# The Kablegram

Staunton Military Academy Alumni Newsletter

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First Quarter — February 2005


Parade, Memorial Wall ceremony, barbecue and banquet will be highlights:

# 2005 reunion set for April 1-2 in Staunton

If you have not registered, it is time to get started. The 2005 reunion is just a few short weeks away — April 1-2.

The events will begin with a Board of Directors meeting Friday morning at the SMA-VWIL Museum, followed by registration at the Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The museum will be open from 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) Corps of Cadets will conduct a review for returning SMA alumni at 4:00 p.m. on Kable Field. Current plans call for the Kable Legion of Honor to be presented at this parade.

Following the review, alumni will gather at the Memorial Wall outside the SMA-VWIL Museum to dedicate new plaques and to recognize SMA's founder, Captain William Hartman Kable.

The Friday evening reception and barbecue will be held in the Hunt West Ballroom on the Mary Baldwin College campus, just a short walk from the SMA-VWIL Museum. The reception will begin at 6:00 p.m. with an open bar (until 7:45 p.m.) and piano/organ dinner music provided by Ray Houser (former WTON radio personality and former owner of the "Royal Virginians" orchestra) of Staunton.

Responding to 2004 reunion survey comments, the food selections for this event have been expanded to include pork barbecue with sauce, pork barbecue without sauce, barbecue chicken, and a variety of side dishes.

Once again music for the 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. dance will be provided by *The Rhondells*, thanks to the generosity of a few "old boys" from the 1970's.

Saturday's activities will begin with the annual business meeting at 9:00 a.m.

While alumni are meeting, a special get-together will be held for alumni wives and guests in a separate room at the Holiday Inn. VWIL Director Dr. Brenda Bryant will attend this event to provide information about the school's history and programs.

At 12:00 Noon, the Staunton Trolley will be available to take alumni and guests to the city's downtown area for sightseeing and shopping, returning them to the Holiday Inn at 3:00 p.m.

The 2005 Reunion dinner will begin with a cash bar reception at 6:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center, followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. The after-dinner program will include remarks by Hunter W. Henry, Jr., SMA '46.

When the dinner program has concluded, a hospitality area with coffee and soft drinks will be set up just outside the banquet room to accommodate those alumni who wish to spend time renewing friendships and reliving old memories — and creating new ones.

Museum hours will be expanded during the reunion weekend. The facility will be open from 12:00 Noon to 3:30 p.m. Friday, and immediately following the Saturday business meeting, remaining open through 5:00 p.m.

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**Friday and Saturday**
**April 1-2, 2005**
**Please turn to page 11 for a Schedule of Events and the Advance Registration form.**
Advance Registrations will be accepted through March 25, 2005.

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# REFLECTIONS FROM THE HILL

## A collection of thoughts

The 2005 reunion is only weeks away. This is the last opportunity I will have to encourage you to register and attend. The planning is done. The arrangements are in place. All we need is you and your guest. Our last few reunions have been excellent and this one promises to be as good or better. On page 4 there is a list of those alumni and guests who have already registered, while on page 11 you will find the weekend's schedule of events and a registration form.

How many more years will you be able to come back to SMA, renew old friendships and make a few new ones? That depends on your age and your health. There is no evidence that any of us have stumbled across the Fountain of Youth, so our time is slipping away. Why not come back now while you can? It will be a very rewarding experience for you!

— ✯ —

Last April, the SMA Alumni Association pledged supplemental support for the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) program. We set a goal of $50,000, of which $41,000 (+) has been met to date. We promised a comprehensive report in this issue of *The Kablegram*. That update can be found on pages 5 and 6 along with several commentaries. We have been able to do some good work, and those who have participated have reason to be proud. I know I am.

— ✯ —

To those who have taken the time to send me feedback and comments by regular mail and e-mail, please accept my thanks and appreciation for your input. Without these messages, and a few critiques as well, I would have no way of knowing if our actions were truly serving the best interests of the association.

I am blessed to have an exellent and proactive Board of Directors behind me. Keeping them well informed and asking for their counsel has in part been a key to success in our endeavors this past year. I am grateful to each member for their consistent loyalty and wisdom.

— ✯ —

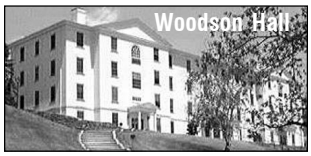
Stay healthy! Be safe! We hope to see many of you April 1-2 in Staunton.

— C. David Litzenburg, SMA '58

# LATE NEWS

## VWIL cadets will be housed together in 2005-2006

Beginning with the 2005-2006 academic year, cadets at the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) will be housed together in three dormitories — Woodson Hall, Kable Hall and Tullidge Hall. Since VWIL was established, members of the Corps of Cadets have been housed throughout the campus. The new arrangement will be the first time that the entire corps will live together in the same dormitories by academic class.



According to Brig. Gen. Michael Bissell, VWIL Commandant, VWIL seniors and juniors will be assigned to Kable Hall, while sophomores will live in Tullidge Hall (near what was once the SMA Junior School) and freshmen (nULLs) will reside in Woodson Hall, located on the main MBC campus.

"We believe that housing our Corps of Cadets in this manner will improve the cohesiveness of the group, enable them to work closer with one another, enabling them to create a stronger bond than current housing allows."

"The Living Learning Centers consist of cadets/students living together with common studies and interests," he said, adding that "students will have a small confer-

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Make your plans now to attend what promises to be an excellent reunion. The Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center has set aside a block of rooms for alumni. Call (540) 248-6020 to make your reservations and ask for the special SMA Reunion Weekend rate. A reunion registration form is provided on page11 in this issue and is also available on our website: *http://www.sma-alumni.org.*

**A list of those planning to attend the 2005 reunion and registered as of February 1, can be found on page 4.**
**See page 12 for a detailed map of MBC campus reunion venues.**

## Hunter Henry, Jr., SMA '46 gets CASE volunteer award

Hunter W. Henry, Jr., SMA '46 will receive the CASE (Council for the Advancement and Support of Education) District III Bill Franklin Volunteer of the Year Award February 22 in Atlanta, Georgia. The award recognizes the vital role of volunteers in institutional advancement who assist in programs such as fundraising, alumni relations, and student recruitment.

Mr. Henry, a 1950 chemical engineering graduate of Mississippi State University (MSU) and the retired president of Dow Chemical USA, has for a number of years been active in his contributions of scholarships, faculty enhancements, an endowed chair in chemical engineering, a lecture series, and the Hunter Henry Center at MSU. He supports scholarships in three academic colleges at Mississippi State, including the Bagley College of Engineering, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the College of Business and Industry. He also supports two scholarships at the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL). He is serving as vice chairman of the steering committee for "State of the Future: The Mississippi State Campaign", which seeks to raise $400 million in private support for the university by December 2008.

In recognition of his many contributions to Mississippi State University, Mr. Henry was named National Alumnus of the Year in 1988. In 2001, the university awarded him an honorary Doctor of Science degree.

Mr. Henry was nominated for the award by the MSU Alumni Association.

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

### A detailed report

....on the utilization of funds contributed to the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) appears on pages 5 and 6 of this issue. For those who have made a donation to the SMA-VWIL Initiative, the report and commentaries will provide affirmation of the needs and the effectiveness of your participation. For those who are still considering a donation, the report emphasizes the continuing need for supplemental support. It is never too late to make a difference!

### Take a trolley ride

....courtesy of a donation and arrangements by Harry Bruckno, SMA '65 and Eileen Bruckno. Following the April 2 business meeting and the concurrent Ladies' coffee at the Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center, the Staunton Trolley will be waiting to take alumni and wives and guests to downtown Staunton. For those interested, the trolley will depart at 12:00 Noon, drop you off at the Visitor's Center, and then pick you up there at 2:45 p.m. and return you to the hotel. This will allow for two hours of touring or shopping in the downtown area. Many thanks to the Brockno's!

### The Kable Legion of Honor

....will be awarded during the SMA-VWIL Alumni Review on Friday, April 1, 2005 at the start of the 2005 SMA Alumni Association Reunion. The award will involve both a pin-back medal in Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership green and SMA gold and an acrylic octagon engraved with the Kable Legion of Honor seal, the name of the recipient and date of presentation. The award was re-established and redesigned in 2004 following a recommendation in 2003 by William Louisell, SMA '46, and will be presented by Paige Kable Bonfoey, great-granddaughter of Captain William Hartman Kable, the founder of Staunton Military Academy. The criteria for the award will be the same stringent requirements used when the medal was bestowed at SMA. Selection of the recipient will be made by a committee within VWIL with participation by a member of the SMA Alumni Association Board of Directors.

### Just a reminder...

....that we need your dues for 2005-2006. As of this issue of *The Kablegram*, 400 alumni have sent in their $50.00 annual dues. That leaves 2,600 alumni who have not responded for our calls for dues payments. The operation of the SMA Office, the services we provide, and the publication of *The Kablegram* depend on dues income. If just 1,000 alumni paid dues this year, the SMA Alumni Association would have a much more comfortable bank balance, *The Kablegram* could be expanded, and our services to our alumni could be enhanced. Please take a few moments to reconsider and send in your dues.

### Another reminder...

....that Stuart Hall will have a luncheon on Saturday, April 2, during our reunion. Interested alumni are invited to attend. We have changed our normal Saturday itinery to accommodate this event. The luncheon will be held in the new gymnasium at Stuart Hall. If you wish to attend, send a check in the amount of $12.00 to Margaret Wood, Alumnae Director, Stuart Hall, P.O. Box 210, Staunton, Virginia 24402-0210. Be sure to identify yourself as an SMA alumnus and include your graduation year and a telephone number or e-mail address where you can be reached.

### An SMA Blog

....has been set up by association webmaster Mark Orr, SMA '73. The blog is designed to provide a forum for alumni to comment on issues related to our activities or to start their own topics about SMA that may generate discussion amongst

— Continued to page 4 —

### We stand corrected

In a recent issue of *The Kablegram*, we listed the people who have donated to the SMA-VWIL Initiative. At the bottom of that list we listed Susan Yates, a Stuart Hall alumnus who contributed to the fund. Susan's graduation date was listed as 1953. It should have been shown as 1973. We regret the typographic error.

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

— Continued from page 3 —

the alumni corps.. The SMA blog can be accessed by opening the *www.sma-alumni.org* website. You will have two options: to post a comment anonymously or to create an account.

**To post a comment anonymously: [1]** Select the "SMAAA Blog link; **[2]** Select the "Comment" link below one of the blog topics; **[3]** Watch for a new link below titled "Post a Comment"; **[4]** Step 3 brings up a "Comment Sign In" page; **[5]** Select the "Or Post Anonymously" link; **[6]** Step 5 will bring up a comment space for you to type in your comment and post it.

**To create an account: [1]** Select the "SMAAA Blog" link; **[2]** Select the "Create an Account" button toward the bottom of the page; **[3]** Check the "I accept the Terms of Service" checkbox; **[4]** Select the "Continue" arrow; **[5]** Step 4 brings up the Dashboard page; **[6]** Select the "SMAAA Blog" link; **[7]** Step 6 brings up the SMAAA Blog and you can read and post to any of the topics and comments posted; **[8]** You can create a new topic by selecting the "Blog This" link at the very top of the page next to the "Search" button; **[9]** Step 8 will open a new blogger with fields that have data. Just delete this data and enter a new title and new text in the appropriate white fields; **[10]** When finished, select "Publish".

## A suggestion...

....from William W. Taylor, SMA '68, of Annapolis, Maryland, that we consider e-mail as a major part of our distribution system for future issues of *The Kablegram*. Mr. Taylor suggests that the proliferation of computers and e-mail capability in the world today might serve as a significant cost savings to the SMA Alumni Association if our newsletter is sent electronically to those with e-mail addresses.

This suggestion has merit. *The Kablegram* is converted to Adobe PDF images for uploading on our website, and can be e-mailed in that format as well. The program needed to read the PDF files — Adobe Acrobat Reader — is readily available on the www.adobe.com website. It is free and easily downloaded and installed.

Thanks for the suggestion, Mr. Taylor. We will follow up with our webmaster, Mark Orr, SMA '73, at the April reunion and see how we can best follow up on this idea.

## Relay for Life

The weekend of April 1, 2005 marks our return to SMA for the 2005 reunion. It also is the weekend that an overnight event called the "Relay for Life" will be held Saturday into Sunday on Kable Field by Mary Baldwin College students, including at least one team from the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) Corps of Cadets.

Donations generated by the relay will benefit the American Cancer Society. The Mary Baldwin College and VWIL teams will have members on the track at all times, 24 hours around the clock, beginning Saturday, April 2.

Several of us have independently pledged to provide bottled water to the MBC/VWIL teams. Any alumnus interested in making a personal donation to the effort should contact Ms. Leigh A. Frame at Mary Baldwin College at (540) 887-4063 or by e-mail at *FrameLA7928@mbc.edu*. We encourage alumni to visit the event during Saturday afternoon free time and offer encouragement to the participants.

# LATE NEWS

— Continued from page 3 —

ence room for meetings and group study areas." He noted that other common interest groups at Mary Baldwin College will have the same opportunities.

## Cadet Store has new items

A South Barracks Commemorative Mug — marble grey with an image of South Barracks with blue lettering — will soon be available through the SMA Alumni Association Cadet Store. The cost will be $5.00 plus shipping.

Also new are grey sweatshirts with "Staunton Military Academy" embroidered over crossed rifles. These will be available in medium to 3X, priced at $25.00 (plus shipping) for medium and large, and $30.00 (plus shipping) for extra large and 3X.

A blue golf shirt with gold trim (sleeve chevrons and neck ring), emroidered with "Staunton Military Academy" in gold over crossed rifles, is now available in the same sizes as the sweatshirts. The cost will be $30.00 (plus shipping). Shirts should be available in mid-February.

The golf shirt illustrated and listed in the Cadet Store in this and previous issues of *The Kablegram* is still available.

## Reunion 2005 Registrants

(as of February 1, 2005)

| ALUMNUS | YEAR | GUEST(S) |
|---|---|---|
| Paul J. "Ike" Kivlighan | SMA '29 | |
| Frederick H. Walton | SMA '33 | |
| Ralph L. Sebrell | SMA '45 | Ann W. Sebrell |
| Hunter W. Henry, Jr. | SMA '46 | Sonny Berry<br>Stan Finch |
| Col. Brooke F. Read, Jr. | SMA '46 | Susan Read |
| Stuart P. Smith | SMA '48 | Jean Smith |
| Bruce K. Fisher | SMA '49 | Jennie Fisher |
| Dr. John S. Raynolds | SMA '50 | Shiela Reynolds |
| Albert S. Merritt | SMA '51 | Sylvia K. Merritt |
| William P. Clary, Jr. | SMA '54 | |
| Hamilton S. Beggs | SMA '55 | |
| Lee W. Lawrence | SMA '56 | |
| Simon M. Painter Jr. | SMA '58 | Vickie Painter |
| C. David Litzenburg | SMA '58 | JoAnn Litzenburg |
| Dr. Wilfred B. Webb | SMA '61 | Susan B. Webb |
| Thomas A. Davis, III | SMA '62 | Connie Davis |
| Lawrence J. Hertzberg | SMA '62 | Angela Hertzberg |
| Robert L. "Bobby" Jenkins | SMA '65 | |
| Robert A. Nebiker | SMA '65 | |
| Brocky A. Nicely | SMA '65 | Arlene Nicely |
| James K. Smith | SMA '65 | Rynne Smith |
| Jay C. Nedry | SMA '69 | Michelle Grant |
| Gregory P. Robertson | SMA '70 | |
| Robert R. Roths | SMA '70 | Judy Roths |
| Lou C. Stathis | SMA '70 | |
| Mark J. Orr | SMA '73 | |
| Eugene K. Ehmann | SMA '74 | |
| Craig E. Hanson | SMA '74 | |
| Tom D. Winford | SMA '75 | Diane Winford |

# SPECIAL REPORT: THE SMA-VWIL INITIATIVE

"As I have passed thru this last decade being involved with these university students there is one important fact that has become more and more apparent to me. Young people yearn (though it is sometimes not too cool with their peers) for older people, in addtion to their parents, who they can look up to as someone who has taught them some valuable lessons as they go forward in life. In our case it is the understanding of the spirit of giving when nothing is expected in return except a "carrying on" of that little nugget of living in their own lives. If one can inculcate that mindset into the new generation then much has been gained by our small acts of gifting and caring for them."

— Hunter W. Henry Jr., SMA '46, from an e-mail January 10, 2005 to *The Kablegram* editor

An open letter from the committee chairman:

## We need to help!…and we need to make a difference!

As Chairman of the SMA-VWIL Initiative Committee, I am truly grateful for the effort that our alumni have given to fulfill our commitment to the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) program. The intended goal is to provide a $50,000 annual grant for discretionary use by the VWIL administration to benefit the VWIL program and the Corps of Cadets.

We voted on this at the general membership meeting at the 2004 reunion. As I recall it was a unanimous vote. Unfortunately, the $50,000 goal has not yet been met, although it now stands at slightly over $41,000. The amount came from many donations — both large and small — as every individual's means would permit. Every one of these donations, no matter what their size, are sincerely appreciated. The SMA-VWIL Initiative report in this issue provides details on how the $35,000 already provided to VWIL has been utilized or will be used.

I cannot too strongly emphasize the need that VWIL has for this money. If you take the time to read the letter from Dr. Brenda Bryant, Director of the VWIL program, you can see where a current funding crisis is looming and you can also see where it may become more critical in future years. Who are we if we cannot provide help? What do we stand for? The future growth and continuity of VWIL is also the future of the SMA legacy. Those who now attend VWIL are carrying our flag and carrying on the traditions we all grew up with at SMA. I believe that we have an obligation to demonstrate to them that we support their efforts and their loyalty to SMA.

I encourage those alumni who are still considering a contribution to the SMA-VWIL Initiative to become proactive now. Large or small, your donation will be both appreciated and helpful. If more alumni become involved in this effort, the result will be a much greater overall yield for the Initiative, and more financial support for the VWIL program.

Let's meet the goal! Let's make a difference!

— William J. Kearns, Chairman
SMA-VWIL Initiative Committee

One result of the annual business meeting held last April in Staunton was the establishment of the SMA-VWIL Initiative, a program designed to provide significant supplemental funding to the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) for their discretionary use.

The program was announced prior to the 2004 reunion, was voted upon at the business meeting, and has been promoted throughout the ten months since inception. To date, the fund has grown to $41,500, of which $37,000 has been provided to VWIL — $7,000 specifically targeting projects and $30,000 available as a reserve for possible tuition assistance in 2005 (see the letter from VWIL Director Dr. Branda Bryant on page 6).

In addition, Hunter W. Henry, SMA '46, who provides two annual scholarships to VWIL cadets, converted a previously established third scholarship into a $50,000 grant. These funds are administered by the VWIL director in consultation with Mr. Henry. and are likely to be used for tuition assistance over a number of years depending on annual state funding levels.

Of the $7,000 targeted grants provided from the SMA-VWIL Initiative, $5,000 was donated in December 2004 to meet sev-

— Continued to page 6 —

**SMA-VWIL Initiative funds at work**

Two instances of how SMA-VWIL Initiative funds have been used are shown above. At left, Cadet Rebecca Burke shows off one of 100 M1 rifle slings purchased for the corps, and at right Cadet Captain Amy Anthony stands with three of the four replacement flags — poles and stands included — purcased with SMA-VWIL Initiative funds. The SMA flag was also replaced but had not yet been delivered.

# SPECIAL REPORT: THE SMA-VWIL INITIATIVE

## An open letter to SMA alumni

As the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership approaches its tenth anniversary we are particularly grateful for the many ways that the SMA alumni continue to support our growing program. Cadets frequently remark on the kindnesses shown them by SMA alumni and several are particularly grateful for the scholarship assistance they receive.

We enter our tenth year with a renewed awareness of the contribution our graduates are making to the war effort in Iraq and Afghanistan and to many areas of public service at home.

We are also increasingly aware of the uncertainties that accompany our reliance on funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia. At particular risk is the scholarship support that offsets about 20% of the tuition, room and board costs for our in-state students. In 2004 the General Assembly voted to begin a phase out of this support over four years beginning in fall, 2005.

Needless to say, we are working diligently now and in the coming weeks to reverse this decision. We are focusing on the House of Delegates and the House Appropriations Committee especially, where the phase-out initiative has the greatest support.

We are fortunate that the operating funds that provide for basic uniform items, physical training and instructional materials is not in jeopardy at this time. We do, however, know that we must pursue a financial strategy that is less dependent on public support. The SMAAA has helped ready us for the work ahead with its generous commitment of resources. We at Mary Baldwin College thank you.

— Dr. Brenda Bryant, Director
Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership

— Continued from page 5 —

eral critical needs identified by Brig. Gen. Michael Bissell. These included the funding of 80 slings for the cadets' M-1 rifles, butt plates for the VWIL Drill Team rifles, a complete set of new flags — U.S., Commonwealth of Virginia, VWIL and SMA — plus poles, spears and bases, a six-foot horizontal banner to be carried in public parades, and assorted streamers for platoon guidons. Also included in the donation was money to allow selected cadets to attend leadership seminars in 2005.

In January 2005, $2,000 was provided to fund a three-day retreat by approximately 20 of the Corps of Cadets leadership, including transportation, rooms, meeting facilities and meals.

"The benefits that have been derived from these two targeted donations from the SMA-VWIL Initiative have been incredible in terms of the upgrading of equipment as well as the significant positive impact they have had on the Corps of Cadets," Brig. Gen. Michael Bissell, VWIL Commandant, said in expressing his "deep appreciation for the sensitivity of the SMA Alumni Association to the continuing operational needs of VWIL and the corps."

"The young women in the corps know where these benefits have come from and how they were generated by donations from an organization and individuals who genuinely care about their ability to function as a group in the traditions of Staunton Military Academy," Brig. Gen. Bissell said.

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**Leadership Retreat Report**

Please see the e-mail from First Captain Mei-Ling Fye on page 10, detailing the success of the January 21-24, 2005 leadership retreat funded by the SMA-VWIL Initiative.

## Contributors to the SMA-VWIL Initiative

Anonymous ..... Year Unknown
Alvin S. Arnall ..... SMA '56
Robert M. Bennett ..... SMA '45
Gerald E. Bernfield ..... SMA '57
George Bissett III ..... SMA '74
William K. Bissett ..... SMA '74
Peter D. Birckead ..... SMA '73
Holstein D. Brooks ..... SMA '73
William P. Clary, Jr. ..... SMA '54
William S. Diffee ..... SMA '52
Eugene Ehmann ..... SMA '74
David G. Evans ..... SMA '65
Dennis J. Fejes ..... SMA '64
Carlos Ferro ..... SMA '51
John W. Fisher ..... SMA '34
C. Wayne Gallimore ..... SMA '64
John M. Garner ..... SMA '53
Richard H. Gilbert ..... SMA '64
Barry M. Goldwater, Jr. ..... SMA '57
Kevin J. Gorman ..... SMA '70
Garland D. Haddock ..... Faculty
Craig E. Hanson ..... SMA '74
Ben R. Hollis ..... SMA '58
Hunter W. Henry, Jr. ..... SMA '46
Albert D. Howell ..... SMA '41
John G. Hughes ..... SMA '36
Dennis Kaiser ..... SMA '65
William J. Kearns ..... SMA '74
Paul J. "Ike" Kivlighan ..... SMA '29
Robert L. Jackson ..... SMA '61
Donald C. Jacobs ..... SMA '48
Charles R. Jenkins, Sr. ..... SMA '53
Robert Jenkins ..... SMA '65
Allen Jones, Jr. ..... SMA '48
Edward B. Jones ..... SMA '41
Peter W. Jones ..... SMA '65
Truman H. Kennedy ..... SMA '50
Joseph W. Koch, Jr., ..... SMA '73
Anthony C. Korvas ..... SMA '59
William H. Lambert ..... SMA '62
Stanley J. Lesniak ..... SMA '67
Stanley B. Licker ..... SMA '55
C. David Litzenburg ..... SMA '58
A. Jay Lowe, Jr. ..... SMA '67
Lawrence N. Marks ..... SMA '55
James R. Morgan ..... SMA '66
James I. Moore ..... SMA '48
W. Duke Myers, M.D. ..... SMA '60
James E. North ..... SMA '48
William E. Page ..... SMA '73
William M. Pandak, Jr. ..... SMA '73
Richard D. Parson ..... SMA '60
Dr. John J. Payette, Jr. ..... SMA '49
Lawrence B. Perkins ..... SMA '51
Phillip S. Peter ..... SMA '50
William F. Richmond, Jr. ..... SMA '62
Juan T. Ruth ..... SMA '68
Ralph L. Sebrell ..... SMA '45
Edmund A. Smith ..... SMA '76
G. Richard Staunch ..... SMA '61
William C. Stillgebauer ..... SMA '64
Leslie Taylor ..... SMA '66
William H. Taylor, II ..... SMA '56
Donald W. Tobin ..... SMA '70
Albert W. Van Ness, Jr. ..... SMA '61
Grant Waple ..... SMA '66
Jack C. White, Jr. ..... SMA '63
Ben R. Wilson, Jr. ..... SMA '55
Richard B. Winning ..... SMA '74
Susan L. Yates ..... Stuart Hall, 1973

# VWIL will mark 10 years with March 18 anniversary events

The Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) at Mary Baldwin College will celebrate their 10th anniversary on March 18, 2005. Festivities will include a breifing at 1:30 p.m. and a parade and ceremonies at 3:00 p.m., followed at 4:30 p.m. by a reception. Hunter W. Henry, Jr., SMA '46 will attend the evnt and the SMA Alumni Association will be represented by members of the Board of Directors.

Mary Baldwin College inaugurated VWIL in 1995 under the leadership of then-president Cynthiia H. Tyson. The program's mission from the beginning has been to provide an unparalleled opportunity for young women to develop the skills, discipline and character they need to succeed as leaders in the communities and careers.

As part of Mary Baldwin College's Residential Program for Women, VWIL encompasses all four years of the college experience. Combining rigorous academic, co-curricular and physical requirements with military training through ROTC, the program results in a minor in leadership studies and a VWIL completion certificate in addition to the bachelor's degree.

VWIL is supported in part by the Commonwealth of Virginia and plays an important role in expanding educational access and opportunity in the state.

On August 22, 1995, the first and only all-female cadet corps in the United States was established under the direction of Dr. Brenda L. Bryant, Program Director. On March 22, 1996, under the direction of the commandant, Brig. Gen. N. Michael Bissell, the corps presented its first parade.

Since then, the corps has marched in the inaugural parades for two Virginia governors and presented colors for dignitaries including President George W. Bush. The corps has won top honors in various competitions, including second place in the March 2004 St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York City

To date, 134 young women have graduated from VWIL, with 40 percent of them accepting a military commission. Most others have chosen careers in the public and private sectors.

*Editor's note: The historical portion of this article was provided by Mary Baldwin College as part of an announcement of the planned 10th anniversary celebration.*

# Special fund established to benefit the VWIL Band

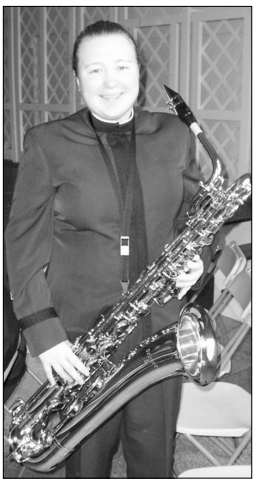
A VWIL Band Fund was establish in January 2005 with a grant of $10,000 by Hunter W. Henry, Jr., SMA '46. The fund was set up specifically to provide new equipment, training and logistical help for the band.

The contribution targeted a number of needs that have been met, including two new snare drums, a new mace for the Drum Major, a new baritone saxophone, various small pieces used in the presentation of music, repairs to existing instruments, and sheet music. Included in the initial contribution was money for a part-time band instructor and funding for the VWIL Corps of Cadets to travel to New York City in March 2005 and participate in the St. Patrick's Day parade.

"When I learned of the needs of the VWIL Band, I felt that establishing this special fund was imperative for the unit, the corps and VWIL to move forward in their desire to be comparable to and competitive with other military colleges," Mr. Henry said.

"I have profound respect for what these young ladies are accomplishing every day, and am proud to be able to be involved in their progress and pride," Mr. Henry added.

The fund will be managed by the SMA Alumni Association and distributed on the basis of needs as they develop.



**New intstruments**

Examples of how the VWIL Band Fund has been used are shown above. At top right, VWIL Band Drum Major Lindsey McLean uses the new mace purchased through the fund, and at left above, Cadet Ann Davis shows off the new baritone saxophone. At right, Cadets Pamela Nuela and Kiana Carr display the two new snare drums.

# Simon M. Painter, Jr., SMA '58

To say that Simon M. Painter Jr.'s career was varied is somewhat of an understatement. It went from college to medical school, to the military, to real estate to teaching,, to law school and continues today with a law practice in Staunton, Virginia

Known by almost everyone as "Cy", Mr. Painter distinguished himself at SMA by his collection of awards and his participation in a variety of activities. He won the Superintendent's Ribbon, Military Ribbon and Commandant's Ribbon three times, and was awarded the Biology Medal, Latin Medal, Physics Medal and the Best Sword Manual Medal. In his senior year he was the Regimental Adjutant, was a member of the Howie Rifles, *The Kablegram* staff, and the Honor Court. He played junior varsity football and basketball and varsity football, baseball, tennis and track. He was also a member of the Cotillion Club Committee and the Decorating Committee.

In the 1958 Shrapnel, Mr. Painter noted that his favorite subject was physics and his ideals at SMA were Colonel Brown and Colonel James.

Mr. Painter's father was the Principal of the Junior School. While he could have opted to live at home and attend SMA as a day student, he and his twin brother Allan B. Painter (Company Commander of "G" Company in his senior year) lived all three years on the "Hill" and to his credit never missed a Sunday parade formation.

Following graduation, Mr. Painter attended Washington and Lee University where he graduated cum laude. He went on to Duke Medical School for the 1962-1963 academic year, passed all the courses, but found that he was not happy there.

He entered the Virginia Army National Guard in November 1963 under a six-month active duty enlistment program, had to go through two basic training cycles due to injuries, and was ultimately given a medical discharge because of a recurring shoulder injury.

"My right shoulder was severely dislocated at SMA during a Junior Varsity football game with VSDB's varsity," he recalls, adding that "the star fullback for VSDB named 'Cadillac' Carrier and I collided....I tackled him but he dislocated my shoulder so bad that it has become a lifetime injury." He says he was never able to throw a football or baseball after that.

In 1964, Mr. Painter joined his brother and father in the family business — Painter Real Estate — and also served for three years on the Board of Directors of the Staunton-Augusta County Board of Realtors. During that time, he was responsible for researching and compiling the original by-laws of the multiple listing service for the Board of Realtors.

"Dad was the main salesman of the company," Mr. Painter recalls, adding that "although we had as many as 12 licensed salespeople at one point, I functioned mainly as a manager of the company since Dad liked to concentrate on selling."

He also taught courses in real estate appraisal and real estate finance at Blue Ridge Community College in 1977-1978.

In 1981, Mr. Painter joined the staff at Stuarts Draft High School where, for two years, he taught chemistry and physics and coached boy's tennis.

His career took an abrupt new direction in 1986 when he entered the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan, graduating cum laude with a JD degree. Mr. Painter was recognized for having the highest grades in three classes: Torts I, Legal Research and Writing and Trial Advocacy.

He returned to Staunton and began his a law practice that he continues active in today. He focuses on Juvenile and Domestic Relations Law and Criminal Law and occasionally is involved in other areas of the law.

His life has not been without challenges. In 1996 he was diagnosed with renal cell cancer and had his left kidney removed. Then in 1999 he was diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver and underwent a transplant in 2000.

Mr. Painter takes pride in his community activity, specifically his work to help save a local recreation area. "Vickie and I and a third person worked to save a local city recreational area from being incorporated into Thornrose Cemetery....the area is called Reservoir Hill Park," he said.

Married for more than 30 years to his wife Vickie, Mr. Painter has three sons — Karl, Jason and Eddie, all married. Karl is a vice president with Wachovia Bank and a Captain in the U.S. Army Reserves. Jason has completed his course work for a doctorate. Eddie is a "head mixer" at McKee Foods in Stuarts Draft, Virginia.

Mr. Painter has three daughters-in-law, three granddaughters and one grandson "on the way in April 2005", he says.

He is quick to brag about Vickie, who works for Home Loan Corporation and was named the top mortgage broker in Virginia in 2003-2004 for Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) loans.

In reflecting on his life and career, he expresses pride in being admitted to Yale University, Duke University, Davidson College and Washington and Lee University.

"I especially enjoyed my science and math teachers at SMA — Colonel James, Colonel Moody, Colonel Brown and Colonel Pitcher," he says, noting that "Colonel Webb, in English, was a favorite as well."

"After teaching in public school, I realized how lucky the SMA teachers were to be able to control their classrooms and to have students that actually behaved in class," he added.

Mr. Painter enjoys golf, where he says he has "spent an inordinate amount of effort over the years but with only mediocre results." He is also an avid deer hunter and fisherman and boasts that "over the years, Al and I have become competent trout fishermen."

Elected to the SMA Alumni Association Board of Directors in April 2004, Mr. Painter serves as the Chairman of the associations's Legal Committee

# SMA-VWIL PERSPECTIVES — THEN AND NOW

# Therese C. Landin, VWIL '06

She initially considered applying to the University of Virginia (UVA) and the Virginia Military Institute (VMI), having earned a U.S. Air Force scholarship near the end of her high school career.

"Oddly enough, an Air Force recruiting officer who visited Chancellor High School mentioned another interesting ROTC program within Mary Baldwin College (MBC)," she says, adding that "after reviewing some pamphlets, I decided to visit the cadets at MBC in a leadership program called VWIL which boasted a unique combination of civilian leadership training and military learning environment."

"After one perspective visit, I listened to cadets from the corps and became amazed with the military (ROTC) discipline of the VWIL corps (with parades, uniforms, physical training, nULL/freshman training) and was encouraged by meeting the supportive staff of this leadership program who obviously took pride in the diversity and strengths of an all female cadet corps," she recalls.

Thus, Therese "Terry" Landin says she "joined the VWIL program as a nULL in August of 2003 and have never regretted my decision!"

With majors in Political Science and International Relations and a minor in Leadership, Ms. Landin is on a contracted four-year U.S. Air Force scholarship. She is looking forward to either training as a pilot or public affairs/relations officer when she commissions in 2006, and will learn in March of this year if she has been ranked and accepted for pilot training following her graduation.

Ms. Landin grew up in a U.S. Army family and had opportunities to visit numerous countries. Born in Bangkok, Thailand, she has spent much of her early life overseas, and the last ten years in the United States. She calls Fredericksburg, Virginia home where her parents, Christopher and Joyce, reside. She graduated from Chancellor High School and the Commonwealth Governor's School in June 2003.

As a sophomore at VWIL, Ms. Landin serves as one of two S-2 Public Relations Sergeants, which, she says "requires me to frequently brief visiting guests of the corps, help organize public relations events, meet, greet and provide tours for visitors to the VWIL program, organize and train ushers for various VWIL public events, assist in press releases for the corps, and introduce the concept of our leadership program to perspective high school students interested in our program."

She is also a freshman orientation leader.

Besides her academic pursuits, Ms. Landin is co-captain of the field hockey team, a student senator, a squad leader of the VWIL Drill Team, a member of the physical training cadre and a VMI Air Force field training preparation cadre.

When she is not juggling those activities, she is serving as a Social Science Statistics teaching assistant, a member of the national Omicrom Delta Kappa honor society and participates in the MBC Lead program. Ms. Landin is also a member of the Arnold Air Society.

"It's strangely difficult to describe the rewards of my VWIL experience," Ms. Landin said in response to a question posed by *The Kablegram*. She added: "This program not only teaches one how to lead and gives cadets opportunities to practice and improve their own leadership styles, but challenges women to reach a higher standard in life."

"The demands of VWIL make you, as a student, cadet, and as a woman, a more developed and poised person. Like any other program, the rewards that VWIL offers to each person are directly related to the effort that is put into the corps by that individual. I have made lifelong friends here, learned a great deal about myself, and expanded my own expectations of myself."

"The most rewarding part of the VWIL experience," she says, "is how cadets begin to understand how to work with others (in a military regimented environment and in a civilian atmosphere) to achieve common goals."

When *The Kablegram* asked about Ms. Landin's career aspirations, she responded: "I look forward to a long and challenging career in military service of the United States through the U. S. Air Force. I welcome the opportunity to study abroad and to experience different cultures as a representative of America."

"As life lets me, I look forward to having a family and strengthening my spiritual relationship with God. I want to make my family and myself proud."

According to Brig. Gen. Michael Bissell, VWIL Commandant: "Terry is a natural leader who excels in all aspects of the VWIL program, is an academic scholar with a GPA of 4.0, and rates extremely high in peer ratings within the corps."

"All this I think is amazing," he adds, noting that "this is her second year in the corps and she is an academic junior."

"She is," Brig. Gen. Bissell said, "a great representative of what the VWIL Corps of Cadets and VWIL women are all about."

*The Kablegram* asked Ms. Landin what she believed are the most important things that the SMA Alumni Association can do to best help the VWIL Corps of Cadets.

She replied: "This is an interesting question to ask after SMA has already done so much for our VWIL corps. First, I believe that it is important for SMA Alumni to continue to take pride in their heritage with the academy. Your passion continues to be a strength to the corps, in good times and bad, and serves as an example of the lifelong impact of truth, duty, and honor in one's life. Second, the SMA Alumni can use one of the most valuable resources that any professional has to help support diversity within VWIL — your experience. We are a corps that welcomes many different women and SMA's beginnings of

— Continued to page 10 —

"THEN AND NOW" is a regular feature in *The Kablegram*, profiling the achievements of SMA alumni and exceptional VWIL cadets.

# LOOKING BACK

It was May 10, 1951 and the SMA baseball team was in Lexington, Virginia to play the Washington and Lee University freshman team. In the foreground is the team's bat boy, John Luke. On the first row (left to right) is Carl Mazza, Donald Althouse, Gus Creazzo, Chester Weisinger, Ray Moore, Raymond Shull and Thomas Saffer. All but Saffer were from the 1951 class. Saffer graduated in 1952. On the second row (left to right) are Kenneth Boerner (1951), Richard Gunnoe (1952), Dennis Oliver (1954), John Yakubisin (1953), Alan Rubinson (1951) and team coach Captain Edward L. Dodge. On the third row are Andy Weisinger (1954), and unidentified player, Thomas Perini (1951) and at right another unidentified player. The photograph and identity information were recently provided to the SMA-VWIL Museum and forwarded to The Kablegram for publication by 1951 graduate Alan Rubinson.

**January 23, 2005 by e-mail:**

We've just returned from our retreat, and I just wanted to say thank you for your support and allowing us the ability to do it. It was very productive and something we wish we had done earlier! We talked about the corps strengths and weaknesses, and discussed many of our weaknesses and narrowed them down to three categories, and in groups we came up with different solutions.

We set goals for accomplishing some of those missions, enough for us to finish this year strong and productive. We had an amazing guest speaker, who has become a hero to many of the leaders of the corps through her stories of personal experiences she shared with us. We had an exercise for "team building" that was more of a practical exercise for planning. We began a lot of planning for our trip to New York City for the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Overall we were able to really think about our topics and get great participation from everyone. We used some of our down time to reminisce and share our own stories. It was a great working, bonding and learning experience. Thank you very much for giving us the support and ability for this weekend to happen.

Respectfully,
Mei Ling Fye

*Editor's Note: Mei-Ling Fye is First Captain of the VWIL Corps of Cadets. Her e-mail was intended to provide a report to the SMA Alumni Association on the success of the January 21-23 retreat funded by an SMA-VWIL Initiative donation.*

## Therese C. Landin, VWIL '06

— Continued from page 9 —

a mentorship program can help cadets to transition from a college mindset into preparation for the real world."

"Finally," Ms. Landin said: "SMA's alumni can also help our program this year and the next during our move into Kable Hall. The building serves as a great way to center our cadet body and is another example of how we want to return to our SMA roots."

"This move will certainly be a difficult one (VWIL hopes to establish a learning community like many other groups at Mary Baldwin College), with plans to remodel and update parts of the living quarters in both Kable Hall and Tullidge Hall. We have high hopes of expanding even further in the future."

"These barracks were originally part of the Staunton Military Academy and alumni imput is invaluable in renovation with our roots in mind. It is important for us to expand — but we need SMA alumni to act as laisons between this progress and corps history: preserving the spirit of Kable Hall but making important changes for our new generation's needs."

# LETTERS and E-MAILS

**December 2004 by e-mail:**

Dear SMA Alumni Association,

I am writing to you, having visited the SMA Museum today in honor of my late father Dr. Sherburn Moore Stanley, an SMA graduate of the class of 1933.

I was so pleased to see his transcript and year book page, which ended with the words "he will make history." He did indeed, with a distinguished carrier as an Army physician on the Burma Road in WWII, where he earned high commendations from both the American and Nationalist Chinese governments.

My father returned home to begin a long and dedicated medical career in Asheville North Carolina. He retired to Panama City Florida with his wife Kathleen Greer Stanley in 1980. My father died on January 13, 2004 with all of his trust, honor and duty undiminished to the end.

I am preparing to write an account of his WWII service in the India/China/Burma Theater and would be pleased if you would include his name in your memorial

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# SMA 2005 REUNION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2005**

**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ..... Board of Directors meeting SMA-VWIL Museum**

**12:00 to 3:30 p.m. ..... Registration (Holiday Inn)**

**12:00 to 4:00 p.m. ..... SMA-VWIL Museum open**

**4:00 to 5:00 p.m. ..... VWIL-SMA Review**

The review may include the presentation of the Kable Legion of Honor to a VWIL cadet chosen by a VWIL-SMAAA committee. The SMA Alumni Company will march onto the field and will also take part in the end-of-parade Pass In Review.

**5:15 p.m. .....Memorial Wall Plaque and Kable Wreath-laying Ceremony**

(SMA-VWIL Museum will be open following the ceremony)

**6:00 to 8:00 p.m. ..... Reception and Barbecue**

(complimentary bar until 7:00 p.m.)

Dinner music will include medlies from the 1940's to the 1960's and a special half-hour musical presentation by Ray Houser.

**Menu**

Smoked Pork (with barbecue sauce on the side)
Grilled Breast of Chicken (with barbecue sauce on the side)
Corn on the Cob • Baked Beans • Macaroni and Cheese
Potato Salad • Sandwich Rolls • Fresh Baked Yeast Rolls
Assorted Desserts • Iced Tea • Coffee

**8:00 to 1100 p.m. ..... Dance**

Music for the dance will again be provided by *The Rhondells*, thanks to the generosity of a number of alumni who have made contributions to the special fund set up to pay for the band.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2005**

**9:00 to 11:00 a.m. ..... Business Meeting at Holiday Inn**

**9:30 to 11:00 a.m. .....Women's group meets at Holiday Inn**

The women's group will meet in the Board Room at the Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center. Refreshments will be provided. Dr. Brenda Bryant, Director of the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership will attend the event and provide historical information and insight into the VWIL program. Alumni spouses and guests are encouraged to attend this ladies-only event.

**11:00 to 11:30 a.m. ..... Board of Directors Meeting**

**11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ..... SMA-VWIL Museum open**

**12:00 p.m. ..... Stuart Hall**

SMA alumni are invited to attend a luncheon at Stuart Hall. Pre-registration is required. The cost is $12.00. Please see the separate story in the *Food for Thought* column in page 4.

**12:00 to 3:00 p.m. ..... Trolley Ride to and from downtown**

For those interested the Staunton Trolley will pick up alumni and their guests at the Holiday Inn at 12:00 p.m. and take them to the downtown Visitors Center. Visitors will be returned to the hotel by the trolley at 2:45 p.m. There is no charge.

**5:30 p.m. ..... Banquet Reception at Holiday Inn (cash bar)**

**6:30 to 9:30 p.m. ..... 2005 Alumni Banquet**

Buffett supper, awards, guest recognition, 50-50 raffle. Keynote address will be given by Hunter W. Henry, Jr., SMA '46.

**9:30 p.m. ..... After-dinner coffee in special foyer area**

A special conversation area outside the ballroom will be available until approximately 11:30 p.m. Non-alcoholic refreshments will be available.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2005**

**9:30 to 11:30 a.m. ..... SMA-VWIL Museum open**

# SMA 2005 REUNION EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

**PLEASE PRINT!**

LAST NAME:_____

FIRST NAME: _____MIDDLE INITIAL: _____

SMA YEAR: _____

ADDRESS:_____

CITY:_____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TEL: ( ) _____

EMAIL: _____

**ALUMNI GUEST REGISTER**

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

GUEST'S NAME: _____

GUEST'S NAME: _____

CHILD'S NAME: _____

CHILD'S NAME: _____

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION FEE COMPUTATION**

Deadline for Advance Registration is March 25, 2005. Please take the time NOW to complete your registration form and mail it, with your check, to the SMA Alumni Association. By doing to,you will help us plan more effectively for a successful reunion in 2005.

_____ ADULTS (Friday-Saturday) x $80.00/person $ _____

_____ ADULTS (Friday only) x $40.00/person ..... $ _____

_____ ADULTS (Saturday only) x $60.00/person ... $ _____

_____ TEENAGER (Friday-Saturday)
x $45.00/person ..... $ _____

_____ TEENAGER (Friday only) x $25.00/person .. $ _____

_____ TEENAGER (Saturday only)
x $35.00/person ..... $ _____

_____ 12 and UNDER (Friday-Saturday)
x $25.00/child ..... $ _____

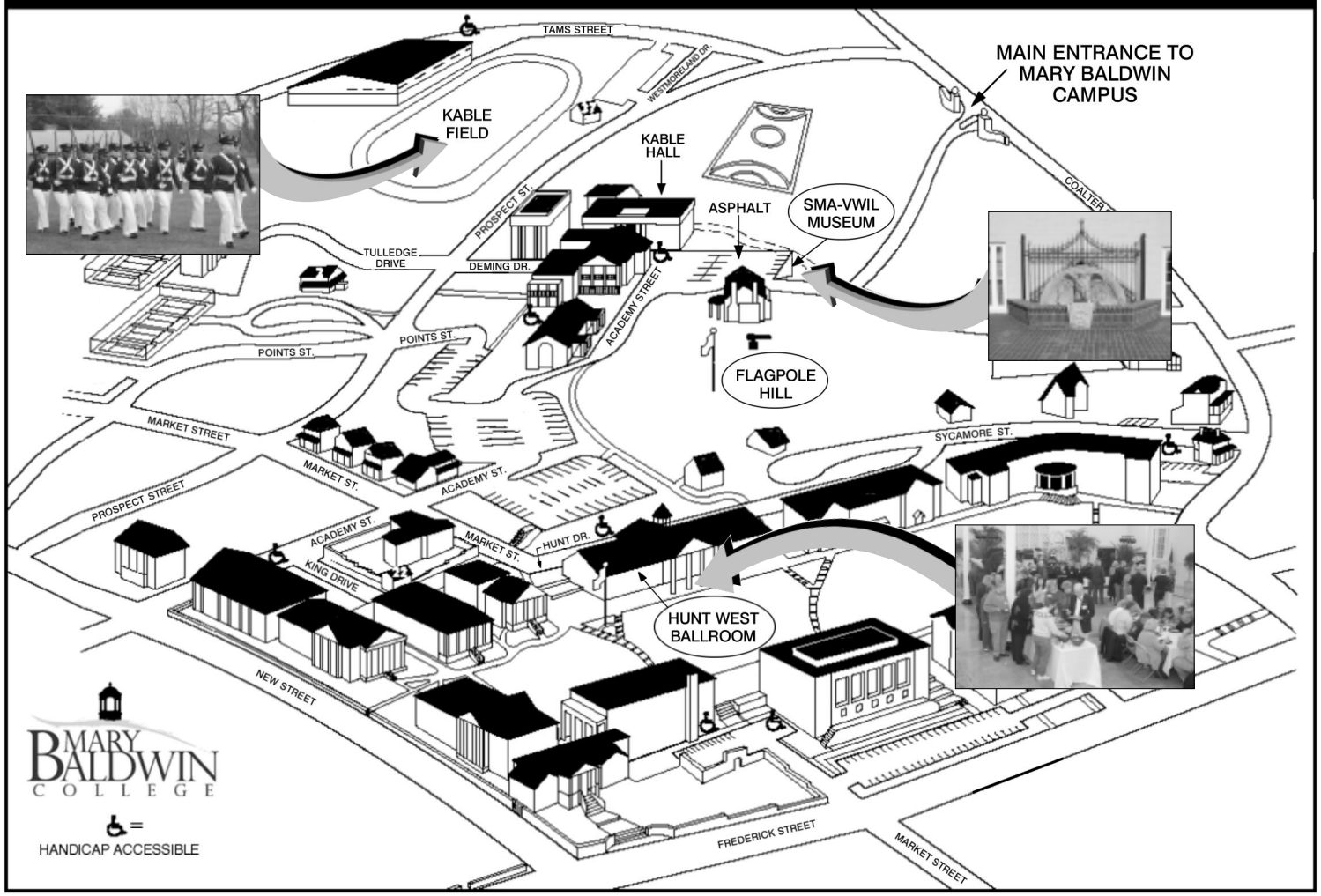
_____ 12 and UNDER (Friday only) x $10.00/child $ _____

_____ 12 and UNDER (Saturday only)
x $15.00/child ..... $ _____

TOTAL COST: $ _____

**Pease make your check payable to "SMA Alumni Association" and mail this form and your check to SMA Alumni Association P.O. Box 958 Woodrum Station Staunton, Virginia 24401-0958**

# REUNION VENUES ON THE MARY BALDWIN COLLEGE CAMPUS




While many of the alumni returning for the 2005 reunion have been to the "Hill" in recent years, others may not be familiar with the Mary Baldwin College campus. This campus map shows the three areas where events will be held on Friday, April 1, 2005. One change from the 2004 reunion is the location of the Barbecue and Dance, which this year will be held in the Hunt West Ballroom, just a short walk across the asphalt from the SMA-VWIL Museum. Parking is available.

SMA ALUMNI REVIEW
4:00 p.m. Friday, April 1, 2005
Kable Field
Alumni will form on the asphalt near the SMA-VWIL Museum between 3:30 to 3:45 p.m.

MEMORIAL WALL CEREMONY
5:15 p.m. Friday, April 1, 2005
SMA-VWIL Museum
Three Memorial Wall plaques will be dedicated; museum will be open until 6:00 p.m.

BARBECUE AND DANCE
6:00 p.m. Friday, April 1, 2005
Hunt West Ballroom
Mary Baldwin College campus
Dancing with *The Rhondells* from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Reunion events will begin Friday, April 1, 2005 with a parade on Kable Field. The SMA Alumni Company will march down the ramp and onto the field, will pass in review in front of the VWIL Corps of Cadets and then move to the far side of the field and disband. At the conclusion of the ceremonies, the entire SMA Alumni Company will take positions along the side of the field in front of the bleachers and will accept a pass in review from the VWIL corps. Those alumni who are unable to march with the company should also take positions on the side of the field for the pass in review.

All alumni are asked to report to the asphalt at the top of the stairs over the SMA-VWIL Museum between 3:30 and 3:45 p.m., where the SMA Alumni Company will be formed into two platoons. The unit will have a company commander, guidon bearer and two platoon leaders. Company Drill Sergeant will be John W. Hooser, SMA '73, a retired U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant.

Alumni who cannot for health or other reasons march with the group should report to the same location where transportation will be provided to Kable Field. Following the parade, these alumni will be transported back to the asphalt for the Memorial Wall ceremony.

— Continued from page 10 —
records and on your "Taps" web page.

He was the finest man I've ever known and I know that he remembered his years as an SMA cadet with great pride. May you continue to keep the SMA memory and heritage alive for many years to come.

Best Wishes,

— The Rev. Stephen R. Stanley
Roanoke, Virginia

**January 12, 2005 by e-mail:**

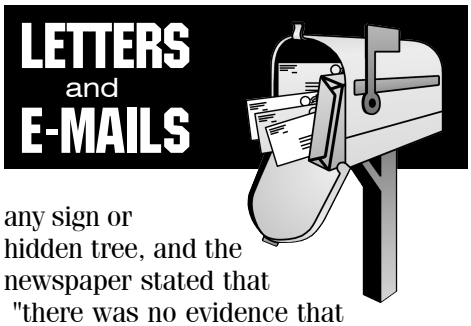
Dear editor:

Mr. Hamilton's note about the plane crash involving Louis D. Kork, Jr. and David Colby (June, 2004 *Kablegram*) is essentially correct as far as I know. The crash had a great effect on me and all of my family because Louis was my older brother.

There are, however, a few aspects of Mr. Hamilton's note that need correction. On the train that day were all of Louis's family (except me — I was only 7 years old and was left with a sitter back in Shaker Heights) plus a neighbor girlfriend. Louis did buzz the train but luckily the family did not see the crash. They had to wait in Staunton for Louis's expected return to the airport. There were some eyewitness accounts as recorded in the Sunday, June 2, 1946 *Staunton News-Leader* article about the crash. According to a resident of Afton, Virginia the plane was stunting and buzzing the town while waiting for the train. When the train came, Louis flew low along side it. Many experienced fliers have pointed out that the plane never should have flown low in that area.

I am familiar with the crash site because there was a restaurant overlooking the site, and my parents would take me to lunch there when they came to visit me at school. The site was on a gently sloping hillside just below a rather steep cliff. There was a tunnel for the train, but it was a ways up the valley. The terrain was gently rising, and there was a road cut for the train through a small ridge in the area. The tunnel had the effect of exacerbating a naturally existing downdraft from the hill, and the road cut necessitated an altitude increase for the airplane.

According to eyewitnesses the plane seemed to lose momentum and then nosedived to the ground from about 150 feet. This sounds like a stall and possibly an air pocket to me. I never heard about




any sign or hidden tree, and the newspaper stated that "there was no evidence that the plane struck any other growth in the area". I also never heard that the train stopped.

I don't know what kind of ceremony was held in Waynesboro, but the funeral for Louis was in Shaker Heights. I was held up to the coffin so I could see my brother and say good-bye. He was buried in his Staunton uniform, and some cadet friends were the pallbearers. A small group of Louis' friends came to the house after a time to talk to my parents, and my parents were very grateful for that. When I arrived at Staunton in 1952 the flying club was already defunct although a few cadets did still have the wings on their uniforms. I heard all sorts of stories of the cause of the crash, including that Louis had flown into the side of the mountain as the train entered the tunnel.

As for myself I attended Staunton from 1952 to 1956, got to be a company commander, and did quite well academically. I won the math, physics, and English medals my senior year and went to Colorado A & M College to study animal husbandry and become a rancher. It took only a short time for the reality of owning a ranch to hit me. Marry it or inherit it! I continued to work as a cowboy in the summers but changed my major and left with a B.S. and M.S. in math in 1963. I served two years at Fort Sill as an OCS tactical officer and instructor in the Guided Missile Department of the U.S. Army Artillery and Missile School. I went back to school, got a Ph.D. in math, and spent eight years as an assistant professor of math at the Colorado School of Mines. I then got a job as a mathematician for the U.S. Geological Survey. After about twenty-five years doing mathematical and statistical research for the USGS in a satisfactory but not spectacular career, I retired in 2003.

— John O. Kork. SMA '56

*Editor's note: Many thanks to Mr. Kork for this clarification of a story that has been ongoing in The Kablegram for much of the past year.*

**January 19, 2005 by e-mail:**

After so many years I still remember Glen as being a good friend of mine and also of Hans Francis and George Commings. We all graduated in 1964 and were in Company "D". We had great times together and he sure could talk his way out of any problem — we all envied him!!

I am very sad to hear that he passed away in 1993. I am also very proud to know that he served our country in Vietnam. You will find his picture in the 1964 *Shrapnel*, page 42.

Next to his picture is written: Glen Cottingham Allen "Al", Delray Beach, Florida. His year end quote: "Take what you want, but pay for it."

It further mentions that he entered SMA in 1960; Sergeant D Company; Military Ribbon 1; ideal was Colonel Wallace. He liked free afternoons; disliked the general way things were done; learned that eloquence and tact are invaluable assets; hoped to attend University of Tampa.

He signed my yearbook with the following dedication: " The old man stands and smiles. Fools rush on but stand and wait; thus you may laugh while others cry. Opinions matter not for they are but imperfect opinions of imperfect people. P.D — good Luck — any good memories I may take from here are of friends like you." (signed) Glen Allen.

I wish I could have had the opportunity of seeing him again and other true friends but distances, personal pursuits, jobs, marriages, among others take us in many different directions and we lose contact sometimes forever.

Thanks to *The Kablegram* we have the opportunity to once again find lost friends.

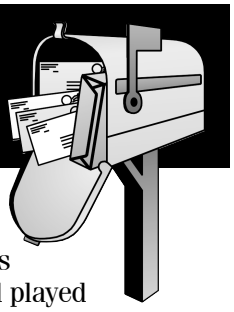
Best Regards,

— Dean Anderson, SMA '64

*Editor's Note: Mr. Anderson's e-mail is in response to the obituary for Glen Allen that was published in the September 2004 issue of The Kablegram. At the time of publication, Mr. Allen's graduation year was unknown, and we asked for feedback from those who knew him. We appreciate Mr. Anderson's recollections.*

**Keep in touch with us!**
**kablegram@sma-alumni.org**
**Turn to page 14 for more e-mails and letters.**

# LETTERS and E-MAILS



**March 7, 2004 by e-mail:**

Dear Arlene:

Regarding your e-mail and David's wish, I'll be glad to give you some comments about what I have done up to date. Also for your records, this is to let you know that cadet José Antonio Fernandex, SMA '57 [after his graduation] supported the Fidel Castro revolution and helped in providing weapons. When Castro won and entered Havana, José became a MIG pilot in the Cuban air force.

Later he flew his MIG to the Miami, Florida airport and claimed political asylum. He then became a member of Alpha 66 and helped with preparations for the Bay of Pigs invasion. Pictures of the invasion showed a B-25. That airplane was piloted by José. He was shot down and killed in action.

By the way, I still remember WTON and TU-6-7338, the telephone number in the Guard House. I remember my first M-1 rifle number.

— Alejandro Amado, SMA '61
E-mail: alexamado@cantv.net

**December 21, 2004 by e-mail:**

I attended SMA as a post-graduate and played football. I had some great experiences there and because of SMA I went on to VMI [Virginia Military Institute] and graduated in 1977. SMA was a great place to develop as a young man.

— Thomas Cole, SMA '73 (PG)
E-mail: Tcole77@aol.com

**October 25, 2004 by mail:**

Dear Mrs. Nicely,

I guess the thing that caught my eye was the names of three people that I knew when I was at the school. I have not paid a lot of attention to the alumni association.

I graduated in 1939 as you know from the yearbook you have. I loved the school while I was there and have not been back with one exception. That was the memorial service for Tom Howie after World War II. Tom Howie was, among other things, my English teacher.

I was a pilot in World War II. I moved to the Washington, D.C. area in 1974 from New York City with the company I was with, the original Martin Marietta Corporation. My position was Director of Corporate Real Estate.

I retired in 1990 after 24 years. Prior to that I was in the real estate business all my life.

— Robert N. Newman, SMA '39

*Editor's Note: Mr. Newman's letter was overlooked when the December issue of The Kablegram was published. We apologize for the oversight and thank Mr. Newman for his dues remittance.*

**E-mail us at:**
**SMAOffice@sma-alumni.org**
**kablegram@sma-alumni.org**

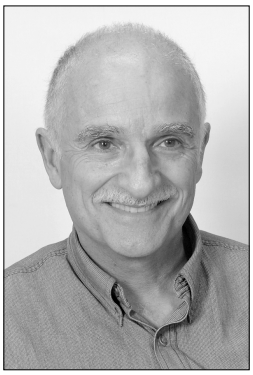
**January 21, 2005 by E-mail:**

*Editor's Note: The SMA Alumni Office and The Kablegram have for some time been communicating with SMA alumni who do not live in the United States. Once such former cadet is Carlos Ferrero, SMA '57, a resident of Italy. Mr. Ferrero relocated from his native Venezuela when he became disenchanted with the social and political climate there. Recognizing Mr. Ferrero's long-standing loyalty to SMA and the SMA Alumni Association, we asked him to compose a letter to all of us. Here is that letter:*

I was asked to send a statement about what SMA had meant and currently means for me. I have heard former classmates extol the "esprit de corps" and sense of belonging to a team that SMA gave them.

However, I feel there was something deeper running through everything we were taught at SMA: to do everything inspired by a sense of integrity, dedication, truth, duty and honor.

The pledge of honor we signed at the bottom of examinations "On my honor, I have neither received nor given any help in this examination". (I cannot remember the exact words) not only promoted an honorable attitude to academic and work endeavors, it promoted self-reliance and responsibility for the results of our individual efforts.



At any time in history, allegiance tends to alienate a person from the surrounding context. SMA gave me the internal life to hold my ground and resist the flood of insidious, carefully dosed misinformation and the social pressure to conform to prevailing standards of conduct I disapproved of.

SMA also gave me a sense of the timing of trends and tendencies in history. These days, many people, young and old, believe that our western civilization has reached a high plateau of social and cultural achievements.

A careful reading of history will easily show them that the apparently "revolutionary" social achievements of today were commonplace in many ancient cultures and provided the distraction that was instrumental in their demise.

I remember reading in my English course with Colonel Webb a poem by Percy Byshee Shelley,

"Ozymandias", I found it a poem for all ages. Specifically, SMA made it easy for me to:

- Reject what was held as "tradition" and sacred in my own country if I felt it was immoral and wrong.
- Disengage myself from people of my own culture and background who felt my unconditional allegiance to a particular group was compulsory and mandatory.
- Be revolted by the actions of some of our leaders in Latin American countries and of some Latin Americans in high positions elsewhere that are actively working to corrupt and destroy the principles I learned to respect at SMA.
- Distinguish between scientific advancement that tends to uplift and raise humankind's condition and that which simply caters to our purely hedonistic and sensuous inclinations.

In brief, SMA has given me the necessary moral anchor to do as I should in any environment. I am currently a happy exile from my country and since I could not legally be a resident of the United States, I went to Italy, the country of my wife's family, where I have found a welcoming environment not altogether different from that which I enjoyed so much in the United States.

— Carlos E. Ferrero, SMA '57
Via della Mazzetta 14 • Viterbo VT, Italia 01100
Telephone: +39-0761-308270 or +39-347-4603682
E-mail: carlos_ferrero@yahoo.com

# Larry Omps, SMA '63 named to Virginia Aviation Board

The Virginia Department of Aviation (DOAV) announced recently that a new Virginia Aviation Board (VAB) member has been appointed by Governor Mark Warner.

Larry T. Omps, SMA '63 has been selected as the new appointee to the VAB. He will represent Region Three (Northern Virginia) which includes: Reagan National, Dulles International, Culpeper Regional, Front Royal-Warren County, Gordonsville Municipal, Hartwood, Leesburg Executive, Luray Caverns, Manassas Regional, New Market, Orange County, Stafford Regional, Warrenton-Fauquier, Whitman Strip and Winchester Regional Airports.

Mr. Omps was born and raised in Winchester, Virginia. He served in Vietnam with the U.S. Navy as a hospital corpsman and also graduated from John Tyler Community College with a mortuary science degree. He is president of Omps Funeral Home, Inc., a Winchester business serving that community since 1936.

Mr. Omps was elected Mayor of Winchester in 1996 and 2000 with his term ending in June 2004 and currently serves as a member of the Winchester Regional Airport Authority.

"I look forward to working with the Virginia Aviation Board and the Department of Aviation on their vision for a safe, efficient and technologically advanced Virginia transportation system," Mr. Omps said.

As a member of several aviation organizations to include the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, Experimental Aircraft Association, and the Piper Owners Association, he is also a commercial pilot and holds instrument and multi-engine ratings. He is a licensed aircraft mechanic with airframe and power plant ratings and one of his many enjoyments is rebuilding antique airplanes.

*Editor's Note: This article first appeared in the July-August 2004 issue of the Virginia Aviation Newsletter.*

# "Warrior Soul" provides insight into SEAL life

By Doug Allyn, contributing writer, The Flint (MI) Journal

Military autobiographies tend to fall into two general categories: bloody battlefield memoirs like Col. David Hackworth's "Steel My Soldiers' Hearts" or introspective, literate musings like Anthony Swofford's "Jarhead."

Author Chuck Pfarrer deserves a category all his own: the bloody, literate, introspective battlefield memoir. His new book, "Warrior Soul," recounts his experiences as a U.S. Navy SEAL, one of the toughest, most exclusive military units in the world.

As Pfarrer puts it, "Since the first navy frogmen crawled onto the beaches of Normandy, no SEAL has ever surrendered, no SEAL has ever been captured, and not one teammate or body has ever been left in the field. This legacy of valor is unmatched in modern warfare."

If this sounds like the intro to a John Wayne movie, it could be. After leaving the SEALs, Pfarrer became a Hollywood screenwriter for such motion pictures as "The Jackal," "Darkman," "Red Planet" and "Hard Target." But Chuck Pfarrer is no John Wayne. His view of himself is anything but heroic, which makes his accomplishments all the more remarkable.

Growing up as a Navy brat, the son and grandson of naval officers, Pfarrer was a classic slacker, a pooka-wearing surfer dude whose only talent was for cutting class. On the verge of flunking out of high school, he enrolled in Staunton Military Academy, a no-nonsense prep school where he acquired some of the skills that would serve him well as a SEAL: how to hotwire a car, pick locks and forge a driver's license that allowed him to drink at 17.

After Staunton, Chuck passed up an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, opting instead for a West Coast school near the surf. His major? Psychology. He'd had enough of the military, or so he thought.

But then he fell in love. Unfortunately. When the affair ended badly, he made the classic B-movie beau gesture of enlisting in the toughest outfit he could think of, the U.S. Navy SEALs.

At the time, he knew very little about them. He was about to learn a whole lot in a hurry. Becoming a naval officer was a walk in the park compared to the SEAL training that followed. Pfarrer's description of the grueling grind of that training is both vivid and gut-wrenching. The worst of it is, they make it so easy to quit. On any given day, any SEAL trainee can drop out by simply ringing a bell in front of the orderly room. Many men did.

But, somehow, Pfarrer the surfer hung on. Not because he thought he was a hero; he knew better. But he always thought he could manage one more hour, then one more day. After SEAL boot training, combat was almost a breeze.

On the Mosquito Coast, his recon team played cat and mouse with a Nicaraguan patrol boat. Later, they were given the mission to retrieve or destroy a Trident ballistic missile before it could be snatched by a Russian trawler.

But his toughest assignment was as a peacekeeper of sorts in Beirut. In the 'Root,' the SEALs were stationed on the Green Line that divided the city's five warring factions, four Arab militias and the Israeli Army. No matter where you stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict, stuck in the middle is the wrong place to be. Especially when some of your superiors consider you expendable.

Just how expendable they were became clear when Pfarrer returned home to find he'd been declared dead weeks before, after the Marine barracks bombing in Beirut. His wife and family had been left in limbo for 10 days simply because no one in the navy bothered to pick up a phone or lick a stamp.

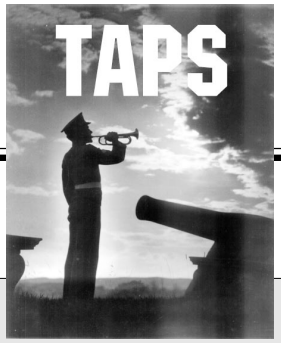
Some of Pfarrer's experiences as a SEAL were so exciting that Hollywood turned them into an action flick starring Charlie Sheen. Skip the movie. In "Warrior Soul," you get the real thing: a soldier's life, unvarnished, uncut and unforgettable.

*Editor's Note: This book review, by Doug Allyn, appeared in The Flint Journal, Flint Michigan, in May 2004. Mr. Allen is an award-winning mystery writer.*

*Charles Pfarrer graduated from SMA in 1974. Thanks to Mark Orr, SMA '73, this review was found on the newspaper's website and forwarded to The Kablegram for publication.*

*Mr. Pfarrer currently resides in Jacksonville, Florida and can be reached by e-mail at* ***callsign@pdp.attbbs.net.***

# PASS IN REVIEW




## William M. Slemons, III, SMA '60

**William Melville Slemons, III, SMA '60,** age 62, died December 26, of heart failure. "Billy" Slemons was a descendant of a pioneer Orlando family who moved to Florida from Morristown, Tennessee in the late 1800's.

William M. Slemons, Sr. was a dry goods merchant and became a ruling elder of The First Presbyterian Church of Orlando in 1893. His son, Jim, Billy's grandfather, operated the family store on the corner of Church and Garland, which became the popular tourist attraction Rosie O'Grady's of Church Street Station in the 1980's.

His father, William M. II "Bill", was an outstanding football and basketball player for Orlando High School and University of Alabama in the 1930's. He married Billy's mother, his high school sweetheart, Ernestine Wiggins and after serving as a B-25 pilot in WWII, returned to Orlando and became a Central Florida businessman active in real estate, insurance, and construction.

His oldest son, "Billy", born in 1942, attended local schools before going off to Staunton Military Academy in Staunton, Virginia, for his high school years (1957-1960). While there, he was co-captain of the football team and Captain of "C" Company.

He returned to Orlando to attend Rollins College, where he was a member of the soccer team and Kappa Alpha Fraternity. After his freshman year, he transferred to Tulane University and majored in business. He married his high school sweetheart, Susan Mathers, in 1964 and returned to New Orleans to work for the First National Mortgage Company.

After the birth of their first child in 1966, he came back to Orlando and worked for Richard Hamilton, MAI doing real estate appraisals for the Veteran's Administration in Brevard County, commuting daily. By 1970, he had joined Rex-Magill Appraisal Firm, where he continued his career until he joined Florida Ranchlands, the firm involved in the acquisition of the acreage which later became Disney World, as a commercial Real Estate Broker. In 1988, he co-founded United Associates Properties with James Bolen, Dennis Casey, Carey Hill, Bruce Mylrea, and Gary Russell.

They developed single family residential subdivisions in Orange County such as Chickasaw Trails, Horseshoe Bend, Sawmill and Cypress Point in the Dr. Phillips area, home to many renowned golfers. His last development was Gatlin Gardens with Van Conoly and Carey Hill.

He was proudest of his negotiations in the early 1990's with the State of Florida for the sale of family property in Sumter County under the Preservation 2000 program which became the Baird Addition to the Withlacoochee State Forest preserving for Floridians its natural beauty forever.

He served on the Municipal Planning Board and was an elder in First Presbyterian Church. He was a member of the Country Club of Orlando, The University Club of Orlando, and Highlands Country Club in Highlands, NC. An avid hunter and fisherman, he also enjoyed golf, gardening, and flying. Possessed of twinkling blue eyes and an infectious laugh, he had a reputation for honesty and enjoyed many longtime friendships.

In spite of his many involvements, he reserved most of his spare time for his family. He was a loving husband to his wife Susan for 40 years, a devoted father to his three children: Hillary McDonald (Charles "Chuck" III), Nashville, Tennessee, Courtney Muse, St. Simons Island, Georgia, and William M. Slemons, IV (Will), Orlando; and an adoring grandfather to his four grandchildren. He is also survived by his aunt, Betty Slemons Johnson, Tennessee; his first cousins, Sissy Slemons Meyer, Orlando, Rick Michaels, Tampa, Angel Michaels, Miami; niece, Ellie Chace (Frank), Windermere; and nephew Randall Slemons (Dianne), North Carolina. He was predeceased in death by his parents and brother, Gaynor 'Buzz' Slemons.

*Editor's Note: This obituary was reprinted from the December 28, 2004 issue of The Orlando Sentinel.*

## Remembering Bill Slemons

Bill was motivated when he came to SMA in 1957 as a sophomore from Orlando, Florida. He wanted to fit into the military system and achieved "Rat Corporal" by Christmas by always "putting out" to have the best room, rifle and personal inspection. That was the only way to earn a total of three merits a week when missing one formation was six demerits.

He made a speed game of it with a big smile that I benefited from by joining him to sweep the fastest every morning down the gallery of North Barracks. Our third roommate, Hank Walker, from DuBois, Wyoming, thought we were nuts. But Hank had figured out that if he transferred from "C" Company into the band he could give up carrying a rifle every afternoon for drill.

Bill and I roomed together our next two years in South Barracks when he became the fastest man in the 220 and the 100 yard dash competing against the many cadets who came as All-State athletics from all over the country for an extra year to prep for college.

We had a good time going to the state track meets at the UVA campus and playing football for Coach 'Skeeter Johnson' and Coach Wheeling.

Bill could always make his point with a punctuation mark. But he did well in math and understood what he had to do to graduate. John Rollins of Delaware, was his roommate his senior year. They were officers in "C" Company and I was the First Sergeant.

— Continued on page 17 —

## ROBERT C. WADDINGTON

Robert Clifford Waddington, 74, SMA '46, a Realtor for more than 40 years, died of respiratory failure at Holy Cross Hospital in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He was a longtime resident of Center City.

Born in Frankford, Pennsylvania and raised in Somerton, Pennsylvania. Mr. Waddington graduated from SMA 1946 and subsequently joined the U.S. Coast Guard and was stationed in Cape May until 1954.

He earned a Realtor's license and joined his father in the family firm, retiring in 1994. He moved to Florida, where he enjoyed deep-sea fishing.

Mr. Waddington is survived by a sister, Jane Hopf; a brother, Henry R.; longtime companion Chris Cook; and many nieces and nephews.

## C. DENNIS BARR

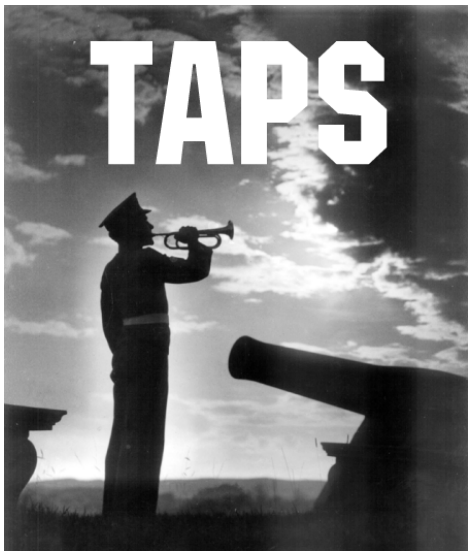
C. Dennis Barr, 59, SMA '62, of Adrian, Michigan, formerly of Battle Creek and Bluefield, died December 5, 2003 at Bixby Medical Center in Adrian.

He graduated from Staunton Military Academy, earned his Bachelor's Degree from Concord College in Athens, and his Master's from Western Michigan University. He had been employed by The Department of Welfare in Princeton, Mercer County Health Department, West Virginia Tech, and Southwest Michigan Planning Council in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

He was CEO at Battle Creek Community Hospital, Northwest General Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, PM Group and Select Specialty Hospital, both in Battle Creek, and was currently C.F.O./ Executive Director of Hospice of Lenawee County. He had also taught in the Health Administration Program at Western Michigan University.

Mr. Barr enjoyed golf, was a former member of Battle Creek Country Club, the Rotary Club of Battle Creek, and was active in numerous civic and volunteer services. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Battle Creek.

In addition to his mother, he was preceded in death by aunts, Marie B. Ensminger, Winnie M. Wyatt and Neva B. Clark. Surviving, in addition to his father, are one daughter, Suzanne C. Liddell of Kalamazoo, Michigan; two sons, R. Scott Fry of Roanoke, Virginia and Michael Barr of Battle Creek; two sisters, Carolyn K. Barr and Marilyn B. Gillespie, both of North Carolina; several grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins.




## HENRY SAMUEL HAIGHT

Henry Samuel Haight, SMA '33 died October 19, 2004, at his home. He was a longtime resident of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia. and had been a businessman and owner of Haight Engineering Inc. for more than 45 years.

After graduating from SMA in 1933, Mr. Haight attended and graduated from Columbia University, where he obtained a degree in engineering. He served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army during World War II, where he met his wife while she was also serving as a lieutenant in the Army Medical Corps. After serving in the military for three years, he and his wife chose Charlottesville to be their home.

Mr. Haight loved conversation and anything to do with the water. He had been a member of Kiwanis and a longtime member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary in Charlottesville. He was very fond of animals and loved his cat, "Charlie".

Mr. Haight is survived by his wife of 63 years, Sue Francis O'Neill Haight, and was predeceased in death by his son, Henry S. Haight Jr.; and his daughter, Sally Haight Seaton, both of Charlottesville.

## GEORGE F. DALTON

George F. Dalton, SMA '34, of Rosemont, a retired Navy captain and water conservationist, died of complications from Alzheimer's disease April 14, 2004 at Bryn Mawr Terrace, a nursing facility. Captain Dalton grew up in Overbrook, Pennsylvania and graduated from SMA in 1934. He and his older brother, Jack, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1938.

During World War II he served in the North Atlantic on sea patrols and later commanded the destroyer USS Gridley during the invasion of the Philippines. His brother, a Navy flier, was lost in combat.

Captain Dalton's daughter Frances said her father spent most of his 28-year naval career in antisubmarine warfare service and commanded ships in the Arctic, Atlantic and Mediterranean.

After retiring in 1966, he worked in the oceanic division of General Electric in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In the 1970s he was executive director of the Institute for Development of Riverine and Estuarine Systems, a consortium of scientific and educational institutions concerned with improving water quality. He was past chairman of the Delaware Valley chapter of the Marine Technology Society.

His daughter said Captain Dalton, a conservative, liked debating politics with his children and tried to undo the "damage" from their liberal college professors.

He also is survived by his wife of 60 years, Miriam Brown Dalton; a son, John II; another daughter, Harriet Mueller; and five grandchildren.

## Remembering Bill Slemons

— Continued from page 16 —

The two of them became great friends. They attended great colleges, Tulane and Northwestern and were hugely financially successful throughout their careers.

Bill met his wife, Susan Mathers, at Stuart Hall where I enjoyed visiting. Although she was also from Orlando they had never met each other. It was some years after high school that we connected and exchanged Christmas cards each year.

It is sad that he died so young, but Bill was rather matter a fact about life and how long we might be here. He lived "large" in terms of taking in everything and everyone.

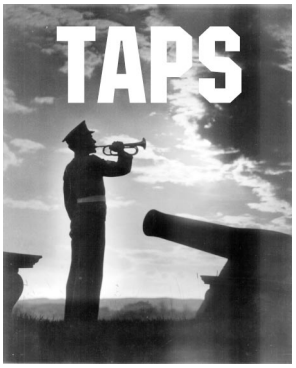
He will be missed by his family and his close friends in Florida, who were always reminded by him to look to the future every morning. I will always remember an enthusiastic 'Florida Cracker' jumping up and down when he saw his first snow. We borrowed a town boy's snow sled to go flying down the hill in front of what is today the SMA-VWIL Museum.

— Richard Staunch, SMA '61

### JOHN M. KEITH

John M. Keith, SMA '53, of San Jose, Costa Rica, died in July 2000 at age 64.

"SMA was one of dad's favorite subjects, we heard of it so often that sometimes we felt we were part of it," according to Mr. Kerith's daughter Ana Keith. "He kept all his yearbooks, his sword, and of course his uniforms."




She added: "After SMA, dad went to Washington State for a while and then to the Air Force, married my mother in July 1955 and moved to Texas".

"After six years I was born", she said, "and they moved to Costa Rica and he worked for the family company for the rest of his life."

"He was very well respected in the community," she said, noting that Mr. Keith was "a successful business man."

"As a father," she said, "he was the sweetest man and very strict at the same time — he taught us integrity, honesty, and loyalty."

Mr. Keith is survived by his two children, John M. Keith, IV and Ana Keith, both of Costa Rica, and three grandchilden, Daniela, John V and Ian Keith.

### HOWARD H. SCHNURE

Howard H. Schnure, SMA '29, of Largo, Florida died December 9, 2004. Mr. Schnure was born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1910. He was twice married, first to the former Elizabeth "Betty" Purdy, who died in 1957, and subsequently to Ann Johnson, who preceded him in death in 1982.

At the time of his death, Mr. Schnure was living in Largo with his longtime companion, Jeanbelle Bodtke.

Mr. Schnure was educated at Selinsgrove (Pennsylvania) High School and SMA and later at Duke University, where he was a standout baseball pitcher.

After working in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for Buckley Brothers Investment Company, he returned to Selinsgrove .

Mr. Schnure was an avid traveler, covering six continents. He was a fan of baseball, played golf, enjoyed gardening and was also a vintner.

He is survived by one daughter, Sarah Jane Lindsay of Huntsville, Utah; one son, James Purdy Schnure; four grandchildren , two great-grandchildren and one sister, Margaret Jane Schnure of Selinsgrove.

## Stuart Hall mourns 2003 graduate killed in Iraq explosion

U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Jason C. Redifer, 19, of Stuarts Draft, Virginia, was killed in action January 31 in Iraq, the victim of an improvised explosive device.

Mr. Redifer graduated from Stuart Hall in 2003.

Prior to his death, he had been awarded the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Sea Service Deployment Medal.

According to sources within Stuart Hall alumni, Mr. Redifer was for a time assigned to the White House, but opted for service in Iraq, believing that it was important for U.S. Marines with families to serve within the United States.

### BRUCE CAREY

Bruce Carey, SMA '68, died February 3, 2005 at Bethesda, Maryland, following a long battle with cancer.

# ORDER YOUR "WALK OF HONOR" BRICKS TODAY!

As part of the SMA Legacy Projects, a paved brick "Walk of Honor" has been added in front of the SMA Memorial Wall. The purchase of individually inscribed commemorative bricks is a way to not only support your association but also to honor and recognize SMA alumni, former faculty members, teachers, coaches, staff, graduating classes and SMA friends and supporters. The blank bricks on the existing walkway will be replaced with each 100 orders of inscribed bricks. Each 4" x 8" brick costs $50.00 and can be purchased with a tax-deductible contribution to the SMA Foundation, Inc.

Name:_____ SMA Class Year:_____

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Line 2:_____

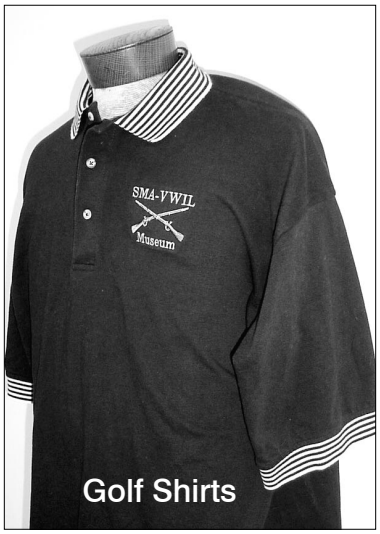
Line 3:_____

Inscriptions may be up to three lines (maximum of 20 characters per line). Punctuation marks count as characters. If multiple bricks are being purchased, please make copies of this form to submit orders for the additional bricks.

Mail this order form and your check (payable to **SMA Foundation, Inc./Brick Paver**) to:
SMA Foundation, Inc. • Attn: SMA Walk of Honor • P. O. Box 958 Woodrum Station • Staunton, Virginia 24402-0958

Baseball Caps

The Cadet Store, located in the SMA•VWIL Museum in the former SMA Supply Room is stocked with a variety of memorabilia. Some of the items available are pictured here. To order items, use the convenient form on this page. The form should be mailed, with your check enclosed, to the address shown below. You can also contact the store by e-mail as shown below, or call (703) 885-1309 for information, leave a message, and your call will be returned.



Golf Shirts

Sweat Shirts

T-Shirts

**Belt Buckles and Shoulder Patches**
(Gold belt buckle not currently available)

Mail to:
SMA-VWIL Museum
P. O. Box 958 Woodrum Station
Staunton, Virginia 24402-0958
or FAX this order form to (540) 885-1366
or e-mail your order to
SMAOffice@sma-alumni.org

## Cadet Store Order Form

| QUAN. | ITEM | EACH | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|
| _____ | Baseball Cap | $10.00 | $_____ |
| | Navy blue with gold "Staunton Military Academy" | | |
| _____ | Baseball Cap | $10.00 | $_____ |
| | Blue with green bill with "SMA-VWIL Museum" in gold lettering with crossed rifles. | | |
| _____ | SMA-VWIL Video | $50.00 | $_____ |
| _____ | T-Shirt with shield | $15.00 | $_____ |
| | Sizes M to XXL | | |
| _____ | Sweatshirt (blue with gold hat shield) | | |
| | M to XXL | $25.00 | $_____ |
| | XXXL | $30.00 | $_____ |
| _____ | Golf Shirts (M to XXL) | $30.00 | $_____ |
| | Blue with maze color and sleeve trim with "Staunton Military Academy" in gold lettering now in stock. Optional lettering of "SMA/VWIL Museum" is not a stock item and will be filled upon request. | | |
| _____ | Old Boys buckle (silver) | $20.00 | $_____ |
| _____ | Leather Belt | $15.00 | $_____ |
| | Sizes 28, 32 available | | |
| _____ | Car Window Decal | $ 3.50 | $_____ |
| | "SMA Alumni" | | |
| _____ | Postcards | $ 2.00 | $_____ |
| _____ | SMA Shoulder Patches | $ 2.00 | $_____ |
| _____ | Coffee Mugs | $ 5.00 | $_____ |
| _____ | Rank Insignia | $ 1.00 | $_____ |
| | S/Sgt. and PFC available | | |
| _____ | Blue Boo (reprint) | $10.00 | $_____ |
| _____ | Artist Sketch | $ 5.00 | $_____ |
| | (Asphalt with South and North Barracks, Mess Hall) | | |
| _____ | Artist Sketch | $ 5.00 | $_____ |
| | Two available (check your choices): [1] a 17" x 7¼" sketch of ___South Barracks ___ Administration Building ___Mess Hall ___Kable Hall ___North Barracks or [2] a 14" x 9" sketch of the ___Asphalt ___Memorial Hall ___Kable Hall ___North Barracks. | | |
| _____ | License Plate Holders | $10.00 | $_____ |
| | Black metal with "Staunton Military Academy" in white lettering. | | |
| _____ | License Plate Sign | $10.00 | $_____ |
| | White metal with "SMA ALUMNI" in blue lettering with the gold hat shield in the center. | | |

Shipping charges must be added:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| $ 0.00 to $30.00 | $ 5.95 | $_____ |
| $31.00 to $70.00 | $ 6.75 | $_____ |
| $71.00 and above | $ 7.95 | $_____ |
| | Total: | $_____ |

**Please print!**

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____State:_____

ZIP:_____ Telephone: ( _____) _____

E-mail:_____

# Staunton Military Academy Alumni Association, Incorporated

P. O. Box 958, Woodrum Station, Staunton, Virginia 24402-0958
Telephone: (540) 885-1309 • Fax: (540) 885-1366
E-mail: SMAOffice@sma-alumni.org • Website: http://www.sma-alumni.org

**SMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP DUES** Amount enclosed: $_____

- Dues ($50.00) will be credited for fiscal year September 1, 2004 - August 31, 2005).
- Dues are not tax deductible. Please make checks payable to: SMA Alumni Association.
- Funds are used to maintain the office, publish newsletters, and help support the annual Reunion.

**SMA FOUNDATION, INC. ANNUAL FUND** Amount enclosed: $_____

- Contributions are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to SMA Foundation, Inc./Annual Fund
- Donations are used for the SMA museum and scholarships, and related expenses.

Name:_____Class:_____

Address:_____

City/State/Zip:_____

Telephone: Home: _____ E-mail:_____

▲

Complete this form, include your check(s) and mail to SMAAA. Your support and involvement are critical to the continued success of the association and the activities and programs that have been developed and implemented in the memory of Staunton Military Academy, the Corps of Cadets and staff.

**SMA Alumni Association**
P. O. Box 958
Staunton, Virginia 24402-0958

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