



# Memorial to Korean, Vietnam KIAs dedicated at reunion

Memorial plaques, dedicated to the Augusta men killed in the Korean and Vietnam Wars, were dedicated at the AMA Alumni House/Museum during Reunion 2001. *Story on page 11.*



**FACING THE FIELD** where they played for the Blue and White, AMA's former lacrosse players line up for a photo on Big Barracks steps. Reunion 2001 paid tribute to every cadet who ever played a sport at Augusta. The stickmen, front row, l. to r., Ron Melcher, '71; Gene O'Neal, '69; Nick Syropoulos, '69; John Henderson, '69; Jim Crawford, '61; Rich Newman, '61; Ron Mackey, '60; Rob Harris, '78; Chris Vetick, '77. 2<sup>nd</sup> row, Mark Femrite, '71; John Douglas, '69; Jack White, '69; John Core, '51; Ron Reigelman, '61; Brett Thompson, '75; Tommy Simmons, '53; Hap Starr, '51. Next row, Frank Williamson, '60; Tom Mitchell, '52; Lenny Pannell, '68; Ralph Sassaman, '70; Bill Baeder, '69; Mitch Gaston, '60; Mike Basto, '63; Ron Baker, '61; Clyde Ramsey, '49; Gordon Metz, '68; Gary Understein, '71. Standing, rear, Mickey Toms, '67; Jim Stillwagon, '67; Pete Dogoli, '67; Blaine Clarke, '72; Roger Messick, '52, Garry Granger, '71; Rob Carson, '67; and Ken Eichner, '64.

## **Garry Granger, '71, heads alumni association, Bob Bradford, '50, chairs AMA Foundation**

*Stories on pages 3 and 13*

**Cole, d'Orsay,  
Metz, Studer and  
Zinkhan receive  
AMA Medals**

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**Libby (Mrs. Mickey)  
Gordon loses battle  
with cancer**

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**AMA Legacy Scholarships  
Awarded to two students**

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Augusta Military Academy  
Alumni Association, Inc.



Summer 2001

Dear AMA Friend,

The planning took ten months (which seemed like two years). The Reunion lasted three and a half days (which seemed like an hour). I'm still poring over and reflecting on the wonderful 2001 AMA Reunion weekend in awe and amazement. **WE** are the luckiest people on the planet.

I remain stammered with the ever-present reminder that our school has been closed for 18 years. The easy thing to say is, "Gee, that's a shame, it was such a good place," and keep it a memory. Yet, I'm excited that we've taken the road less traveled by reaching out and finding our brethren, developing communication tools to keep us informed, organizing an active Association, planning and executing an annual reunion and solidifying a Foundation that will keep us going for years. Ever heard of such a thing before? *We're good!*

The spirit of Augusta Military Academy is alive and well as we have hundreds of alumni who converge annually on the Shenandoah Valley from all corners of the world. We come to catch a glimpse of youth, see old friends, make new ones and walk with pride and glory beside fellow cadets on a campus once bustling with the chatter of drums and cadence. Are we special? **YES, WE ARE!!!**

I'm proud to be part of the AMA Alumni Association and will do my best to enrich the greatness we've shared over the last 31 years. I'm grateful for our immediate past president, **Goodloe Saunders, '57**, and all he's done to help build us a place we can call home. Goodloe served our Association with ambition and respect, and will forever be known as the leader who preserved a piece of our heritage for all of us to enjoy. Thank you, Goodloe, and thank you to all who have worked so hard for so long to bring us to our present incredible status.

I'd like to clarify a few things... the Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association and the Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation are two separate entities.

The Association represents the alumni, hosts the reunions, maintains the alumni data base, etc., and will be there until there are no remaining alumni. (Simple math tells us that if someone from the Class of '84 lives to be 90, the Association could last until 2056, give or take ten years.)

However, the Augusta Military Academy Foundation will last as long as it is financially sound (indefinitely is a very good possibility!) The Foundation manages the scholarships, maintains the AMA Museum, and publishes *The Bayonet*, and will continue to support what AMA represents. **Bob Bradford, '50**, will be Chairman of the AMA Foundation. We're in good hands. Congratulations, Bob!

As the time approached for me to take a more active role in the Association, I gave a great deal of thought to how I could possibly improve on an already sensational enterprise. I kept leaning on three issues:

- 1) Solidify the longevity of the AMA Foundation
- 2) Find and meet as many AMA alumni as possible
- 3) Gain more involvement from our alumni

The conversations I've had with many of you tell me that's what you want too. We know we're shrinking in size as we haven't produced alumni since 1984. The work load continues to be carried by the same few (dedicated and at times, abused) folks. Therefore, the task is very clear to ALL. Get involved! Donate your time! Donate your money!

What can you do?

- Donate a weekend a year to come to the AMA Alumni House/Museum and field the visitors from Thursday through Sunday.
- Join the Roller Society.
- Peruse the "Wish List" and make OUR wish come true.
- Help with the work at the reunion - cooking, cleaning, set up and tear down, etc.
- Be on a committee and take an active role in our preservation efforts.
- Send in annual donations for the General Fund or any of the other ledgers such as the AMA Legacy Scholarship Fund, or the Building Fund.
- Call, seek and find lost alumni.

Whatever you choose - choose to get involved.

Which reminds me of the words of a famous TV psychiatrist who once said, "*Ladies and gentlemen, take my advice... pull down your pants and slide on the ice.*"

Time is ticking - We need to do as much as we can, while we still can! Thank you!

*Garry Granger, '71*

President, AMA Alumni Association, Inc.

## Granger new Alumni Association President

Garry Granger, '71, has been elected President of the AMA Alumni Association. He replaces Goodloe

Saunders, '57, who did not seek reelection.

Granger first attended summer school at AMA before enrolling in 1967 for a five year stint as an AMA cadet. He was 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant in C Company his senior year. He played lacrosse and football, was on the Roller Rifles, and made the AMA Privelege List each year.

He attended Ferrum College where he met and married Rebecca (they were both 19). After college, they moved to Richmond where Garry went to work for Performance Food Group (PFG). Granger managed a frozen food facility 1973-79, and was Frozen Food Marketing Manager for Pocahontas Foods USA 1980-90.

The company went through numerous changes and mergers, and in 1990, Granger moved to Houma, LA with a different division of PFG to

manage a Broadline Foodservice Distributor. From 1993 until the present, he has lived in the Dallas area where he works for another PFG company, Fresh Advantage. He is now Vice President for Sales for Fresh Advantage where 6 million pounds of lettuce, onions, cabbage, carrots, tomatoes and peppers are processed each week for McDonalds, Burger King, Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, KFC, and other fast food companies.

In August, he and Rebecca will have been married 29 years. They have three children: Heather Doty, 24; Stephen, 20, a graduate of Fork Union; and Matthew, 16.

Garry's hobbies include classic cars, Harley Davidsons (see story on page 17), scuba diving, fine dining, great cigars, vintage wines, and the Wash-ington Redskins.

"I really enjoy life with my wife and my three wonderful children," says Garry. "I like to surf the web and stay up-to-date with my friends."

Granger was Chairman of Reunion 2001, and will serve as an *ex officio* trustee of the newly created AMA Alumni Foundation.



Volume 2001, Number 3

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

Editor: Bob Bradford, '50  
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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, 1462 Lee Highway, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-9703. 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. Clear, correctly exposed photos are welcome.

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Garry Granger,  
1971 Recall

**1934  
(NONE)**

**A. L. Richtmyre** is 87, but sharp as a tack remembering things that happened at AMA nearly 70 years ago. When he was 73, he had a motorcycle accident which, he says, has slowed him down a bit. He and his wife live in Fayette, MO.

**1935  
(JULIAN QUARLES)**

**Julian Quarles** and **Bill Rubush**, '49, have discovered that they have a similar Civil War family history. Julian attended the muster of Company E, 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment, on 18 April, the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the unit's creation. He learned that his uncle, N. F. Quarles, and Bill's great-grandfather, Christian Rubush, joined the company the day it was formed. Quarles was killed at the Battle of Second Manassas in 1862, and Bill's great-grandfather helped bury him.

**Dick Wilson** lives in Crystal Beach, FL. He had a serious illness last fall which was followed by a mild heart attack. He says he's feeling better now and is back at work in his yard. Good news!

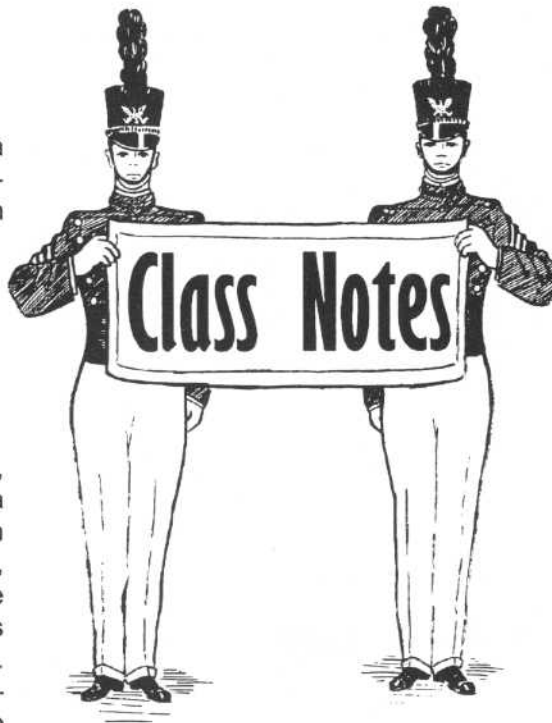
**1941  
(NONE)**

**Bill Ditto** missed his 60<sup>th</sup> reunion because he had surgery. Hope you're doing well now, Bill. He asked to be remembered to **Mickey Gordon**, '39, and Libby, and to Virginia Wales.

**1943  
(EARL CABANISS)**

**Leonard Salasky** checks in from Sacramento, CA to say that he already is making plans to attend his 60<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2003.

**Herb McCawley** recently returned from Viera, FL where he had volunteered for a new state-of-the-art VA outpatient clinic. While in the area, he



visited with classmate **Jack Sarricks** for a few days, taking in a lengthy tour of the Pensacola Naval Air Museum.

**1944  
(NONE)**

**Wilton Cousins** recently broke a hip and has had a few other medical setbacks. Says Wilton, "I have a sign

on my truck that says, 'The thing that I miss is that I have lost my mind.'" He lives in Perry, FL.

**1945  
(NONE)**

**Arch Boothe** has been found by **Steve Pearson**, '72. Arch lives in Orlando. Arch lost his class ring years ago and is ordering a new one.

**1947  
(NONE)**

**Colonel Sam Conley** writes from Sierra Vista, AZ with a new e-mail address: tconley1@mindspring.com

**Victor Muncy** was found by **Steve Pearson**, '72, living in the same town: Bradenton, FL.

**Brigadier General Bob Bradford** missed the reunion because he was having triple bypass surgery. He's doing fine at home now in Midlothian, just outside Richmond.

**1948  
(BILL HARRIS)**

**Francis X. Fields**, our bugler at the last several reunions, wasn't able to



**50<sup>th</sup> REUNION - GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY!** - The Class of 1951 celebrated half a century since they walked across the gym stage to get their diplomas. L. to r., **Frank Pilley**, **Benny Lindsay**, **Bill Ault**, **Jack Hodge**, **Hap Starr**, **Colonel Paul Sposito** and **Rod Willey**.

Names in parentheses under each year indicate the Class Agent for that year

