



The Kablegram-Leader

SMA/VWIL Alumni Newsletter

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SMAAF SCHOLARSHIPS BOLSTER TRUTH, DUTY, HONOR!



L to R, front row: America Morales '28 from TN, Emilia Bonilla '28 from CA, Ashley Bennett '28 from SC, Madison Jones '28 from MD, Allyson Spears '25 from AZ. L to R, back row: Bill Bissett SMA '74, Gene Ehmann SMA '74, Joe Frank SMA '68, Nyjia Freeman '26 from GA, David Shipula SMA '73, and Brig. Gen. Terry Djuric.

The Staunton Military Academy Alumni Foundation Scholarships (SMAAF) continue to provide opportunities for the Cadets of the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL). VWIL students are awarded around \$50,000 in scholarships each year. The scholarships come from the SMAAF, Alumni, and patrons.

Most recently Gene Ehmann (SMA '74) established two yearly \$4,000 scholarships. Based on need, these scholarships afford two young individuals the option of a college education. Following Ehmann's leadership, the Foundation established four more like awards, and an anonymous alumnus gave a \$3,000 yearly scholarship.

The SMA Class of 1973 also raised more than \$50,000 to establish a \$2,500 Class of '73 TRUTH, DUTY, HONOR scholarship. The scholarship was established at the 50th reunion of the Class of '73.

The aforementioned scholarships and every person listed under the Legacy Fund Project have made all scholarship opportunities possible. It is with these scholarships we believe the Cadets of VWIL will carry our TRUTH, DUTY, HONOR legacy into the future.

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RAFFLE MANAGER

Al Rossy SMA '74

Reflections from the Hill



As winter wanes the days become longer and the temperatures usually warmer. Conditions this coming April should be great for our all-class reunion April 11-13, 2025. Please check your calendar and if reunion weekend is open consider attending. Maybe you have classmates you have stayed in touch with but have not seen in years or possibly since graduation. Please mail your registration as soon as possible if you plan on attending. Your fellow alumni would cherish the opportunity to share your stories at the reunion.

Digitizing the Museum continues to move forward. Presently you can take a 3D tour of the museum on the sma-alumni.org website. From the drop-down click on SMA-VWIL MUSEUM. When completed you will be able to click on any item and read a description with a photo. Thank you again to Ed Smith, Arlene and Brocky Nicely for all their efforts.

As I mentioned in my fall letter the inauguration of Dr. Jeffrey Stein, President of Mary Baldwin University was this past October. The following is an excerpt of my remarks from the letter I sent out a few months ago:

“Staunton Virginia was full of activity October 18th celebrating the Inauguration of Dr. Jeffrey P. Stein as Mary Baldwin’s 10th President and Homecoming at Mary Baldwin. The weekend was filled with many wonderful performances and celebrations, including a VWIL Parade, Howie Rifle demonstration and the PEARLS unarmed drill team performance.

Seeing the SMA flag being carried by the Color Guard and SMA mention during the demonstration is always very much appreciated and emotional. Dr. Stein and the Trustees are looking forward to a bright future. Dr Stein in his remarks talked of Always Meeting the Moment:

‘The flame of opportunity has been burning here for one hundred and eighty three years, across Augusta Female Seminary, Mary Baldwin Seminary, Mary Baldwin College, Mary Baldwin University, plus the Staunton Military Academy, online, at Murphy Deming, in Staunton, across 21,643 alumni of poets, professors, healthcare professionals, artists, entrepreneurs, educators, public servants, and more . . . we are one Mary Baldwin.’
 – Dr. Jeffrey P. Stein

Dr Stein has been at Mary Baldwin for a year now and his enthusiasm appears to be contagious. His attention to detail I am sure will allow Mary Baldwin to continue to build on past successes and make sure Mary Baldwin always “Meets the Moment”. We wish Dr. Stein nothing but the best for the future.

SMAAF Board of Directors Bill Bissett Joe Frank, Gene Ehmann and I attended the Inauguration.

My sincere hope is that everyone is enjoying the New Year.

TRUTH,DUTY,HONOR

David A. Shipula SMA '73

President, SMA Alumni Foundation

2024 SMA LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

SMA LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

2024

The Staunton Military Academy Alumni Foundation (SMAAF) scholarships program is now in its eighth year. The program was established in 2016 as one of the precepts of the SMA Legacy Fund. For the first five years, the program was open to all high school graduates, and we awarded four \$1,500 scholarships to deserving high-school seniors, without regard to their relationship to SMA alumni. After the scholarship selections were made in 2021, the SMA Foundation Board of Directors reviewed the program and made three major changes. Beginning in 2022, the rules were changed as follows: First, all applicants must be a direct descendant of an SMA alumnus. Second, the number of scholarships was reduced from four to two. Third, the amount of each scholarship was raised from \$1,500 to \$2,500.

This year we received three applications, and they were all so equally outstanding that the scholarship committee was unable to decide which two to select. Therefore, the SMA Alumni Foundation board of directors decided to increase the number of awards from two to three for the year 2024. The SMA Alumni Foundation and the Scholarship Committee have selected Miss Isabella Jaffy, the granddaughter of Robert Hirshman, SMA '53, Mr. Benjamin King, grandson of Jay Putzel King '57, and Mr. Charles Nolde, grandson of John Nolde '63.

Our congratulations go to the three young men and women who, by this action, have joined our community. Each of them will help perpetuate the legacy of Staunton Military Academy, its heritage, and its core values of "Truth, Duty and Honor." The three winners have provided a picture and short biography to introduce themselves (see below).

Our Three Applicants:



Isabella Jaffy
granddaughter of Robert Hirshman '53.

Isabella Jaffy, University of Florida

Hi, my name is Isabella Jaffy, and I am a freshman at the University of Florida. Some of my hobbies are playing tennis, working out, going to the beach, and spending time with my family and friends. I grew up in Boca Raton, Florida and went to Spanish River High School. Throughout my 4 years in high school, I participated in the law program, was an active member of the girl's varsity lacrosse team, a member of National Honor Society, president of the SCOPE club, and involved in Mock Trial Club. Getting awarded this scholarship means a tremendous amount to me, as I am very close to my grandfather (Robert Hirshman), and he has always talked about his days at the Staunton Military Academy. I always love listening to his stories that he shares with me. Accepting this scholarship from the Staunton Military Academy Legacy Scholarship Program is truly an honor and privilege for me.

Benjamin King, University of Southern Indiana

Thank you so much for selecting me as a winner of the Staunton Military Academy Legacy Scholarship!

My name is Benjamin King. I graduated in May from North High School, where I was Summa Cum Laude all four years, while taking multiple Advanced Placement and College Credit classes. I was a 2023-2024 Optimist Student of the Day, as well as a member of the North High School National Honor Society. I also played the cello at North High School and earned 4 State Gold Medals at ISSMA. In addition to that, I am a 10-year member of 4-H and served as president of my club for two years. I am currently attending the University of Southern Indiana where I am majoring in Mathematics with a focus on Actuarial Sciences.



Benjamin King,
grandson of Jay Putzel King '57.

2024 SMA LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS CONT.



Charles Nolde,
grandson of John Nolde '63.

Charles Nolde, University of Virginia

My name is Charles Nolde, and I would like to thank the Staunton Military Academy Alumni Foundation for the scholarship to help fund my education at the University of Virginia this fall. I am from Richmond, Virginia, and I attended Collegiate School. While there, I enjoyed playing lacrosse as well as soccer, where I was the captain of our state championship team and was honored as an All-American and Virginia State Player of the Year. I also served as Co-President of the student council and participated in an investment club and various community service clubs.

Outside of academic and extracurricular activities, I love spending time with friends and family and being outdoors. My favorite hobbies are surfing, fishing, and golf. These interests have helped shape who I am today and influenced my decision to attend the University of Virginia, where I hope to study economics and commerce.

My grandfather, John Arthur Nolde Jr., attended SMA from 1960 to 1963, and he is one of the men I respect most in my life. He is kind and loving and has taught me so much about life. I aspire to be as good of a man as he is one day. I am grateful to him for informing me about this scholarship opportunity and to SMA for this incredible chance.

Note from the scholarship committee: Each of our applicants scored within one point of each other. (53 or 54, of a possible 56), each has over a 4.0 GPA, and each has been recognized for their efforts in nationally known organizations, both athletic and service oriented.

SMA ALUMNI FOUNDATION INC. LEGACY FUND

Updated January 15, 2025

By Peter Birckhead '73 ● peterbirckhead@gmail.com ● 713-819-1980

LEGACY FUND PROJECT EXCEEDS GOAL OF \$1.5 MILLION IN DONATIONS

Thanks to all of our alumni and patrons who have generously given to the Legacy Fund. We have now, after over 10 years of fund raising, exceeded \$2.1 million in cash donations, pledges, and life insurance death benefit designations either directly to or for the behalf of the SMA AF.

ALSO WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED OVER 1,200 INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS SINCE I STARTED RAISING MONEY FOR THE LEGACY FUND IN 2014. THANKS TO ALL ALUMNI AND DONORS FOR MAKING THE LEGACY FUND SO SUCCESSFUL.

Please consider a donation and make it today either by mailing a check or going on line to www.sma-alumni.org using a credit card or Paypal.

THANKS TO THESE DONORS WHO HAVE MADE THIS POSSIBLE:

(Levels of Giving and Recognition Designations)

\$740,000+ (KABLE SOCIETY)

*Peter Worth '57 * (cash and pledge) (w/benches, WWI Monument Restoration, Museum Signage Package sponsorship, Flag and Flag Pole upkeep sponsorship and SMA Eagle sponsorship) * Includes gift of \$450,000 to MBU for naming of Kable Field to SMA Worth Field*

\$200,000+ (KABLE SOCIETY)

*Regina and Barry Longyear '60 * (with IRA Beneficiary Designation) (Longyear TDH WWI Scholarship, bricks and Museum Project)*

SMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LEGACY FUND cont.

\$100,000 + (KABLE SOCIETY)

Bill Bissett '74 (cash and pledge)
Jack Dalbo '68 (cash and pledge)
Richard DiTraglia '50 (Gift from Last Will and Testament)

\$50,000+ (FIRST CAPTAIN)

Craig Hanson '74 (with TDH Scholarship) (deceased)
Edmond P. Leigh '74 (cash and pledge)
George R. Shiarella '48 (SMA Scholarship)

\$40,000+ (CAPTAIN)

Anonymous '74 *

\$35,000+ (CAPTAIN)

Robert and Emily Parrino '75 * (with SMA Scholarship)

\$25,000+ (CAPTAIN)

Dr. Thomas Kendall Brinkley PG '63 (deceased/estate)
Tilford Jones '76 (Life Insurance Beneficiary Designation)

\$10,000+ (LIEUTENANT)

Larry Atkinson '67 (SMA Scholarship) *
Carter Condon (Patron) * (with TDH Scholarship Program)
John Conomikes '50 * (SMA Eagle, Brochure sponsorship and SMA Scholarship)
Thomas A. Davis '62 * (w/SMA columns sponsorship)
Fileno Digregorio Foundation
Kevin J. Gorman '70 * (w/SMA sponsorship)
Roger C and Kendra A Haines '72 *
Fredrick Hazlewood '65 (w/bench sponsorship) *
Richard Henderson '63 *
David Brooks Holstein '73 (w SMA Scholarship Program and Class of 1973 Scholarship) *
Charles R. Jenkins '53 *
Robert E. Marrow '54
John Nolde '63 * (with Museum Project)
Tom Phillips '74 (w/bench sponsorship, Col. Wease Scholarship, Class of 1973 Scholarship and in Honor of Lolo Kable and SMA Scholarship) *
Leslie Taylor '66 * (w/SMA Eagle sponsorship, Col. Wease Scholarship and Class of 1973 Scholarship, Museum Project)
Joseph Ritok '66 * (with Museum Project)
John (Jack) Vaughan III '69 (w/bench, SMA Eagle sponsorship and Class of 1973 Scholarship) *
Virginia Windley (Don) '70 * (w/Donald R. Windley '70 Scholarship and Museum Project)
Patricia & Herk Wolfe '49 (bench sponsorship/Howie Bust sponsorship) * deceased

\$5,000+ (SERGEANT MAJOR)

Anonymous '62
Peter Birkhead '73 * (with SMA Class 1973 Scholarship)
Steve Bond '61 (w/ bench sponsorship and Class of 1973 Scholarship) *
Peter Brown '66 * (with SMA Scholarship)
H. Clark Cockrell '61 (w/bench sponsorship)
Eugene K. Ehmann '74 * (with bench sponsorship)
John Fuog '70 * (w/SMA Eagle sponsorship and Reunion Sponsorship)
John Michael Garner '53 * (w/SMA Eagle sponsorship)
Burdette Holmes '62 * (w/SMA columns sponsorship and SMA Scholarship)
Hubert N. Hoffman '62 *
Sanford Jacobson '55 *
George Mastroianni '73 (w/ Col. Robert H. Wease Bench and Class of 1973 Scholarship)

\$5,000+ (SERGEANT MAJOR) cont.

LTC. Conrad Mihalek '66 (w/SMA Scholarship and Museum Project) *
Mark Orr '73 * (with SMA Class 1973 Scholarship)
Bob Poovey '60 *
Jim Rice '63 (w/bench and Cannon Restoration sponsorship) *
Victor Rosenberg '56 *
H. Roller Shipplett '67 (brochure, transcripts copy and new website sponsorships) *
David A. Shipula '73 * (with SMA Class 1973 Scholarship)
Louis Stathis '70 *

\$4,000+ (SERGEANT FIRST CLASS)

Joseph A. Frank Jr. '68 *
Stanley Lesniak '67 * (with Col. Wease Scholarship)
Edward Morse '59 * (with SMA Scholarship and Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Stuart Smith '48 (deceased)
William Stillgebauer '64 *
Ronald and Susan Yates (Patron) * (with SMA Class of 1973 Scholarship)

\$3,000+ (SERGEANT FIRST CLASS)

Joanie and John Antonelli (deceased) '61 *
Tim Scheel '73 (w/brochure sponsorship and Class of 1973 Scholarship) *

\$2,500+ (SERGEANT FIRST CLASS)

John Fink '73 (w/Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Frederick Gambke '73 * (w/Class of 1973 Scholarship)
William (Bill) Page '73 (w/Class of 1973 Scholarship)
James H. Stevenson '58 *
Stephen L. Taylor '63 *
\$2,000+ (SERGEANT FIRST CLASS)
Carlos Alfredo Iraheta '73 (w/Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Christopher Jones '71 *
Deborah Lee (in memory of her husband Frank Lee '52 and w/bench sponsorship)
John C. Lucy '76 *
Floyd Ostrom '62 *
Gayle Myers (Patron) wife of Duke Myers '60 deceased)*

\$1,500+ (SERGEANT FIRST CLASS)

David Gray Anderson '59 (with SMA Scholarship)
Michael Byington '61 * (deceased)
Lucius Chapin '66
Albert Gossett III '73 (with SMA Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Allen Jones '48 * (deceased)
Steve Landa '63 *
Glenn Macfadden '69 * (w/Col. Wease Scholarship)

\$1,000+ (SERGEANT FIRST CLASS)

Hamilton Beggs '56 *
Mark Beverage '73
Dr. Randy Blackburn '72
Wesley G. Constable '61 *
William Gershen '58
Charlie Drumheller '66 (w/Cannon Restoration sponsorship)
Peter Fail '73 (w/Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Robert Horvath '47 *
Warren Hutton '75 *
George Jennings '64 (w/bench and SMA Eagle sponsorship) *
Gary Jones '64 (w/bench sponsorships)
Joseph Koch '53 *

SMA ALUMNI FOUNDATION INC. LEGACY FUND Cont.

\$1,000+ (SERGEANT FIRST CLASS) cont.

Anthony C. Korvas '59
Eric Kurre '73 (with Museum Project)
David Marshall '72 *
Robert Norton '67 (deceased)
Donald Owens Jr. '74 PG
Dr. Pamela M. Schuler Patron
Ralph Sebrell '45
Peter Stark '50 *
Frederick Walton '33
Larry Ward '71 * (SMA Scholarship)
\$500+ (BENEFACTOR)
James Adams '59
Robert Bennett '45
John Browne, Jr. '64 (w/bench sponsorship)
Robert Cauthen '64
Michael F. Corbi '62 (w/SMA columns sponsorship)
Robert Digiacomio '69 (SMA Eagle, Brick sponsorships, SMA Scholarship) *
Anthony Disher, Jr. '72 *
Randolph Dodge PG '64 (w/bench sponsorship) *
Robert Flatford '66 *
Judith Griffin (in memory of her husband Fred Benson Griffin '57)
Tad Hall '73 * (with Class of 73 Scholarship)
Jay Horwitt '64 (w/bench sponsorship)
Mrs. Robert Horvath (Memory of Robert Horvath '47)
Alexander Smith Howard '45 *
Sally Howie Jebson (Patron) (daughter of Maj. Thomas Howie) *
Peter Jones '65
Walter Kircher '70 (w/Brick Fund)
William Lambert '62*
Duke Myers '60 * (deceased)
Douglas Nunn '71 *
Leland K. Ozawa '61 *
William Pandak '73 * (w/Col. Wease Scholarship and Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Troy Paul '73 (with Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Phil Peter '50 *
David Rhodes '72
Al Rossy '74 (w/bench sponsorship) *
Edmund Smith '76*
Lawrence Steele III '61*
Bruce Thomas '74 (deceased) (w/bench sponsorship)
Peter Voss '48 *
Donald Westbrook '69 (w/SMA Eagle Sponsorship)
Scott Zabroski '73 (w/Class of 1973 Scholarship) *

\$250+ (BENEFACTOR)

Jacqueline Armstrong Patron (husband Jack Armstrong '37)
* Robert Barksdale '75 (deceased)
Thomas Broere '72 (with Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Edward Burka '48 *
Robert Clements '58 *
William Crampton '62 *
Steven Crane '74 (w/bench sponsorship)
Jerome S. Fletcher '47 *
David Gorwitz '73 (w/Class of 1973 Scholarship)
COL Zach Hagedorn, Jr. '51 *
Geoffrey Hall '65
Mark J. Hancock '62 *
Paul Heyard '72 *

\$250+ (BENEFACTOR) cont.

Page Kable (Patron) *
Samuel Lowe (Patron – Jack Lowe's son)
Harvie Martin III '74
Donato Mastroianni '73 (w/Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Edward McLorie '63 *
Gordon Milestone '43 *
Edward Patsch '53 *
Robert Piper '68
Robert E. Poust '69
Neil J. Rogers '69 *
John Henry Roszmann '60
Fredrick Shaffman '66
Jeffery Steinn Patron
Robert Tabor '58 *
Frank Till '71 *
John W. Turner '67 *
Carl Winnefeld '61 *
Samuel F. Woody '47 (deceased) and Lee Hardin Woody (wife) *
COL. Robert Wease (Faculty) Deceased *
Phillip Yount '62 *
Lee P. Woody '47 *

\$200+ (BENEFACTOR)

Charles Angemeer Jr. '73 * (w Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Anthony Betz '67
Pasquale P. Caiazza '68 (w/Col. Wease Scholarship)
William Crampton '62
Howard E. Gibson '45
William Hildebrand '73
Tom Howie '67
Sanford Jacobson '55 *
Larry Lombardi '69 (w/SMA Eagle sponsorship)
Michael Lipper '53
Edmund Leigh '74
Gary Martell '69
Jeffrey Metzel '43
Robert R. Roths, II '70
David Sprol '68
Hugh Sproul III '54 (w/brochure sponsorship)
Edwin Taliaferro '60 *
Doris Thompson (Patron) *
David Tinker '69 * (w/SMA Eagle sponsorship)
J. Warren Turner '67 (SMA Scholarship) *
W.J. Turner '67
William Truog '64 (Anna Randle Truog Mem. Fund) *

\$100+ (BENEFACTOR)

Anonymous '62 * (w/SMA column sponsorship)
James Adams '59 *
Richard Alonzo '64 *
Charlie Angemeer '73 (with Class of 1973 Scholarship)
Darr Barshis '72
Richard Beaver '56
Gerald and Elizabeth Bernfeld '57 (Gerald deceased)
James Bond '51 *
Thomas Brigham, Jr. '70
Michael J. Brodey '55
Judge Alfred Burka '45
Leonard Burka '51
William Bush '62 (with SMA columns sponsorship)
Alan Butterworth '51 *

SMA ALUMNI FOUNDATION INC. LEGACY FUND Cont.

\$100+ (BENEFACTOR) cont.

Arthur Carey '63
 Augustine Catalano '47 *
 John Clifford '67
 Stephen Cockrum '65
 Jose Colon '60
 Robert P. Cooke '52
 Victor Crane '70
 David Dana '49
 William Deane, Jr. '65
 Robert H. Dewey III '68 (w/Col. Wease Scholarship)
 Jack Dickerson '67 (w/SMA Eagle sponsorship)
 David Didawick (Patron) (w/Col. Robert H. Wease Scholarship)
 George Dunigan '64
 Phillip Farber '69 (w/SMA Eagle sponsorship)
 Allen Fisher '56 (in memory of his brother Bruce Fisher '49)
 William Foard '56 *
 Garth Frable Patron (w/Col. Wease Scholarship) *
 N. Scott Gardiner (Patron)
 David Glys '72
 Dennis Calzonetti '73 (w/Class of 1973 Scholarship)
 John Graham '59
 Mark Hancock '62
 James Hayslip '75 *
 Harry R. Heavner (Patron) (w/Col. Wease Scholarship)
 John C. Hildebrand '72 (deceased)
 Benjamin Hudson, Jr. '54
 Walter Johnson '66 * w/Brick
 John Kelly '57 *
 Lee Lawrence '56 (deceased)
 Robert Lehman '69 (w/SMA Eagle sponsorship)
 Jon Levy '56
 A Michael Lipper '53 *
 Robert Major '74
 William M. Meredith '45
 Randall Melton '76
 SFC Kenneth Messer, Jr '66 *
 Mark Milone '60
 Edmond Neuberger '50
 Stephen Newton '62
 Russell Ogan '70 *
 James Pagnotti Patron *
 W. David Paul '71
 Randal M. Pais '63
 John Pennybacker '63
 Richard H. Pershan '47
 Robert A. Piper '68
 Simon M. Painter '58 (deceased)
 W. Charles Pfister '74
 Col. Michael Quinlan '57 *
 William Ratcliff, Jr '62
 Robert Remaley (Patron)
 John Ricca '67
 Norm Schenk '74
 West Schoenfuss '73
 Wayne Scholtes '64
 Elizabeth Seaman (Patron for Husband Peter Seaman '50)
 Robert Skrotsky '63
 Aleida Snell (Patron) (in honor of her husband Dale Frederick Snell '56)

\$100+ (BENEFACTOR) cont.

Alexander Spero '53
 John Steele '52
 William Stillgebauer '54
 Clarence Tart '53
 D. Marshall Taylor '75 *
 John R. Taylor '72 *
 Patricia L Taylor (wife of Joseph J. Taylor '46)
 Greg Thompson '65
 John T. Turner '67
 W. John Turner '67 *
 Paul P. Varnes (Patron) (Brother of Tommy Varnes) (w/ Col. Wease Scholarship)
 Jeffrey Van Hyning '64
 Wm. Rock Viner '69
 James H. Wease (Patron) (w/Col. Wease Scholarship Fund)
 Jeffery Wenzel Patron (AMA '70)
 D. Eli E. White '53
 David L. Wolfe '75
 Robert Wood '53
 Charles Youngman '55

\$50+ (BENEFACTOR)

Frank Allen '47 (w/brick sponsorship)
 Kelly Allen '71
 William Baldwin III '64
 Patrick Benavides (Patron) (w/brick sponsorship)
 Lawrence Brown '65
 Bruce Buchanan '66 (w/brick sponsorship)
 Carol Caldwellader Patron (in honor of Lewis Caldwellader '55)
 Ms. Terry Clark Patron (in honor of her father William Clark '48)
 David Cohen '59
 Shirley Crane Patron
 Don Cross '67 (w/brick sponsorship)
 Jamie Deehan Patron (in honor of James Deehan '55)
 John Diemer '67 *
 Everette Doffermyre '66 *
 Michelle Florio Patron (in memory of Thomas Smith '76)
 Susan Finlay Patron (brick for Lolo Kable)
 Alexander Forester '74
 Edie Jeanne Britman Goldberg (Memory of William Goldberg '52) Brick Purchase
 Betty Hall (Patron) (in honor of Geoffry Hall '64)
 Kari Hanson Patron
 Kim Hoffecker (brick for Charles Hoffecker '38 deceased)
 Scott Holcomb '66
 Ben Hollis '58 *
 Ben Hudson '54
 James F. Keating '66 PG *
 Patrick Kelley '72
 Barbara Kerne (Patron)
 Harold C. Leach, Jr. '67
 Carolyn Lucy (Patron) Wife of J.C. Lucy, Jr. '53
 Gene Merchant '72
 Alan Messer '68 (w/brick sponsorship) *
 George C. Morgan '70 (w/brick purchase)
 Dan Newman '60 *
 Peter Ottman '65 (w/Howie Bust sponsorship)
 Richard Parson '60

SMA ALUMNI FOUNDATION INC. LEGACY FUND Cont.

\$50+ (BENEFACTOR) cont.

LT Gregory Player '73
COL. Brooke Read '46 *
Darrell Richardson '67 *
AJ Scolio '43
Neal Smith '66
Michael Somers '65 (w/brochure sponsorship)
William Summers '60
Michael J. Taylor '50
Maj. Thomas Varnes Staff (w/Col. Wease Scholarship)
Peter Velde '67
Jon Walker '54
Edna Wease (Patron) (Sister in Law of Col. Wease) (w/ Col. H. Wease Scholarship)
William L. Wease (Patron) (Brother of Col. Wease) (w/ Col. Wease Scholarship)
Eli White '53
John Yeakley '61
John Zack '69 *
Fish Bowl in Museum Receipts

\$25+ (BENEFACTOR)

Jacqueline Armstrong (Patron) (in honor of her husband John Armstrong '37)
Lee Beard '51
David Behuhn '69 (w/SMA Eagle Sponsorship)
Howard Brewer, Jr '47
Claude L. Crawford '57 (Faculty) *
Robert Coyner '49
John Diemer '67
Donald Deep '56
Michael Deuting '59

\$25+ (BENEFACTOR) cont.

Garth Frible, Patron (w/Col. Wease Scholarship)
Carlos Ferro '51
Douglas Godwin '69
John Graham '59
Sherri Greene Patron (memory of her father Lantz Haywood '64)
Mark Haddock '62
Walter Hickcock '54
Charles Hnilicka '48
Stanley Kaplan '54
Stanley Licker '55
Gregory and Paula Lockhart (Patrons) for James Jewett '41
Bryon Malogrides '61
Edward Mann '46
Kirk Moberley '63 *
Michael Meyers '59
John Morrow '52
John Pennypacker, Jr '63
Hal Schweder '40
Randall See '75
William Suppes, Jr. '45
William Thomas '61
Chris Tsucalas '59
William Tucker, Jr '58
United Way of Kansas City, MO Patron
Dick Unger '63
\$10+ (BENEFACTOR)
Joseph McKibben '60
James Spencer (Patron)
Gary Waple '60 (w/SMA Eagle Sponsorship)

* Multi-Year and/or Repeat Donors

Thanks to all of these alumni and patrons who have supported the Legacy Fund Project. Your donations have helped to ensure the memories, traditions, and alumni efforts are carried into perpetuity. Your donations have helped our alumni foundation to provide scholarships and support for organizations (such as the WWIL Program at MBC) that exemplify our core values of Truth, Duty and Honor. And finally your donations have helped support the new SMA Scholarship Program.

The listing above represents only 20 percent of living alumni. There are still 80 percent of those of SMA alumni who have not made a donation! Please consider a gift to the Legacy Fund. No amount is too small and all donations are fully tax deductible. If you wish to donate to the Legacy Fund, please contact me directly. *Peter Birkhead, SMA '73, peterbirkhead@gmail.com or 713-819-1980.*

Note.: If you don't see your name, and you have donated, please let me know. If you have donated more than once and do not have a "*" next to your name please let me know. Thanks!

Next Issue Deadline for Submissions

The next issue of the Kablegram-Leader is scheduled to be published in June. Please send any articles and updates to kablegram@sma-alumni.org by Friday May 16th. Thank you!

Museum

As the museum is not open full time and you wish to visit during the summer months through August, please email Arlene Nicely, smaalumni@outlook.com or call 540-885-1309 (or cell: 540-294-1004) at least two days before your visit. We will be glad to have someone here for you for your visit is important to us. Thank you.

SMA FRIENDSHIP RENEWED

An SMA Friendship Renewed: A Visit to Colombia *2nd Lt. Ralph Bolton, '57*



Juan Ricardo Bernal (left), Ralph Bolton (right)

When I was a cadet from 1954-1957, SMA was a segregated institution. Black applicants were rejected. However, there was a strong presence of cadets from Latin American countries sent to the United States to prepare them for careers in the military, government and business in their home countries. At the time, cadets were assigned to companies and platoons by height. The tallest cadets were in Company A, and the shortest in Company F. At a mere 5'6", I was in Company F, along with many Latin American cadets who on average tended to be shorter in stature than their US counterparts. About 13 out of 50 cadets in Company F were from Latin America. As a result, among my closest friends at the Academy were lads from Colombia, Venezuela and Cuba.

During brief holidays such as Thanksgiving, when many American cadets went home for a few days, most of my Latin American friends could not go home. I was from southeastern Pennsylvania, and so on many occasions, my family invited my SMA friends to spend the

holiday with us. Among those friends was Juan Ricardo Bernal from Colombia, known in those days as "Ritchie". Over the past 60 plus years, Juan Ricardo and I have remained in touch periodically. He was a couple of years behind me at Staunton, and after graduation I saw him only once when our paths crossed in Cambridge, MA where I was a doctoral student at MIT, and he was an undergraduate. As the years passed, we exchanged

holiday greetings sometimes, and eventually we realized that we should meet in person once more. For several years we discussed this, but nothing happened.

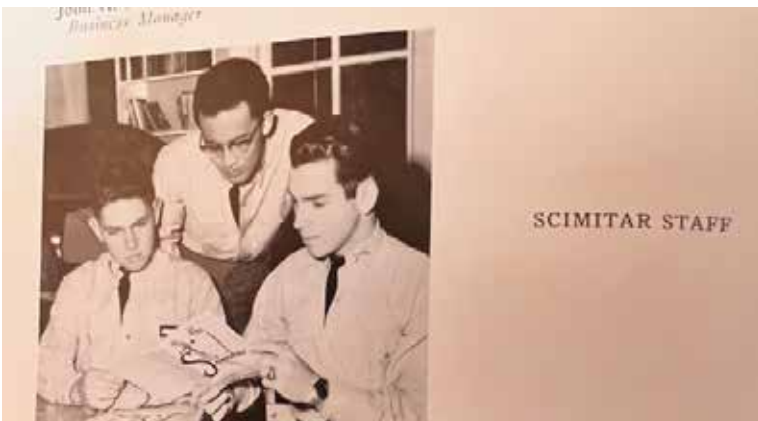
Because of my work as an anthropologist, I spend a lot of time in Peru, and Juan Ricardo invited me to stop to visit on one of my trips between California and Peru. At our age (I'm 84), we recognized that the meeting should be postponed no longer. Finally, in October 2023, I was able to arrange a stop in Bogota on my return home from Lima. Juan Ricardo was in New York City attending an exhibition of his wife's art, but he had a driver pick me up at the airport to take to my hotel. He arrived the next day, and we had a most wonderful reunion over the next three days. Juan Ricardo is a successful engineer and entrepreneur; he is still active as the CEO of several companies based in Bogota.

As hosts, Juan Ricardo and his wife, Maria, an accomplished painter, were without peers. I was treated to a visit to their country place on a private lake outside Bogota where I met members of their family and had a delightful boat ride. We went on an overnight trip to Villa de Leyva, a picturesque colonial town. And I enjoyed meals at some fantastic restaurants, their favorites.

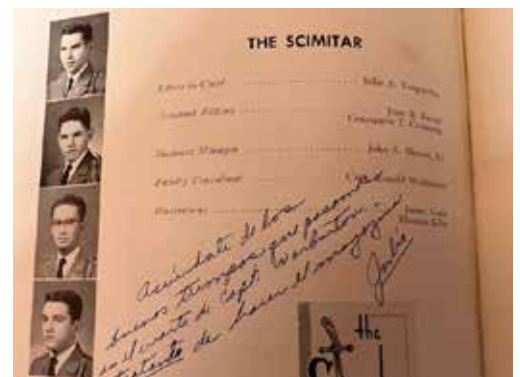
We spent hours exchanging memories about our years at Staunton, especially recalling classmates who had been mutual friends of ours. Both of us lost touch with some, among them the Miranda twins, Joe and William, from Cuba (who left Cuba following the Castro revolution—that's another story), Ju-



Juan Ricardo Bernal
(From the Shrapnel)



From left: Juan Ricardo Bernal, Constanca Castaneda, Julio Vengoechea



SMA FRIENDSHIP RENEWED *cont.*

lio Vengoechea from Panama/Venezuela, and Constancio “Junior” Castaneda from a prominent family in the Philippines. We enriched each other’s memory by recalling different things long erased from the other’s memory bank.

Our pleasant memories were accompanied by some sad news as well. One classmate with whom we had lost contact was Julio Vengoechea. A google search finally located information on Julio. He had returned to Venezuela where he became a highly successful photographer. We learned that he had died in the 1980s, an early casualty of HIV/AIDS. He had become a leader in the LGBTQ community in Venezuela, a co-founder of the first gay publication in the country. Following his death, a school of photography was named in his honor. That he had a brilliant, though short, career should come as no surprise. At SMA, he was one of the few cadets to receive the highest honor given by the Academy, the Legion of Honor Award.

The memory of this encounter with a fellow cadet will remain with me to the end of my days. It serves as a reminder, too, that we should not postpone the opportunities to reestablish contact with friends from our glory days at SMA.



Julio Vengoechea
(from the Shrapnel)



Juan Ricardo Bernal (left), Maria Isabel (center), Ralph Bolton (right)



From left: Juan Ricardo Bernal, Ralph Bolton, Maria Isabel

FROM FORT WOLTERS TO PLEIKU, VIETNAM

Larry Hertzberg, SMA '62



In March of 1964, I finished first in my class at the U. S. Army Security Agency School at Fort Devens, Massachusetts. I was now a highly qualified Radio Direction Finding Plotter-MOS 986. My job was to locate radio transmitters by combining the direction information from two

or more radio receivers. The source of the transmission was located by triangulation.

I left Fort Devens with orders to report to the 330th ASA Company at Fort Wolters, Texas. It didn't take me long to discover several interesting things about my new unit.

First, I was about the only NUG (New Useless Guy) in the company. Most men were either career soldiers, sometimes known as lifers or short timers. The short timers were mostly men that had completed another assignment, most having been overseas. These guys often had FTA attitudes and were just serving out their enlistments. It was an eclectic mix.

Secondly, we had a very important national security mission. The 330th was what was known as a Type A Company. It included almost every ASA MOS. We worked around the

FROM FORT WOLTERS TO PLEIKU, VIETNAM (CONT.)

clock, three rotating shifts known as trick work (days, swings and mids). I was on the 3rd trick. We were known as the Third Heard and had membership cards. We rented a house off post for off duty activities such as wine, women and song.

And finally I found out that the 330th was a STRAC (Strategic Army Corps) unit. This meant that we had to be packed and prepared to deploy on very short notice. All of the equipment that we used for our Top Secret mission was on wheels. Many times from the spring of 1964 to the spring of 1966 we were called to go to the boonies for field exercises.

In May of 1964, we participated in operation Desert Strike. It was the largest joint services military exercise since World War II. We left Ft. Wolters and convoyed to Arizona, setting up our operations in the desert south of Kingman. We lived in pup tents and worked our mission for about three weeks. There was an abundance of snakes, gila monsters and scorpions in the area. This made it necessary to check our boots and sleeping bags often.

Sometimes we would be awakened in the middle of the night. We would load up and convoy to some isolated area and set up operations for a few days. We also participated in some field exercises at Fort Hood, Texas with the 1st Armored Division.

In addition to the field exercises, I was frequently on TDY. The 330th had a small detachment at a closed air force base near Mission, Texas. I was TDY there several times. It was good duty because it was close to Mexico and we could go across the border for play time. I was also TDY at Fort Huachuca, Arizona for a month. When I wasn't in a jeep out in the desert testing equipment, I could go to Mexico or Tucson to play. I was also TDY for six months at Vint Hill Farm Sta., Virginia. We were testing new direction finding equipment to be used in Vietnam.

In the spring of 1965, the mood at Ft. Wolters started to change. Ft. Wolters was the home of the U. S. Army Primary Helicopter School. Activity was picking up at the school. Almost every helicopter pilot that went to Vietnam passed thru Ft. Wolters. Ft. Wolters was also the home of the 864th Engineer Battalion. In May of 1965, the 864th left for Vietnam. In July of 1965, my MOS changed from 986-Radio Direction Finding Plotter to 054-Radio Direction Finding Analyst. In October of 1965, my MOS changed from 054 to 05D-Radio Direction Finding. With these MOS changes I received no additional training. The 05D MOS required proficiency in copying and sending morse code, and I didn't know an A from a Z. I did know FTA. In January of 1966, Headquarters Co. of the 303rd ASA Bn. received orders for Vietnam and left in April. We knew that we were next. In May of 1966, the 330th Co. received orders for Vietnam and we literally SHIPPED OUT on August the 2nd 1966.

We boarded the USNS General Hugh J. Gaffey Troop Transport Ship in Oakland, California, and set sail for our 18 day luxury cruise to Vietnam. I'll recall a few highlights of the voyage. Most importantly, SP5's and above were assigned to

cabins. I was in a cabin with two other NCO's. Our cabin was the farthest astern and had a porthole for fresh air. When the seas were rough we could look out of our porthole and see the ship screws turning. We had our own shower and there was a poker game and a craps game in our cabin every day.

I remember going under the Golden Gate bridge. I remember lots of guys getting seasick. I remember lots of guys sitting on the deck pounding a quarter with a spoon. Quarters were made from silver then. They would pound the edge until it was flattened out, cut the center out of the quarter and end up with a silver finger ring. I remember that there was an infantry unit on board that would practice firing their new M16's off the stern of the ship. It was August and very hot, especially down below. The showers were being used 24 hours a day. I remember the Captain announcing the if the practice continued we would be showering with sea water. I remember crossing the international date line.

Now on to something that I only vaguely remember or don't remember at all. Fairly early in the voyage we three cabin mates made friends with a few of the Navy crew. Some of them would join us in our cabin for the gambling games. We learned from the crew that we would be docking overnight in Okinawa to refuel and resupply the ship. They invited the three of us to go ashore with them when we docked. Of course the Army troops were not supposed to disembark. Well, we broke out some civvies and off we went to the Kadena Air Base NCO Club with the Navy. We arrived just in time for happy hour. I started out drinking double Scotch on the rocks and ended up falling down drunk. When it came time to go back to the ship I told the guys that I had decided not to go to Vietnam. That didn't go over very well. When they were ready to go back to the ship my condition would not allow me to walk. Being unconscious, I was literally carried and dragged back to the ship by these guys. When I came to the next afternoon I was bruised, battered, bloody and filthy dirty. At least we weren't found out.

A few days after my Okinawa adventure, our ship anchored in Qui Nhon Harbor. We transferred to Navy landing craft with our duffel bags and weapons and hit the beach, so to speak. Busses were waiting for us and were transported to the air field where we boarded a C130 cargo plane. There were no seats in the cargo bay; we were the cargo. On landing at Pleiku air base, we waited for hours before loading on to trucks to our final destination, Engineer Hill, just north of the air base.

Upon arriving at Engineer Hill all we saw was a very large vacant field. All of our equipment including tenting and vehicles was loaded on to the wrong ship and ended up in Italy.....FUBAR!! All we had was what we hand carried off the ship: weapons, duffel bags and packs. Pup tents and entrenching tools came in handy. The midnight requisition specialists begged and borrowed everything they could get their hands on. The 330th could not do what we were sent to Vietnam to do because we had no equipment to operate.

FROM FORT WOLTERS TO PLEIKU, VIETNAM (CONT.)

About five days after arriving at Engineer Hill I received TDY orders assigning me to the 8th RRU at Phu Bai for approximately 30 days. It was a lucky day. They needed a DF Plotter. The guys at Phu Bai were living in air conditioned trailers with real beds. Beer and hamburgers were available at their NCO club. I was working my MOS and life was good.

I returned to Engineer Hill around the end of September. I found that the living conditions were much better. We were now quartered in GP medium tents and had cots; no more pup tents.. Still no wooden floors for the tents, just red dirt. At some point wooden floors were installed in the tents. Speaking of red dirt, in the rainy season the dirt became sticky red mud. In the dry season it became red dust. When the wind would blow the dust on to my food in the chow line I pretended that it was pepper.

Some things that I remember about the company area. For latrines we had piss tubes for #1 and outhouses for #2. The #2 receptacles were 55 gallon drums that had been cut in half. The contents of the drums had to be burned every day with diesel fuel. There were outhouses for officers and NCO's and there were outhouses for enlisted men. We described the outhouses as one holers, two holers, three holers and etc. I remember occasions when the Pleiku air base runway received mortar fire at night. Sometimes some of us would climb on top of an outhouse and cheer and clap when the incoming rounds hit the runway- probably alcohol involved. I remember mortar rounds hitting our company area, no clapping then! I remember times when we would hear blood curdling screams from the direction of the piss tubes. We knew that some guy had gone to town and had not taken the proper precautions with his "girl friend". Perhaps some penicillin would be in order.

I remember the rats. For rat control we had a python that lived in the trench around the tent. In addition to that we developed a game called flame thrower to help control the rat population. As soon as the lights were turned out we could hear the rats start to scamper around. On my signal the person in charge of the light switch would turn it on and I would squirt Zippo lighter fluid thru the flame of my Zippo lighter and presto-Zippo the rat was on fire. It would usually run out of the tent in a ball of fire; no more rat..... We also used our mosquito nets, not so much for mosquitoes but to keep the rats out of our bunks.

I remember when we had an attack on our perimeter and the company commander ordered us to open fire before a blacked- out Huey was out of our field of fire. He was relieved of his command the next day. I remember when Martha Ray did a USO show for us in the company area. I remember when a battery of 155mm self propelled howitzers parked near us for a few days. There was no way to know when those guns would go off! Since we worked around the clock some of us were always trying sleep.

At some time during my tour I became a courier of classified materials. This was like having multiple in country R & R's. The company clerk would sign the Co's name on my travel orders and off I would go to the Pleiku air base to hitch a ride to wherever I needed to go. I rode on Huey's, C130's and Caribou's mostly. I couldn't always get a direct flight. On one trip I flew on a Huey with a Brigadier General to Chu Lai. Occasionally I would get to ride on the flight deck of a C130. Once on a C130 I slept in the cab of a deuce-and-a-half. On a trip in a Caribou we went through a terrible storm. I thought the end was near. Sometimes it would take an extra day or two to get back to Pleiku?? I especially liked to go to the DF site at Cam Ranh Bay. I remember seeing Bob Hope on a trip to Tan Son Nhut Air Base. I remember seeing Nancy Sinatra in her boots at the 4th ID. I think I was at almost every Radio Research Unit in country.

On March 1st of '67 I was promoted to SSG/E6, 05D40 and was still not qualified for that MOS.

I received TDY orders on March 27th to go to a location just west of Qui Nhon for 30 days and supervise the installation of a DF site. After about a week, I met a real nice girl in town. She invited me to stay with her. I commuted back and forth to work. That worked out very nicely for a while. We had ROK security around the site so we felt pretty comfortable.

Upon returning to Engineer Hill, I was designated as the company Field First Sergeant. My primary duty was to supervise a daily detail that policed the company area. Most importantly I had to see that they applied diesel fuel to the outhouse receptacles and stirred and burned the contents properly. I had to see that the shower tanks and lyster bags were filled with water etc. It was also important that I keep a bar stool at the NCO club warm.

I learned to sew at a young age because my mother was a good seamstress. While at Ft. Wolters I purchased a used portable sewing machine for \$35.00. I was making pretty good money altering uniforms and sewing on stripes and name tapes. My sewing machine went to Vietnam in my hold baggage. I was known as Jake the tailor. Before completing my tour I sold the machine to one of the house girls for \$35.00. Between the sewing and being pretty lucky in a \$5.00 three raise poker game I sent quite a bit of money home. I can't remember what the black market exchange rate was for a US \$20.00 bill but it was worthwhile.

Shortly before I was scheduled to return to the world to be discharged, I received a generous re-enlistment bonus offer of \$10,000 from my Great Uncle Sam. Apparently Sam didn't realize that I was never qualified for my 05D40 MOS..

My last travel orders in Vietnam were to report to Cam Ranh Bay for a Freedom Flight to Ft. Lewis, Washington. The morning following my arrival at Ft. Lewis I had a discharge in my hand.....from The United States Army.



Stanton Military Academy Alumni Foundation, Inc.

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SMA Reunion 2025 (11-13 April) Registration Form

PRINT & fill form. Mail to address **or FAX** to: 1-866-950-4452 **or SCAN** & email to: SMAalumni@outlook.com

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____ MIDDLE INITIAL: _____
SMA YEAR: _____
ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
TEL: (____) _____; (____) _____; EMAIL: _____

ALUMNI GUEST REGISTER

SPOUSE NAME: _____
GUEST NAME: _____
GUEST NAME: _____
GUEST NAME: _____

ADVANCE REGISTRATION FEE COMPUTATION

Deadline is March 28, 2024. Please take the time **NOW** to complete your registration form. By doing this, you will help us plan more effectively for a successful SMA/VWIL Reunion.

Please note – lodging reservations at the Hotel 24 South (or elsewhere) must be made separately.

____ Weekend x \$165/person¹ (\$160² if dues are current) \$ _____
____ Friday Only x \$95/person^{3*} \$ _____
____ Saturday Only x \$100/person^{4*} \$ _____
____ Sponsor a VWIL Cadet at Alumni Banquet (\$60/cadet) \$ _____
TOTAL COST: \$ _____

PAYMENT

Check (payable to: SMA Alumni Foundation, Inc.)
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SIGNATURE

¹ After March 28th, the price increases to \$175 for the weekend. Door price is \$185.

² Discount (\$5) applies to member and spouse/guest if dues are current.

³ After March 28th, the price increases to \$105 for Friday only. Door price is \$115. No individual event tickets for sale.

⁴ After March 28th, the price increases to \$100 for Saturday only. Door price is \$110. No individual event tickets for sale.

* Prices for individual scheduled events not authorized; only payment for entire single day of events.

SMA REUNION 2025

SCHEDULE

(AS OF 11/10/2024)

Thursday, April 10, 2025 (downtown)

6:30 pm: Early bird arrival - informal Dutch treat dinner gathering at the Mill Street Grill

Friday, April 11, 2025 (on former SMA campus & other venues)

9:30 – 11:30 am: SMAAF Board of Directors meeting (Mess Hall)

10:30 am – 4:15 pm: SMA-VWIL Museum Open

11:00 am – 3:30 pm: Registration (Mess Hall, small room on left)

4:30 – 5:30 pm: Howie Rifle Demo (asphalt) & Memorial Wall ceremony (outside museum)

6:00 – 8:00 pm: Reception and BBQ Dinner (Mess Hall)

8:00 – 10:00 pm: Dance - TBA

Saturday, April 12, 2025 (on former SMA campus & Hotel 24 South)

8:15 – 9:00 am: Registration for those not yet registered (Mess Hall, small room on left)

8:30 – 9:30 am: Buffet Breakfast (Mess Hall)

9:30 – 11:00 am: Annual SMA Alumni General Membership & VWIL Program Update (Mess Hall VWIL Room)

11:00 – 11:30 am: SMAAF Board of Directors meeting (Mess Hall)

11:30 – 4:00 pm: SMA-VWIL Museum Open

12:00 – 1:15 pm: SMA-VWIL Parade

SMA-VWIL Alumni will form up on the asphalt at 11:45 pm to follow the VWIL Corps of Cadets onto SMA Worth Field.

1:15 – 6:00 pm: Free time to enjoy lunch downtown, visit the museum, connect with former classmates, shop, or tour the city

6:00 – 7:00 pm: Banquet Reception & Cocktails (cash bar) (Hotel 24 South Lobby)

7:00 – 10:00 pm: Alumni Reunion Banquet (Hotel 24 South Banquet Room)

- Guest Speaker: Charles P. Pfarrer, SMA '75

10:00 pm: Nostalgia Time

Sunday, April 13, 2025 (on former SMA campus)

8:30 am – 2:00 pm: SMA-VWIL Museum Open



SMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Commemorative License Plate

MAIL-IN ORDER FORM

Customer Details

Name: _____

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License Plate Qty: _____ X \$29

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Class of (Optional): _____

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(Recommended if plate is mounted on vehicle)

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Subtotal: _____

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Shipping: \$3.00 (per item) _____

Total Due: _____



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Make check payable to Mail Pro 1 LLC

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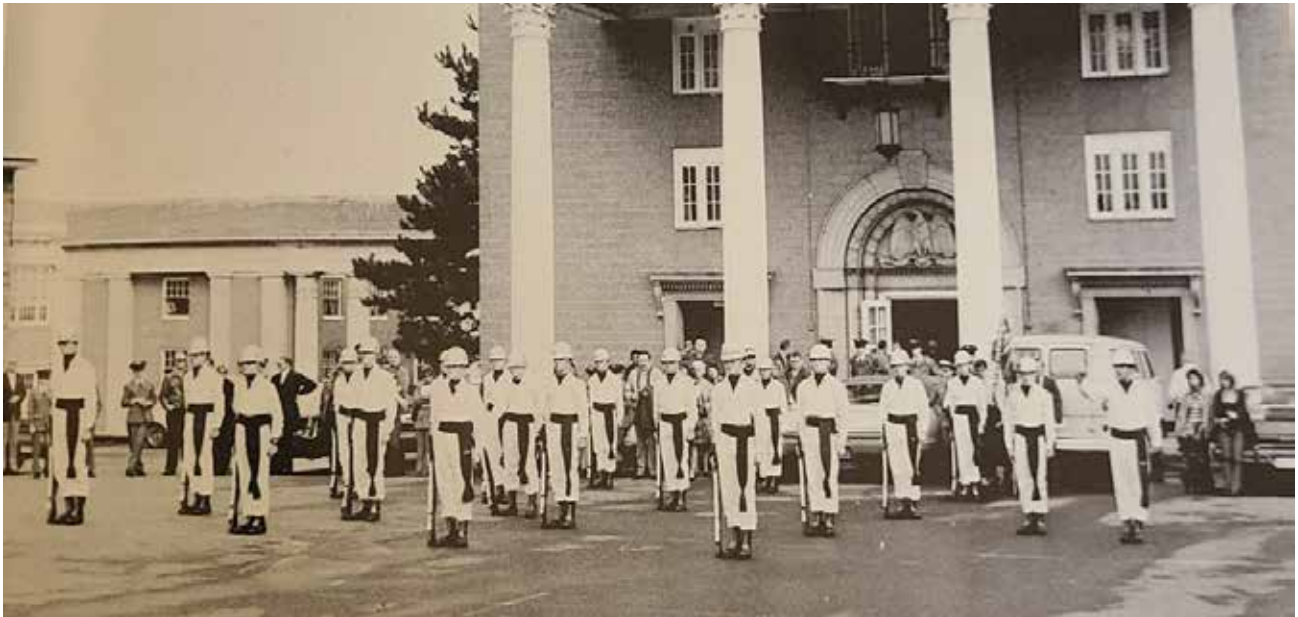
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VWIL GALLERY January 2025



VWIL Staff Line at Staunton Veterans' Parade on Beverly Street, November 2024.



Seniors Army Cadets c/ICPT Mazingo and c/CPT Allebaugh at Branch Night, December 2024.



Annual Corps Hike up Humpback Rock in Blue Ridge Parkway, October 2024.



VWIL Homecoming Parade, October 2024.

TAPS

Howard G. Brewer, Jr. SMA '47



Howard George Brewer Jr., age 94, passed away at his home in Vero Beach, FL on February 6, 2024, of natural causes. Howard was born in Bronxville, New York on April 12, 1929, to Howard G. Brewer, Sr. and Enid Florence Drake. Howard lived in Queens, graduated from Staunton Military Academy in Staunton, VA and then received his BA from University of Kentucky in Lexington, KY. He served two years in the Air Force as an Operations Officer for the 922nd AC&W Squadron in Labrador, Canada scrambling planes from a radar station there. After his service in the AF, he was employed by Dow Jones & Company with whom he enjoyed a 35-year career.

He married Marie Occhicone and with her had daughter Tracy Ann (Scahill, Frank) and son William Michael (Polly) who survive. After her death he married Phyllis Elmore Miller with whom he enjoyed his retirement years and who survives. His brother, Richard, predeceased him.

He is survived by grandchildren Stephen (Erica) Brewer, Matthew (Nicolette) Brewer, Emily Cureton (Casey), Morgan Ann Littman, Peter Brewer Littman and three delightful great grands. Also surviving are nephews, a niece, several step-children, step grandchildren, and step great grandchildren.



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John L. Levy Sr. SMA '56

Jon Lee Levy, Sr. passed away on December 1st, 2024 at the age of 86, in the town of Scottsdale, Arizona where he and his wife have lived since 1999.

He was born in Chattanooga, TN and raised in Baton Rouge, LA. He is survived by his wife of almost 49 years, Carol and his three children



Jon Lee Levy, Jr., Christopher and his wife Dawn and chil-

dren Anders and Dane, his daughter Danica and her husband Bryan, and his daughter-in-law Sarah.

He was an accomplished Attorney, Veteran, and Tulane graduate. He was President of the Volunteer Auxiliary for Scottsdale Healthcare and an avid animal lover, with a special connection to all of the family pets. He had a love of model trains, cajun food, dad joke humor and Sunday NFL football.

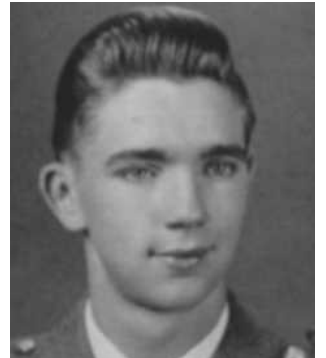
His smile, humor, presence and warm heart will be missed dearly by all of us: community, friends and family.

Jon was honored at a short graveside service on Sunday, December 8th, 2024 at Paradise Memorial Gardens in Scottsdale, Arizona.



John M. Kelly SMA '57

John Michael Kelly August 13, 1939 – July 29, 2024 John Michael Kelly, 84 of Los Angeles, CA died after a short illness in a long-term medical care facility, in Gardena, California. He had been married to Nancy Harwood and



was the only child to Sgt. John Kelly and Althea Tisdell of Ithaca, New York.

After graduating Ithaca High School in 1957, he attended Staunton Military Academy, and joined and was trained by the Marines, doing basic training at Perris Island. He also served three years in the military reserves. At the same time, he was attending Ithaca College, and taking classes at Cornell University.

In 1959, and for several years thereafter, in his hometown of Ithaca, he was the Ithaca City Marshall, and in the summers, a lifeguard at Enfield Glen and Taughannock Falls State Park. He also spent the spring of 1965 as a lifeguard in Fort Lauderdale, FL. In the summer of 1961, he and his best friend Steve Knapp formed a band called The Thrashers, and played many shows in upstate New York, including Grossingers Resort, parts of New England, Fort Lauderdale, FL, and the famous Peppermint Lounge in New York City, where they shot a video at the Empire State Building which was later shown on the Dick Clark show.

In 1962, he returned to school at Ithaca College, and graduated in 1962. Always the adventurer, in the fall of

1962 and into 1963, Mike traveled around the world, including stops in Italy and France where he developed a life-long love for the cuisine and their wines, and Australia where he stayed for three months. In the fall of 1965, he returned to school at the University of Miami Law School and after taking additional classes at UCLA Law School in the summer of 1967, he graduated early with his law degree in 1967. He then drove to California in 1968, and passed the CA bar. He started working in his first law firm, located in Los Angeles, moving to Marina del Rey, then Westwood.

In 1977 he partnered with other attorneys, including his friend, Steve Knapp, and formed his first law partnership. In 1980, he and Mike Cogan founded a new law firm specializing in family law matters, which continued and then was transformed into several law-firm partnerships, with an emphasis on family law matters, in Santa Monica, until his retirement in 2014.

Also in 1980, he met and married the love of his life, Nancy Harwood. They traveled to France, Italy, and Ireland many times and enjoyed many social events together with family and friends in Los Angeles, Palm Desert, Virginia, and Ithaca. His love of Ireland, his Irish heritage, including an annual St. Patrick's Day party, was legendary. His early days of practicing karate in Santa Monica provided everlasting bonds and friendships. Many memories were made from riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle, his love of Cadillacs, and talk of great white sharks. He was a long-time member of the Jonathan Club, the King Harbor Yacht Club, and the NRA.

He leaves behind his sisters-in-law, Cathy Harwood and Norma Naber and their families, his close friends, some over fifty years! He was also a mentor to all he felt a closeness to. Renowned Family Law attorney, Teacher and Lecturer, including many Chairmanships, he was the first California Attorney to try a Grandparents' Rights Suit, Child Advocate. Funeral services were held on August 17, 2024, at Holy Cross Mortuary in Culver City, CA. Graveside services for both Mike and Nancy were held on Friday, November 15, 2024, at Calvary Cemetery with Deacon George Kozak officiating.

Terrence P. Burns SMA Faculty Officer

Terrence P. Burns, known to all as Terry, was born to John and Dorothy Burns, in Scranton, PA, on June 10, 1942. He attended Scranton Central High School ('60) and earned his bachelor's degree in English



from Mount Saint Mary's College ('64) and his master's in English from The University of Scranton ('72). He is survived by his four children: Rebecca Burns, Meghan and her husband Shawn Higgins, Catherine and her husband Aaron and their daughters Stella and Silvie Wilson, and Christopher Burns. He was preceded in death by his wife Betty on March 8, 2023.

In 1964, Terry began his teaching career at Staunton Military Academy, a boarding school in Staunton, VA. There he became familiar with the immersive lifestyle of a boarding school faculty member in which leadership responsibilities extend in all directions. Terry was a natural at synthesizing his dedication to a challenging curriculum with his many other roles within the community. This comprehensive approach would help define his legacy as an educator.

Terry and Betty were married in September of 1969 and arrived as newlyweds at The Pennington School in Pennington, NJ where Terry's tenure as English teacher and Chair of the English Department endured for more than four decades. His roles at Pennington included hall parent in Old Main and Becher Hall, yearbook advisor, study hall proctor, National Honor Society Chapter advisor, director of the summer school program, and curator of cultural excursions to NYC where he chaperoned generations of students around the city he loved so much. Terry was a dedicated ambassador of The Pennington School, cultivating excellence in every student, colleague, and friend whose life he touched.

Terry's passion for teaching and his love of the material deeply resonated with students and fostered in them a lifelong interest in literature. His classroom was a wonderland of literary artifacts and original artwork created by his students, each piece reflecting his playful and insightful outlook on the world.

For many, it was Terry who introduced them to their own great potential as critical thinkers with pens, even influencing the careers many would pursue. His inimitable sense of humor engaged and entertained his students, while his dynamic teaching style encouraged them to think independently and challenge every idea. Students reaped the benefits of his challenging courses and high standards. Mr. Burns's class was no easy A.

Terry and Betty raised their four children at the Pennington School, a unique enclave where the campus was their playground and the faculty their family. Terry was a devoted father who championed his children's pursuits through every phase of their lives. He never missed an event, often playing a quiet but pivotal role behind the scenes to ensure everything went as they had hoped. He clocked thousands of miles chauffeuring them to lessons, rehearsals, gigs, games, and friends' houses. He set up apartments,

hauled music equipment, and crafted costumes. He gave them beautiful summers in a cottage by the sea where he loved to sit in his beach chair with a book in his hand and his toes in the tide. He invested completely in each of them, embracing their passions as his own and finding creative ways to make them more meaningful. Somehow he always had time, and he gave his full attention to everything that mattered to them.

Terry's home was open to everyone: friends of his children, boarders who needed the comfort of home, new teachers looking for guidance. It was filled with books, art, music, and conversation. His eggnog parties at Christmas were legendary and his plaid blazers were iconic. His granddaughters loved inspecting his menagerie of treasures and hung on his every word about the origin of each. No occasion was too small to warrant a festive gathering and often there was no occasion but the desire to create one. His home provided joy.

Terry was a creature of curiosity. Whether checking out the latest interpretation of Shakespeare, poring over the New York Times, or jumping in the car to investigate some local intrigue, he was always engaged with the world around him. He would return from the Pennington Market with tidbits about everyone in town ascertained by his genuine interest in and affection for the human condition.

Terry lived with his whole heart. He was a man of faith who believed the best in people and in the simple yet wise conviction that "it will all work out." He valued his lifelong friendships; he loved his older brother John (who preceded him in death) and his younger sister Marianne (who introduced him to Betty); he cherished his nieces and nephews; he developed deep bonds with all the animals he initially said no to; he was the very best Pop Pop. Above all, he and Betty created a life for their children rich with education, adventure, humor, enduring traditions, and unbreakable love.

Terry's legacy is profound and will continue through the thousands of lives he impacted. We will miss his comforting presence, signature sense of humor, and uplifting spirit forever.

Visitation for Terrence P. Burns will be held at Blackwell Memorial Home at 21 North Main Street, Pennington, NJ on Friday, October 18 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm.

The mass of Christian buri-



al was held on Saturday, October 19 at 10:30am at Saint James Roman Catholic Church at 115 East Delaware Avenue, Pennington, NJ. He was buried at Pennington Cemetery, across the street from Saint James on Delaware Avenue.

Robert L. Poovey SMA '60

Robert "Bob" Lee Poovey, III, 82, of Gastonia passed away March 28, 2024. He was born January 13, 1942, in Iredell County, North Carolina, and was the son of the late Robert Lee Poovey Jr. and Edna Davis Poovey.

Bob graduated from Staunton Military Academy



and from North Carolina State University's Wilson College of Textiles. During his time at NCSU, he was active in the ROTC. He served in the United States Army and was assigned to the U.S. Army Security Agency during the Vietnam era. Bob worked for NASA in the age of the Saturn V project. Bob was a devoted member of the First United Methodist Church of Gastonia and deeply enjoyed his Sunday School "Cross Talk" class. Bob always had a passion for entrepreneurship and founded Champion Thread Company in 1979. He had a genuine heart of gold

and was always generous with his time and resources to friends and strangers alike. Bob's favorite place was on the water with his beloved wife, Marsha, and their grandchildren. Bob and Marsha were avid boaters and travelers and made friends at every destination.

Bob is survived by his son, Matt Poovey and wife, Melissa Hood Poovey, of Charlotte, NC; and grandchildren, Annabelle and Will. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 49 years, Marsha Lee Crosby Poovey; and son, Robert "Four" Lee Poovey, IV.

A memorial service was held at First United Methodist Church of Gastonia on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, with Rev. Justin Lowe and Becky Greene officiating. Interment was private.



Clarence W. Gallimore SMA '64



Clarence Wayne Gallimore, 78, beloved husband of Mardelle Wilson Gallimore, died on January 7, 2025, at Cottingham Hospice House following a long illness.

Wayne was born in Seneca SC on August 17, 1946, to the late J.A. and Virginia Fant Gallimore. He was a lifelong resident of Seneca.

As a youth, Wayne began his involvement with Boy Scouts and attended Seneca schools through the eighth grade. Because of his interest in military history and belief in service to others, he elected to attend high school at Staunton Military Academy in Staunton VA. While at SMA, Wayne and his fellow cadets attended a dance mixer with the girls of Stuart Hall School. This is where he had the good fortune of meeting the love of his life, Marty Wilson. They were inseparable for the next sixty-one years.

Upon graduation from SMA in 1964, Wayne attended the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where he pursued a degree in journalism. Marty also enrolled at UT, and the two were married in 1968. After they graduated from UT in 1970, they returned to his much-loved hometown of Seneca. At that time, Wayne joined his family's business, Blue Ridge Broadcasting Corporation, as general manager of WSNW/WBFB radio station. He was a regular contributor to the Seneca Journal and Tugaloo Tribune, as well as the Clemson Messenger. Upon the sale of Blue Ridge Broadcasting, Wayne embarked upon a second career as the owner of Oconee Video Productions.

Wayne was a member of numerous local civic organizations. He was a member of the Seneca Rotary Club for fifty-four years. The Rotary motto is "Service Above Self" and he strived to model his life after that principle. He was a past president of the Seneca Rotary Club and a Paul Harris Fellow. He was a past member of the Seneca Chamber of Commerce and the Oconee County United Way, and a past board member of the Oconee County Red Cross.

Wayne was a staunch advocate for children. He was a founding board member and longtime volunteer at Collins Children's Home. He was a lifelong Boy Scout. He served

as Cubmaster for his sons' Cub Scout troop and was the Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop #82 in Seneca. Wayne also served as an Explorer Leader, a District Commissioner in the Blue Ridge Council of Scouting BSA, and later in life served as a leader for differently abled Scouts.

Wayne worshipped for most of his life at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Seneca where he served as Sunday School leader, vestry person, Junior and Senior Warden, and choir member. At the time of his death, Wayne and Marty were parishioners at St. John's Anglican Church in Westminster.

Above all other things, Wayne was a devoted husband and father. He and Marty had four children, and their house was always bustling with activity. The family loved travelling and the great outdoors. Weekends and school holidays were spent vacationing across the country in their camper and hiking in the mountains.

Wayne is survived by his loving wife of fifty-six years, Marty; his children, Angela (Stephen) Boyd of Jacksonville FL, Amy (Jim) McCabe of Culpeper VA, Christopher (Deby) Gallimore of Taylors SC, and Lewis (Amy Jill) Gallimore of Seneca; eight grandchildren, Wilson and Sally Boyd, Samuel and Bradley McCabe, Brooks (Meaghan)

Dills, Brittany (Chase) Sherbert, and Morgan and Matilda Gallimore; three great-grandchildren, Skydyn and Remy Sherbert, and Audrey Dills; two nephews, Marc (Sylvia) Dorris of Knoxville TN and Chad (Mary Katherine) Wilson of Tuscaloosa AL; and one brother in law, Mark (Debbie) Wilson of Fort Defiance VA. In addition to his parents, Wayne was predeceased by a grandson, Grant Wilson Gallimore, and a sister, Dianne Gallimore Dorris.



A Celebration of Life Service for Wayne was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 18, at St. John's Anglican Church, River Road, Westminster SC. If desired, memorials in Wayne's name may be made to Collins Children's Home, P.O. Box 745, Seneca SC, 29679 or to St. John's Anglican Church, River Road, Westminster SC, 29693.

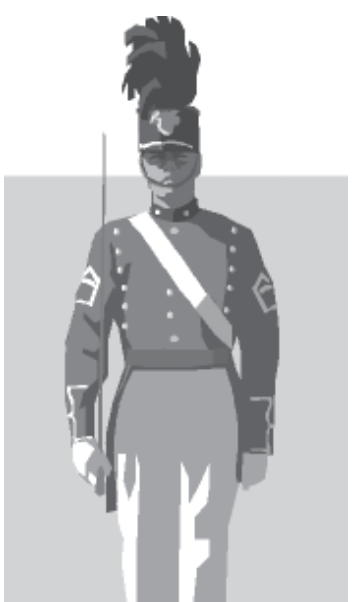




The Cadet Store is located in the SMA-VWIL Museum in the former SMA Supply Room. The form at right should be completed and mailed, with your check enclosed, to:

SMA Alumni Foundation Inc.
 P. O. Box 958
 Staunton, Virginia 24401-0958
 You can also contact the store by e-mail at smaalumni@outlook.com or call (540) 885-1309 for information, leave a message, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Credit card orders can be processed by using the form on page 32. Your order will be shipped when payment is received.



Pass in Review

NOTE: All sizes are limited in stock and can be special ordered

QUAN.	ITEM	EACH	TOTAL
_____	SMA 16 ounce beer glass	\$10.00	\$
_____	SMA Challenge Coins	\$7.00	\$
_____	SMA Lapel Pins	\$3.00	\$
_____	Baseball Caps	\$20.00	\$
_____	Blue with Blue and Gold visor, round SMA Patch	\$20.00	\$
_____	Baseball Caps	\$20.00	\$
_____	Unstructured Hats: Blue, OR Tan with Cross Rifles and Lettering "Staunton Military Academy"		
_____	SMA Decals "STAUNTON MILITARY ACADEMY" in Metallic gold	\$20.00	\$
_____	Mix and match those below:		\$
_____	purchase 1 for \$7.00, get 2 free:		
_____	SMA hat shield in full color ● SMA Decal w/dates (1884-1976) 16" long can be placed on car window		
_____	T-Shirts: M-3X		
_____	Gold: (with full color hat shield patch)	\$20.00	\$
_____	Black: (with full color hat shield patch)	\$20.00	\$
_____	Navy Blue _____ Black (front: full color hat shield, Back: Staunton Military Academy, Virginia..printed W/larger shield)	\$20.00	\$
_____	Long sleeve Gold: (with full color hat shield patch)	\$25.00	\$
_____	Long sleeve Black: (with full color hat shield patch)	\$25.00	\$
_____	Long Sleeve Navy Blue _____ Black (front: full color hat shield, Back: Staunton Military Academy, Virginia..printed W/larger shield)	\$25.00	\$
_____	Polo (Golf) Shirts: M-3X		
_____	Old Gold with cross rifles and Staunton Military Academy in navy blue	\$39.00	\$
_____	Solid Black with Gold Embroidered Hat Shield	\$39.00	\$
_____	Jackets: M-3X		
_____	Zippered wind jacket, blue with gold stripe on sleeve with full color hat shield	\$45.00	\$
_____	Navy Blue with Full color Hat Shield (Special order)	\$80.00	\$
_____	Black with Full Color Hat Shield Patch	\$80.00	\$
_____	Blue zip up Hoodie with full color shield	\$45.00	\$
_____	Gray Sweat Shirt with Round SMA Patch, Staunton Military Academy on sleeve in blue	\$35.00	\$
_____	Officer/NCO Belt Buckle(special order)	\$40.00	\$
_____	Belt to fit buckles can be cut to sizes up to 50 inches(special order)	\$45.00	\$
_____	Old Boys belt buckle (Silver with Staunton Cadet with eagle) ...	\$25.00	\$
_____	Original Post Cards of scenes from SMA	\$2.00	\$
_____	SMA Shoulder Patches	\$2.00	\$
_____	Blue Book (reprint)	\$12.00	\$
_____	DVD Disc:"A History of the Staunton Military Academy" Produced and Directed by Greg Robertson SMA '70	\$20.00	\$
_____	CD: A collection of items related to the history of SMA contains ads (1884-1930) catalogs, panorama of campus & Corps of Cadets, postcards, and 16 Yearbooks including the first(1906) and last printed (1975)	\$20.00	\$

Charges listed below are for United States in-country delivery only. Shipments to Hawaii, Bahamas, and other distant destinations are subject to shipper's charges.

Shipping charges must be added:

Small items (decals, postcards,etc..) that fit in envelope	\$3.00	
\$00.00 to \$25.00	\$15.00	\$
\$26.00 to \$60.00	\$20.00	\$
\$61.00 and above	\$25.00	\$
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• **One Star Membership:** (\$100.00 for one year, 1 September through 31 August) \$ _____

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• **Three Star Membership:** (\$240.00 for three years, (20% off) \$ _____

• **Lifetime Membership:** (\$1,000.00 for lifetime) \$ _____

(Your name will be listed with other Lifetime Members on a plaque in the SMA/VWIL Museum.)

• **SMA Heritage Fund (tax exempt):** \$ _____

The purpose of the SMA Heritage Fund is to help ensure that the memories, traditions and alumni efforts are carried into perpetuity. Your donation helps the SMA Alumni Foundation maintain the alumni office, Memorial Wall, archives, web site, and Kablegram-Leader.

• **SMA Scholarship Program (tax exempt)** \$ _____

For more information on the SMA Alumni Foundation Scholarship Program, please visit our website at www.sma-alumni.org. Your contributions are fully tax deductible.

• **Truth, Duty, and Honor Fund (tax exempt):**

The purpose of the Truth, Duty, and Honor Fund is to support entities such as the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership through educational scholarships/awards and program support. Your contributions are tax deductible.

VWIL Educational Scholarships (including Col. Robert H. Wease Memorial Scholarship) \$ _____

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Total: \$ _____

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Card Number: _____

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Signature: _____