



February 24-25 Session

# AMA Alumni Board to Meet at Virginia Beach

Augusta Military Academy's future will be discussed when the AMA Alumni Association Board of Directors meets Saturday, February 25 at the Seahawk Motel in Virginia Beach.

Association President **Gary Nicholson, '70**, said that the Board was invited to meet in Virginia Beach "by a number of dedicated Tidewater AMA alumni who have been meeting regularly to keep Augusta's flame aglow." **Jim Bob Lane, '49**, is making arrangements for the meeting.

### All Augusta Alumni are Invited

In addition to the 2 PM board meeting on Saturday, all AMA alumni are invited to a reception and dinner Saturday night at the motel. The reception and dinner cost is \$17 per person. A special AMA room rate is available at the Seahawk both Friday and Saturday nights, February 24-25 - \$33 per night for a double room with an ocean view. Alumni should contact the Seahawk Motel direct at 1/800/333-6921 toll free, or at 804/428-1296 to make both dinner and/or room reservations. Major credit cards will be accepted, or alumni may send personal checks to secure both dinner or room reservations.

"We probably will know by the end of February if the sale of AMA to the group from Florida has gone through," said Nicholson. "The Bankruptcy Court in Harrisonburg has promised action on the Culbertson bankruptcy filing which has prevented Crestar Bank from closing the deal with the potential purchasers from Florida." (See story below)

A hospitality suite will be open both Friday and Saturday nights, February 24-25 at the Seahawk which is located at 26th and Atlantic Avenues, Virginia Beach, VA 23458.

## AMA Property Sold, or is it?

A Tampa-based religious organization bid \$345,000 for the buildings and most of the grounds at AMA in a trustee's sale, but the property owner filed a bankruptcy petition which has put the sale in doubt. Great Ministries International (GMI), which calls itself "multi-denominational", plans to use the facilities as a homeless shelter or senior rehab center.

Just before the auction on September 28, Doyle Culbertson had a deed prepared conveying the Augusta property to the AMA Corporation. The deed, signed by Culbertson's father who had owned the property for a decade, was recorded at the Augusta County Clerk's office the morning before the trustee's auction.

### Bankruptcy Petition Filed Same Day

That same afternoon, AMA Corporation filed a Chapter 11 petition in the Federal Bankruptcy Court in

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Augusta Military Academy  
Alumni Association, Inc.



January 1995

Dear Fellow Alumnus:

Happy New Year to everyone of you! 1995 will be filled with news about AMA, its buildings, and its grounds. As I said previously, our hopes for reopening Augusta as a school likely are gone, but we will continue to follow the legal and financial developments closely.

More than ever, it seems to me that the principal purpose of your Alumni Association is to keep us in touch with each other. We are putting a new emphasis on our Class Notes section here in *The Bayonet*. We will be urging you to attend the 1995 Reunion May 5-7 at the Holiday Inn in Staunton. And we are hoping that many of you can attend our next Alumni Association Board meeting at the Seahawk Motel in Virginia Beach February 25-26. Details of these two events are found elsewhere in this issue.

For the Association to remain effective, we need to hear from you. Send us information about yourself for the next issue of *The Bayonet*. Make plans to attend the Reunion and/or the Virginia Beach Board meeting. And give us your advice and counsel on how to serve all the "Men of Augusta" better.

Now, a personal note. I want to give loving thanks to my Susan. Before our last Board meeting in Williamsburg, she was up at 4 AM making sandwiches and goodies for the guys. We all appreciated that, Susan. Especially me!

K. Gary Nicholson '70  
President, AMA Alumni Association, Inc.



Newsletter of the AMA Alumni Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101

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The *Bayonet* is distributed to alumni and friends of the Augusta Military Academy. Notice of changes of address should be sent to Alumni Records, c/o Edwin Click, Rt. 1, Box 12, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101. Please provide your 9-digit ZIP code!

The *Bayonet* welcomes information and articles for or about AMA alumni. Share the news of promotions, awards, retirement, births, marriages, deaths, etc. Please print or type your submission.

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January 1995



Sound Off, Mister!

Now, that's not an order, but it is a plea for you to tell *The Bayonet* - and your fellow alumni what you've been up to!

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Your Name and Class \_\_\_\_\_  
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Area code and phone \_\_\_\_\_

# Class Notes \ Class Notes \ Class Notes

## 1930

**Tom Hughes** celebrated his 83rd birthday December 12. Tom says he's feeling fine, but he must undergo radiation treatment for a time. Good luck to you, Tom!

## 1931

**Ben Chiswell** celebrated his 80th birthday on August 28. Congratulations, Ben! He spent a long, hot summer in Lake San Marcos, CA recovering from an abdominal aortic aneurysm repair. Ben asks if anyone knows anything about **Ike Messmore, '32**. If so, please contact Ben.

## 1935

**Richard Wilson** and **Margaret** are back in Crystal Beach, FL after a spectacular trip to Vancouver, British Columbia; San Francisco; Melbourne, Australia; and a three week driving tour of Tasmania. Dick said he had "a hell of a time renting a car in Tasmania...until I showed them my pilot's license!"

## 1936

**Sam Jordan** lives in Colorado Springs and is now in Florida for an extended stay.

## 1938

**Larry Kurtz** and **Jill** have moved to a new address in Punta Gorda, FL: 10327 Arrowhead Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33955.

## 1939

**Mickey Gordon** says he is "still working eight days a week, but did 'cheat' in September and took a week off to holiday in Coronado." Mickey and **Libby** also left Fort Defiance to spend a week in Maine last October.

## 1940

**Herb Richey** liquidated the Richey Coal



Company last December, but is active as a Director of the Fairchild Corporation, Fairchild Industries, Oglebay Norton, Sifco Industries and Washington Energy Processing, Inc. He lives in Hot Springs, VA.

## 1941

**John Minor** is a Director and Chairman of the Trust Committee of the First Knox National Bank in Mount Vernon, Ohio.

## 1943

**C. Norris Harrison's** son **Alan** graduated as valedictorian of his class at Queen Ann's County High in Chestertown, MD and has a full scholarship to Northeastern University.

**Earl Cabaniss** was in Europe this past summer retracing his World War II service and he attended the 50th Anniversary D-Day celebration. In 1944, Earl and his 654th Tank Destroyer Battalion went ashore 30 days after D-Day. He was attached to the 35th Infantry from there to the Elbe River. During the D-Day ceremonies, Earl said he couldn't help but think about **Morris Guerrant, Ad Astra '42**, who was killed 30 April 1945 in an action that won for him the Silver Star. Earl and **Punchy** were co-captains of the C.W. company in 1942.

## 1944

**Henry Dunbar** is President of Dunbar, Shade & Tomlin, Inc.

Henry has been a manufacturers' representative in Richmond since 1953.

## 1945

**Dave Brewer** has retired from the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company. In February, he and **Barbara** will be moving to Pawleys Island, SC.

**Ray Long** and **Nancy** took a long vacation trip to the North-

west and Midwest covering more than 6,000 miles, eleven states and part of Canada visiting friends and family, including their children and grandchildren. They live in Peoria, AZ.

**J.W. Jack Stanley** sold his Blue Ridge Transfer Company in Roanoke last year. We were very sorry to hear that Jack's wife Betty passed away this past June.

**1947**

**Harry May** is planning the 1996 ~~to~~ **Astra** reunion in historic Lexington, Virginia.

**John Herring** lives in Richmond and on his many visits to London he stays at the Victory Club at Marble Arch.

**Johnny Pappas** has retired from Delta Airlines and has returned to his first love - jazz! Hopes some of you can help him find the other members of his *Augusta Rythmn Makers* - **Max Kuniansky, Curtis Lowe, Jerry Izenburg** and **Luke Sykes**.

**1948**

**Hal Walters** continues giving golf lessons in Lake Worth, FL and does various woodworking projects for his grandkids. He is happy to share patterns with any alumnus who is into woodworking. Address: 6802 Hatteras Dr., Lake Worth, FL 33467.

**Richard McLaughlin** toured Russia on the TransSiberian Railway this past Fall. He spent a few nights in Moscow and presented letters from his Babylon, NY Rotary Club to Rotarians in the Russian capital.

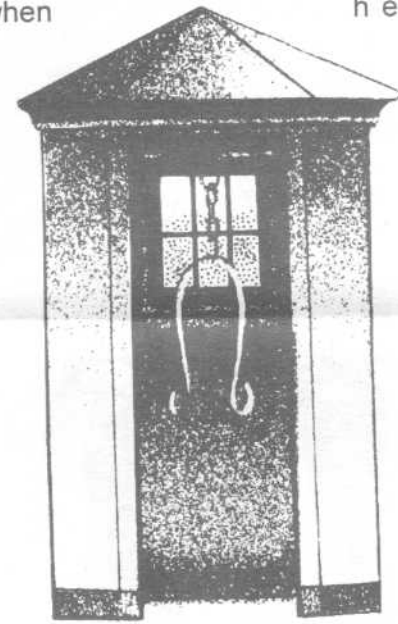
**Bill Harris** and **Frances** have added 54 acres to their Heart of My Heart B&B in Round Top, TX. They now have 17 rooms and baths and hope that many AMA alumni will drop in for a visit or a stay.

**Bill Sanders** passed away on 7 August. (See **TAPS**, page 8)

**Walton Z. "Zim" Major** died 23 December. (See **TAPS**, page 8)

**1949**

**Frank Spencer** frightened his friends and family when he



became ill during the Alumni Board meeting in Williamsburg in early December, but he is fully recovered .

**1950**

**Jack Russell** is recovering from a boat accident this summer which resulted in three broken bones in his foot. He's now back in shoes for the first time in ten weeks, but says he walks like Jed Clampett. Jack and Lenore live in Annapolis. He retired after 30 years as an engineer at Westinghouse.

**1951**

**Jack Hodge** and **Mary Scott** have built a new house in Blackstone, some 30 miles from their old home in Colonial Heights. Jack will be commuting to his job as Chief Engineer of the Virginia Department of Transportation in Richmond until he retires.

**1952**

**Cole Sandridge** has retired from State Farm where he was an underwriting specialist. He and Roy Ann live in Charlottesville.

**1953**

**Lee Trinkle** and **Catherine** live in Birmingham with daughters **Leta Sue Bone, Mary Beth** and **Gini Lee**.

**Bob Lowenbach** plans to retire in 1995. He and **Betty** live in Leesburg where he is employed by the Loudon County government.

**Alex Wattay** is retiring March 1 after many years as one of American Airlines' top pilots. He and **Diane** plan to attend the May reunion.

**1955**

**Martin Cohen** has moved from Canton, MA to Stoughton, MA. He is on disability retirement after a career as a CPA and as the operator of a retail ice cream store.

**1956**

**Trion "Duke" Fancher** has been with the *Washington Post* since 1968.

**Tony Webster** and **Ann** live in Belleville, IL. He says he hopes

"to get to a reunion one of these days." May 5-6, Tony!

1957

**Jim Hume** teaches computer skills and English at the Hillsdale High in San Mateo, CA where he also coaches cross country and track.

**Jim Smith** has retired from Westinghouse after 33 years. He is now consulting to architects for heating and cooling controls. Jim is a trustee for the Kent Island, MD Amateur Radio Club.

1959

**Dave Conrad** is Vice President of Abacus Security Services with offices in Richmond and Norfolk. Dave serves on the AMA Alumni Board.

1960

**Jim Crawford** is now Director of Reliance Comm/Tec, a communications company in Atlanta.

1961

**Russell Calvert** retired from the U.S. Army in 1985 as a lieutenant colonel after 20 years, serving as PMS&T at the University of San Francisco just before retiring. Russ is married to "a girl 21 years younger than I am and we have two sons aged 6 and 2."

1962

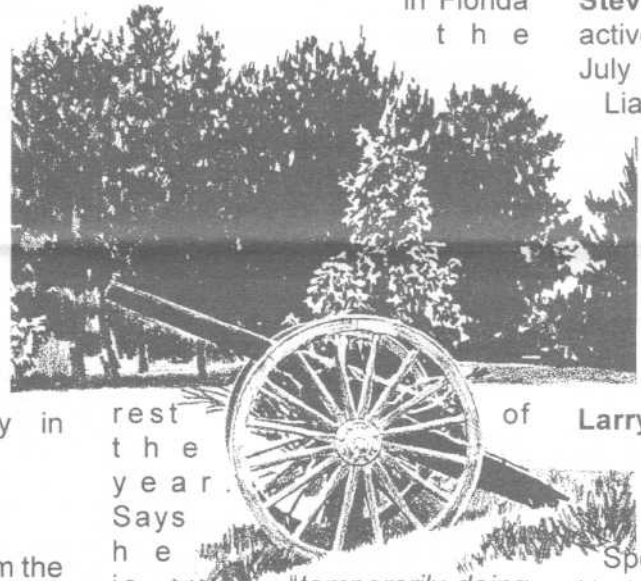
**Rob Overly** and Lorna have moved from Ohio to Scottsdale, AZ. He's with the Frank Gates Service Company. Rob and Lorna now have three children.

1964

**Alan Berliere** is a District Manager for Circuit City. He and Kim are relocating from Wayne, PA to Palm Desert, CA at the end of the year. Their 1995 address: 41-210 Carlotta Drive, Palm Desert CA 92260-3262.

**Frank Hruza** plans to retire as Deputy Chief of Detectives in Essex County, NJ at the end of the year. Frank and his daughter plan to move to Las Vegas after his retirement.

**Stuart Lane** has retired and lives in Aylett, VA when the weather is nice. He stays in Florida



rest of the year. Says he is "temporarily doing brain surgery to make ends meet!"

1965

**Joe Almo** spent four years at AMA in the Junior School. He now operates a swimming pool construction company in the summer and a ski shop in the winter in English Creek, NJ.

1966

**Barry Weeks** is a financial and management consultant in Lake

Mary, FL. He and Anna celebrated their 25th Anniversary in 1992. They have two children: Jennifer, 25; Stephen, 21; and a grandson Matthew, 3.

**Charles Robert Smith** is United Parcel Service Manager in Mount Laurel, NJ. He and Sue moved to Mount Laurel from Oviedo, FL early this year.

1970

**Jorge Roviroso** has been looking for **Lee Hall**, '69, since 1974. The **Ad Astra** Roster brought them together after 20 years!

**Steve Trent** will retire from active duty in the U.S. Army 31 July 1995. Steve is Command Liaison Officer at Forces Command, Training and Doctrine Command at the Pentagon. After he retires, he will work for Grimsley's House of Tools in Portsmouth, VA.

1971

**Larry "Stride" Coleman** has retired "after 20 years, 96 days and 45 minutes" of service in the Army Special Forces Command. He is living in Wirtz, VA (near Rocky Mount) and is a custom protection officer for the Wackenhut Corporation.

1972

**Doug Driscoll** and Anita have five children: Noelani, Brooke, Andrew, Lyon and Grant. They live in Columbia City, IN.

**Paul "P.J." Thomson** is a high school teacher. His wife Sarah is director of nursing for a surgical center in Winchester.

