bruckno, SMA '62, President

2007-2008 DUES REMITTANCE

NAME: _____ YEAR _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____

ZIP: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Cruise set for March 1st for SMA alumni /friends

Lee W. Lawrence, SMA '56 and Thomas E. "Tim" Howard, SMA '54 have announced *SMA Alumni and Friends Caribbean Cruise* in March 2008. The cruise line is Silverseas, and the ship is the *Silver Wind* a ship accommodating 290 passengers. The cruise starts in Barbados on March 1, 2008 and concludes in Puerto Rico on March 8.

The itinerary — March 1: Bridgetown, Barbados; March 2: Saint George, Grenada; March 3: Castries, Saint Lucia; March 4: Roseau, Dominica; March 5: Saint Johns, Antigua; March 6: Gustavia, Saint Barts; March 7: Road Town, Tortola (British Virgin Islands), and March 8: San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The cost is all inclusive, and no separate gratuities are required. Costs vary according to cabin size and location: the Vista Cabin is \$1,947 per person, the Veranda Cabin is \$2,447 per person, and the Midships Veranda Cabin is \$2,547 per person. Flights from the east coast can be arranged to Barbados and from Puerto Rico. There is a \$100 government fee, and there are taxes.

For more details, either Mr. Lawrence or Mr. Howard can be contacted:

Lee W. Lawrence (904) 823-9585
lwlawrence@comcast.net

Thomas E. Howard ... (386) 427-3363
TEHatEdgewater@aol.com

Arranging this trip is Liz K. of Unique Travel, who can be reached by telephone at (800) 245-3403, or by email address lizk@uniquetrav.com. She has advised Mr. Lawrence that she can arrange flights from the east coast to Barbados and back from San Juan from \$450 to \$650, depending upon the starting point.

CORRECTIONS

On Page 1 of the September issue of *The Kablegram*, in the first paragraph of the reunion article, "May" was given as the date of the reunion. It was in fact held April 13-14 in Staunton, Virginia.

On page 6 of the September issue, the information regarding Michael Byington, SMA '61 should reflect that he served six years as a full color and retired at that rank.

The Kablegram always tries to be accurate, but do not always have time and resources to double-check information.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

We cannot overstate...

...the importance of taking the time to write a check for your annual dues and sending it in to the SMA Alumni Association. In his message on page two, Mr. Bruckno points out that fewer than 600 alumni pay dues, when in fact there are more than 3,000 members in our organization.

Think what we could do if more members paid dues! Your dues enable the association to publish *The Kablegram*, maintain the SMA Alumni Office and the association's database of 3,000+ alumni, and provide a variety of services.

Can you take a few moments and send us your dues today?

Were looking for a few writers...

...to help with *The Kablegram*. Burdette Holmes, SMA '62, recently signed on as Associate Editor. James C. "Jim" May, SMA '64, offered a great story that appears in this issue. Mark J. Orr, SMA '73 has two articles, both on page four. *The Kablegram* and our website (www.sma-alumni.org) are equally important methods of communication with SMA alumni. If you are interested in helping, please take a moment to contact us at kablegram@sma-alumni.org or cldisma58@cox.net, or contact the SMA Alumni Office at smaalumni@msn.com.

Good news for VWIL...

...in the check for \$15,000 issued by SMA Alumni Association Treasurer Thomas A. Davis, SMA '62, to the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) as a portion of the pledged \$50,000 SMA-VWIL Initiative contribution for 2007-2008. VWIL Commandant Brig. Gen. Michael Bissell has indicated that he will prepare an article for the February 2008 issue of *The Kablegram*, detailing many of the ways that funds from the SMA-VWIL Initiative are being utilized.

Make your reservations now...

...if your April 2008 plans include the 2008 SMA Reunion in Staunton. The Stonewall Jackson Hotel (540-885-4848) has 50 single and 50 double rooms blocked at a special reunion rate. Based on the attendance at the 2007 reunion, these rooms will soon be committed to SMA alumni. The hotel reports that half of these rooms have already been reserved. An additional 30 rooms are blocked at the Hampton Inn (540-886-7000) on U.S. Route 11 south of Staunton. We anticipate a large turnout for the 2008 reunion, close to or better than the 130+ attendees at the 2007 event.

LATE NEWS

SMA alumnus targets band with contribution

Tilden Miller, SMA '51, of New York, New York, recently sent a series of contributions to the SMA Alumni Association. Included in his donations was one for \$100.00 which he specifically marked for the VWIL Band.

TV, DVD player, couch, and paintings donated to VWIL

David C. Beduhn, SMA '69, who has for several years videotaped all SMA reunion activities and created DVD sets for sale to alumni and also to provide a permanent record in the SMA-VWIL Museum, has donated a new television set with built-in DVD player to the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL).

Mrs. Katherine Rutkowsky of Sterling, Virginia, a client of C. David Litzenburg, SMA '58, has donated several items to VWIL, including a couch, stand alone closet, and framed paintings. The items were delivered October 28.

Kable Hall alcove donation goal of \$3,000 met in October

The Kable Hall Alcove Fund, which was established in March to restore the area and facilitate the return of the bust of Major Thomas D. Howie, met its \$3,000 funding goal in October with a \$1,000 contribution from Sally Howie McDevitt. The fund was started in March with a \$1,000 to-be-matched donation from Hunter W. Henry Jr., and was subsequently supported by eight additional SMA alumni.

SMA ALUMNI NEWS AND VIEWS

Class of 1973 to mark its 35th anniversary reunion *Looking for at least 35 classmates to attend next year*

It's been 35 years and now we're all in our early '50's — hard to believe! Looking back, almost every SMA alumnus that I've ever talked with shares the common view that our years at SMA were the most influential and for many, established the course heading of how we have lived our lives and pursued careers. Visiting Staunton, our former SMA campus, our museum, attending a reunion, and seeing old friends always brings back a flood of memories of our lives back then. We're coming up on another major milestone, so I hope you will consider coming to the next reunion in 2008.

The next SMA Annual Reunion is set for April 11-12, 2008 in Staunton, Virginia. This will mark the "35th Anniversary" since graduating for the Class of 1973. In 1998, for our 25th anniversary, we had 14 members from our class attend the reunion and we had a great time! You can see pictures from the 25th reunion posted at: <http://www.concentric.net/~markorr/reunpics0.htm>. Next year, we are trying to set the bar higher and trying for a much larger attendee count — let's try for 35, which is approximately half the size of our graduation class and quite appropriate since it's our 35th anniversary!

What can you do? First, please contact one of the two class reunion contacts to establish connection and whether or not you are considering attending next April. Second, help us with updating our class list by providing current contact info on yourself and any other Class of '73 classmates that you communicate with on a regular basis. Third, reunions are the most fun when many of your friends are there — so, start working on getting our former classmates to attend with you. These reunions are family friendly, so bring your spouse/girlfriend and children — they are welcome. Lastly, visit the SMA Alumni Association web site Reunion page (<http://www.sma-alumni.org/reunion.htm>) for additional details and registration forms, which will be posted as we get closer to the reunion.

Mark your calendars now to reserve the dates and hope to see you at our 35th reunion!

Class of 1973 Reunion Contacts:

Mark Orr
Virginia Beach, Virginia
markorr1@verizon.net
Telephone: (757) 631-6883

Bill "Bear" Hildebrand
Madison, Alabama
tricobra1@yahoo.com
Telephone: (256) 426-1435

FINANCIAL NEWS YOU CAN USE

You need to grab this tax break while you can *Timing is critical; law expires December 31, 2007*

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allowed people 70½ and older to transfer up to \$100,000 per year from their IRAs to a charity and avoid paying income taxes on the money.

But there's a catch: The law allowing these tax-free transfers **expires at the end of this year**. So if you're over age 70½ and had been thinking of making a big charitable contribution, you may want to make your move before December 31 so you can benefit from this tax break.

The SMA Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization and qualifies as a charitable tax-exempt entity under this tax provision. This is a great "win-win" way for those SMA alumni interested in taking advantage of this tax provision to support their alumni association.

The charitable IRA transfer can be valuable for retirees who need to take required minimum distributions (RMDs) from traditional IRAs because it allows them to dodge a big income-tax bill on their withdrawals if their accounts have increased significantly in value through the years. For more information about calculating your IRA required minimum distributions, see IRS Pub 590.

However, if you make a tax-free transfer from an IRA, you can't write off the gift as a charitable contribution, too. The IRS won't let you double-dip the tax benefits. But this IRA gift is particularly helpful for people who want to make a charitable

contribution but do not itemize and otherwise cannot deduct the gift, which is the case for many seniors who paid off their homes and are taking the standard deduction.

Another benefit: The contribution counts as your required distribution but is **not included in your adjusted gross income**. Being able to exclude this money from your income could help you fall below income cut-offs for certain tax breaks and could reduce the 2007 tax bill on your Social Security benefits.

What happens with this tax break beyond 2007 is unclear. It may be extended to future years, but its fate is uncertain at this time.

Talk with your IRA trustee and the charity about the procedure for making the transfer and what documentation they'll need to provide for tax purposes.

The contact person for the SMA Foundation, Inc. is Thomas A. Davis, SMA '62, Treasurer, SMA Alumni Association. Mr. Davis can be reached at First Bank and Trust Company in Staunton, Virginia. Telephone: (540) 213-8001. E-mail: tomdavis@firstbank.com.

Editor's note: This article and the article above regarding the Class of 1973 were both prepared by Mark J. Orr, SMA '73, SMA Alumni Association webmaster and longtime member of the Board of Directors.

then and now — an SMA profile

REUNION 2008

Barry Goldwater, Jr., SMA '57

“Barry Goldwater Jr. was elected to US Congress in 1969. During his political and Government service, he has expressed his knowledge, experience and feelings before many diverse audiences. After Congress he has been asked to speak before conventions, management, sales, marketing, meetings and political gatherings. .

Now retired from politics, he is available to appear before just about any group, Goldwater has a life time experience in and around government and politics at the local, state, and Federal level. He offers a unique perspective on the state of our nation. His delivery is fast paced, hard hitting and laced with a bit of humor.

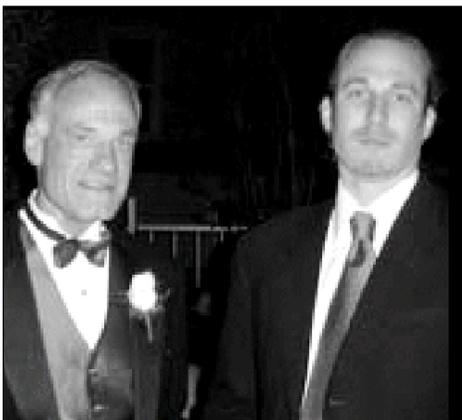
His message can be summarized as follows: Over a century ago, his great, great grandfather came to America fleeing persecution. He brought nothing but the clothes on his back, a dream of prosperity and a dogged determination to make that dream a reality. Early in the nation's history people like Barry's great, great grandfather did not expect the government to wipe their noses or raise their children.

Charity came from the heart not a government program. We have traded the ideals of self-sufficiency and hard work for hand outs, dependency and entitlements. Nations decline when they stop doing what made them successful. Only hard work, perseverance and risk taking breed success and government must encourage, not hamper, that entrepreneurial spirit. Our country's future depends on it.”

— Comments about Barry Goldwater Jr., from his official website



Above, left to right: Barry, Jr. with his first airplane, a D17-S Staggerwing Beach; Barry Jr. and his wife, Sylvia; and Micahel Goldwater, SMA '58 and Barry Jr.



Barry Jr. and his son, Barry Morris III.



Barry Jr. exits a U.S. Air Force F-5F.

Additional background information regarding Barry Goldwater's involvement in charity, his corporate and personal affiliations, his appearances, and more photos are available on his official website: www.barrygoldwaterjr.com.

Class of '58 celebrates 50th anniversary

Recognizing that the continuing passage of time is their worst enemy, the SMA class of 1958 will celebrate their 50th anniversary of graduation at the 2008 reunion in Staunton.

A number of class members have been lost in recent years, including William J. Reynolds, “C” Company commander, who died in a diving accident in the Caribbean, Geoffrey J. Wilson, Band commander, and Yale Jean Singer, whose story was featured in *The Kablegram* several years ago when he lost his wife to a stroke. Most recently, Gary E. Schmidt, the 1958 “G” Company First Lieutenant, died.

Despite the losses, the class today stands at 77 members that have been located, with a presumption that more members are alive but their whereabouts is unknown. Several active members live in the Staunton area: Alan B. Painter, “G” Company commander; Simon M. Painter, Jr., Regimental Adjutant; and Douglas Marsh, 1958 Band Sergeant First Class.

Simon M. Painter is a member of the SMA Alumni Association Board of Directors and has been a member of the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) Promotions Board for two years.

C. David Litzenburg, immediate past president of the SMA Alumni Association, has volunteered to be coordinator for the class for the 2008 reunion and will keep in close contact with all known members.

Mr. Litzenburg can be reached by e-mail at cldsma58@cox.net, by telephone at (703) 860-8052, and by regular mail at 12718 Pinecrest Road, Herndon, Virginia 20171-2608.

“Those of us who have survived to this point have a keen appreciation of just how long 50 years is, and what it means to be able to return to the ‘Hill’ and renew friendships amidst many of the buildings where we lived and learned,” Mr. Litzenburg recalls, noting that for the past five years he and several local alumni have been involved with the SMA Alumni Association, VWIL and the growing bond between the two organizations.

“There is only one 50th anniversary,” he said, adding that “this is a truly unique opportunity to come back to SMA.”

then and now — an SMA profile

Barry Goldwater, Jr., SMA '57: championship swimmer, Congressman, still actively involved

The SMA Alumni Association has announced that former Congressman Barry Goldwater, Jr., SMA '57 will be the keynote speaker at the 2008 reunion in April.

Congressman Goldwater has a long family history with Staunton Military Academy: his father, Senator Barry M. Goldwater, Sr., graduated in 1928, and his brother, Michael, graduated in 1958.

The Goldwater family is legendary in their home state of Arizona. The Congressman's great grandfather, Mike Goldwater, emigrated from Poland in the late 1840s, arriving in San Francisco, a thriving town in California, which at that time was a brand new U.S. territory. Rather than pan for gold, Mike drove a wagon full of goods out to the mining camps and sold supplies to the miners.

The next year, Mike Goldwater moved to Prescott, Arizona where he opened a dry goods store. Over the next century, the Goldwater clothing business became successful through the efforts of Mike, his sons Barron and Morris, and his two grandsons Bob and Barry (whom we know as Barry Goldwater, Sr., a U.S. Senator and presidential nominee)

Barry, Jr. attended SMA for four years (1954 through 1957). Most of all, he recalls his friends, Thornton "Doc" Safer, John Dean, and Arthur Stern. Together, they were known as the "Four Horsemen" on the SMA swimming team, coached by Edward "Bebo" Dodge. Barry says that he "marched with them then, and still marches with them today, as good friends".

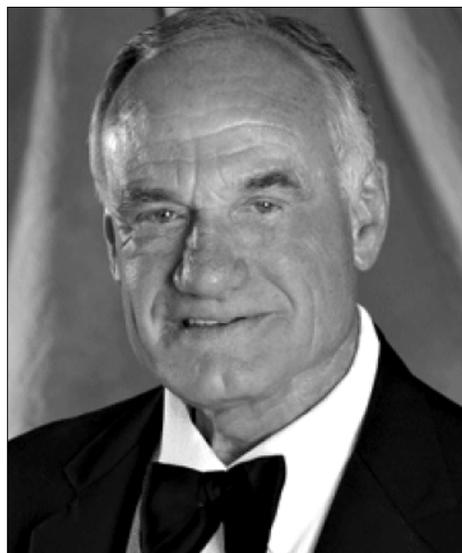
When speaking about the SMA faculty, Barry credits Coach Dodge as the man most responsible for his understanding of the importance of hard work, mental focus, tenacity, and good people skills.

He still remembers that after an afternoon's practice session, which consisted of three hours of diving and swimming, he had no problem sleeping. When taps sounded, he was exhausted.

Under Coach Dodge's guidance, Barry was a three-time Eastern Interscholastic Diving Champion, and at one point, Barry, "Doc" Safer, John Dean, and Art

Stern held the world's record in a long course medley relay.

After leaving SMA, Barry attended the University of Colorado in Boulder. As he puts it, he "majored in having a good time". He went skiing on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and weekends, leaving Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays open for class. While at Colorado University, Barry pledged and joined the Sigma Chi national



fraternity. He eventually changed his major to Marketing and Management and earned a Bachelor's of Science degree from Arizona State University.

As a young man, Barry, Jr. had worked in the family store and had planned to grow into management, but the business was sold just as he was finishing college. He had to look in other places for his future and one of those places was Los Angeles, California, where he became a stock broker and learned the meaning of "cold calling — no sales lead... just knock on the door." His persistence and hard work paid off, and soon he could list several large banks and insurance customers as his clients.

In 1964, everything changed. His father won the Republican nomination for President of the United States and Barry, Jr., found himself campaigning across the United States. It was during this campaign that he discovered his love of pub-

lic service. Over the next few years, he became active in the Boys Club, Big Brothers, Boy Scouts of America and the Lion's Club. At age 29, he ran for and won a seat in Congress, representing a half million constituents in north Los Angeles county.

He held his seat for seven terms (1969 through 1984), and served on several committees: Science and Technology, Public Works and Transportation, and the Joint Committee on Energy. Perhaps he is best known for the Privacy Act of 1974, a bill he authored and pushed through to Presidential signature.

During his seven terms, he experienced some exciting times. He was on the committee that reviewed the disaster of the space shuttle "Challenger"; he was in the forefront of codifying the concept of privacy; and he also experienced the Watergate crisis on a personal level, because his old friend and SMA classmate, John Dean, was his next door neighbor.

He says that "a Congressman lives in high octane space"; he openly admits it was difficult for him to leave Congress and to readjust to the world of everyday life, where he was not a celebrity.

Barry retired from public life in 1984 and reentered the business world in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, New York, and Phoenix. Since 1995, he has made Phoenix his home. He shares it with his wife, Sylvia, and his son, Barry Morris Goldwater III. Besides being on several boards of directors, he works in finance and management, and even has time to run several small, startup companies.

His love of public service has not diminished. He regularly speaks out on numerous current issues.

— Burdette Holmes, SMA '62

Editor's Note: Even as a young man, Barry cared about others. As a senior, with all of his pressing duties, he still found time to teach a young 7th grader how to do a back dive from the diving board. I was that 7th grader and I was afraid of the water. He set my fear aside. I will never forget his kind instruction.