



Tony Randolph, '80
helped to defeat
the #1 Wahoos

Mickey Gordon's generous and gracious gift

The late Mickey Gordon, '39, has left some \$140,000 for AMA scholarships. Story on page 23.



FIRE MISSION - On a foggy January day, a 105 mm howitzer was towed into place in The Triangle directly in front of the Alumni House. The weapon was brought from the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. Story starts on page 24.

Reunion 2003: all the details

Bring the kids! That's the theme of Reunion 2003. We urge our alumni to bring their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren so they can learn what Augusta was all about. The AMA Legacy will be passed along to our offspring who never ate in the Mess Hall or marched in the snow in the traditional Sunday Parade. This issue is full of information you'll need: **the blue registration form** in the center lets you select the activities in which you'll participate; a list of **hotels** gives suggestions on where to stay; there's information about **golf, tennis, the sporting clay shoot, the silent auction** and more. Read on! And we'll see you the first three days of May in Staunton and Fort Defiance!



Otto Cuervo, '52,
landed at the
Bay of Pigs

Roger Messick:
a rescue mission
in Vietnam nearly
ends in tragedy

Larry Kurtz, '38,
on a World War II
minesweeper

More details on the AMA trip to Europe this fall!

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Augusta Military Academy
Alumni Association, Inc.



Winter 2003

Dear Fellow Alumnus:

Happy 2003! The May reunion is going to be *terrific*! Our theme is "Looking forward..." and that means you should bring your children and your grandchildren and, yes, your great-grandchildren so they'll have the opportunity of tasting the AMA experience. They'll learn more about our AMA Foundation and can start getting involved so that AMA's legacy will live on after we are gone. Besides the usual events, we'll have athletic activities for "kids of all ages," a chance to try their skills at lacrosse, soccer, fencing or basketball. It will be a lot of fun for everyone. (*story on page 17*)

In this issue of *The Bayonet* you'll find articles about the many projects our volunteers are running, like our new howitzer. Yes, it's in place! (*story on pages 24-25*) Work on the Front Gate is coming along as the weather permits, and it will be restored in time for the reunion. There is a new display of First Captains and Battalion Commanders. The 1927 baseball uniform which was pictured in the last issue is awesome! We have a saber from the nearby Civil War Battle of McDowell now mounted on the museum wall. (*picture on page 26*) And we still need volunteers to carry all these projects through to fruition.

We were blessed to have **Mickey Gordon, '39**, as an alumnus and he left us a sizeable gift in his will. (*story on page 23*) His gift was targeted at our AMA Legacy and VMI Scholarship programs and will help provide help to the descendants of AMA alumni for many years to come. As generous as was Mickey's final gift to us, we still need monies to print *The Bayonet*, pay the utilities at the AMA Alumni House/Museum, buy supplies, pay rent, and pay salary. So, please – remember AMA and help us financially in any way that you can from the five dollar a week commitment I have asked all board members to make to that big gift which will enable us to get on sound financial footing once and for all.

By the way, if you haven't yet signed up for the September trip to the World War II battlefields of Europe, the time is now. You'll find details and a registration form in the center of *The Bayonet*. For every person who signs up, the AMA Alumni Association will receive \$250! It's open to anyone; not just alumni. Sign up and sign up your friends.

We are fortunate to have the accounting service of **Jeff Schroeder, '68**, and the financial savvy of **John Hash, '75**. They are working hard to manage our money in a responsible way and to create budgets for both our Foundation and the Association. (*story on page 35*) Our two-year plan is to accumulate enough capital so that the interest will pay for scholarships, *The Bayonet*, and museum expenses without invading the principal. We'll need your support!

Finally, with the anticipated increase in attendance for the May 1-2-3 2003 reunion, you would be wise to get your reservations made. Be sure to book your rooms soon at a reunion hotel (*see page 18*) and reserve a spot for the Friday tour! See you in Fort Defiance in May!

Garry Granger, '71

President, AMA Alumni Association, Inc.



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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.

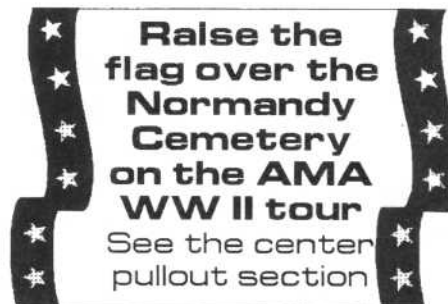
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1930

Admiral Joe Yon's wife, Sallie, passed away on 18 December, just three days before the Yons would have celebrated their 70th anniversary. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Admiral Joe.

1934
(NONE)

Bill Robinson says that, at age 86, he has had to give up piloting his Lake Buccaneer amphibious four-seater, and he says he really misses it. Bill has been flying since 1936. He served in the Navy in 1942-45 and came out as a lieutenant. Bill now lives in Vero Beach, FL.

1935
(JULIAN QUARLES)

Dick Wilson and his wife of 57 years, Margaret, drove from their home in Pisgah Forest, NC to their home in Crystal Beach, FL last October. They'll be in Florida until late spring. Margaret had a major shoulder operation and they are hoping that the Florida sunshine will make her feel better.

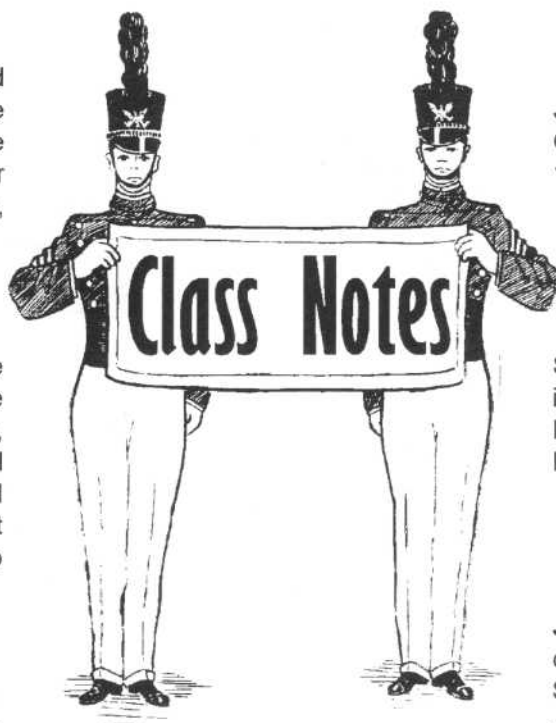
Julian Quarles recently traveled in the opposite direction returning home to Harrisonburg after a month in Florida. He has located a copy of *The First Heroes*, a story about the Doolittle Raid on Tokyo in World War II. "It has a number of references to *Shorty Manch*, '38 (a copilot on the famous raid)... I plan to give the book to the museum after I have read it." Thanks so much, Julian!

1936
(NONE)

Tom Roller continues in the oil and gas business. He and Dina live in Placentia, CA.

1938
(LARRY KURTZ)

Larry Kurtz has sold his house in North Carolina and he and Jill are now living fulltime in Punta Gorda, FL. He reports that his golf balls "continue to be elusive when they get near a hole." He lives near the 16th green so plays often. Larry's new e-mail address: np2ao@earthlink.net



Bob Reisacher lives in Santa Fe, NM where he reports that he exercises each day and reads a lot. He retired from the Army as a bird colonel after service in World War II. After he retired, Bob became an architect and construction Manager with projects in the US and in Saudi Arabia.

1939
(NONE)

Jim McCausland lives in Lynchburg. He is a retired real estate broker. New phone number: 434/384-2297.

1940
(GEORGE HAW)

Bob Beam owns the Staunton Steam Laundry, a family business which he took over at the end of World War II. He is a member of the Sovran Bank advisory board.

Herb Richey writes from Hot Springs that he and Martha are fine, "but I can't run a mile in under six minutes any more." Herb was owner and President of Richey Coal Company, a business he sold in 1993. Among the many honors he had during his working career was a term as Chairman of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 1976-77.

1941

(CLAYTON RICH)

John Minor lives in Mount Vernon, OH. He worked for Coca Cola from 1948 until 1974, then went into banking and real estate until he finally retired for good.

1942
(RUTLAND BEARD)

Stacy Hankey is a tax specialist, having worked from 1951 until 1989 for KPMG Peat Marwick. He lives in Pittsburgh.

1943 - HONOR CLASS
(CHRIS HARRISON & EARL CABANISS)

Jack Jansing is "retired," but is serving on the boards of three New York Stock Exchange listed companies. Jack says he has "plenty of community activities and lots of interesting travel." Jack and Flora live in Hobe Sound, FL. They are looking forward to the AMA trip to the European battlefields of World War II in September. E-mail address: Jansing112@aol.com

Chris Harrison is back as a special assistant at Queen Anne's County High School in Maryland where he works two days a week. His wife, Barbara, is chaplain at the local hospital and Chris occasionally volunteers at the Hospice of Kent County. The Harrisons live in Chestertown, MD.

Joe Andicko says that he is very thankful for the AMA Website. The thanks go to our great webmaster, **B.J. d'Orsay**, '70.

Judge B. A. "Monk" Davis lost his wife, Lib, near the end of the year. You have our sincere sympathy, Your Honor. He lives in Rocky Mount, VA.

1944
(NONE)

Jack Codling has moved to the Broadmead Retirement Community in Cockeysville, MD. Jack's new address: 13801 York Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030. Phone: 410/771-1768.

Don "Snort" Elston writes that he is looking forward to the AMA trip to the battlefields of Europe this Fall. (See the pullout section in the center of this issue) E-mail: delston@earthlink.net

George Wong has been located in Panama by **Duncan Wong**, '52. Address: 0816-01086, Panama, R.P. E-mail: viajeswong@cwpanama.net

**1945
(NONE)**

Zeb Brodie has been found by **Chris Harrison**, '43, and is back on the *Bayonet* mailing list. Zeb owns Hill Management Company in Chestertown, MD.

Mason Welch has Type 1 diabetes and is now in a nursing home. He'd love to hear from old AMA friends. Phone 954/985-4824. New address: The Alexander Ninenger VA Nursing Home, 8402 West Cypress Boulevard, Pembroke Pines, FL 33025.

Ray Long and his wife, Nancy, live in Peoria, AZ where he is retired from the wholesale distribution business. They have three daughters. Ray says he hopes to be back in Virginia in May to attend Reunion 2003.

Gene "Jeep" Green and Shirley live in Norfolk. He attended AMA for five years. You can e-mail "Jeep" at: MRGreenjeans@prodigy.net

**1946
(NONE)**

Jimmy Pigg, former First Captain, writes from Shalimar, FL that all is right with his world. After an outstanding career as an Army officer, retiring as a full colonel, he managed a condo until he retired for a second time in 1993.

Dave Brewer and Barbara celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last year. Congratulations! The Brewers live in Pawleys Island, SC. In late summer, Barbara was sickened with e-coli, then while hospitalized contracted a life-threatening staph infection. She came home in October and we are all praying that all is well.

Norm Freeman and his wife, Billie, live in Brownwood, TX. He retired in 1992 after a long career with Exxon. He has enjoyed getting back in touch with **Jim Pigg** and **Harley Hope**, his two AMA roommates.

**1947
(MIKE WELCH)**

Harry May and Jane live in Potomac Falls (Sterling) and they still have their printing company in Herndon. Harry says, "I try to play a little golf when I can." E-mail Harry at: Harrym10@aol.com

Mike Welch, First Captain in 1946-47, has relocated from Pennsylvania to Colorado to live with his son and his son's family. Mike says his diabetes is better when he's under the sharp eye of his son and daughter-in-law. He is going to do his best to get back to Reunion 2003. Mike's address: 12116 Elm Way, Thornton, CO 80241. Home phone: 303/920-9331.

Bobby Bowie talked with **Mike Welch** just before Mike moved to Colorado. Mike says Bobby plans to come back for Reunion 2003.

John Herring drove cross country and back this past fall. Since retiring from his position at the University of Virginia, John has had fabulous vacations house-sitting for people he knew at UVA. His trip west took him to Vancouver, San Diego, Costa Mesa and Big Sur, among other places. He lives in Richmond.

**1948
(BILL HARRIS)**

Paul Bratton, another former First Captain, reports that his son, Michael, is an E7 (master sergeant) in the 504th MP Battalion at Fort Bragg, NC. Michael's unit recently returned from service in Uzbekistan and neighboring countries. Son David runs a grocery store/gas station in Millboro near Paul



CYCLING THROUGH FRANCE - A cycling trip took Dr. Ed Leventen, '46, and his wife, Ruth, to France this past summer where this photo was taken. Ed is a semi-retired assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery at UCLA. The Leventens live in Encino, CA.

and Ruby's home. Thanks to Paul and Ruby for all they do for the AMA Alumni House/Museum!

Al Tomlin reports that he and his wife, Lucy, play tennis with their friends a couple of times a week in Greensboro. They plan a trip to Europe in the spring.

Jerry Izenberg is working on another sports book, this one about the Negro Baseball League based on all the great black players that he has known over the years. Jerry is a prize-winning sports columnist for the Newark *Star-Ledger*. You can e-mail Jerry at: jizenberg@starledger.com

Tom Cooper lives in Alexandria with his wife, Shirley. He is a retired architect.

Bill Aldrich checks in from Houston where he has retired as President of WTA Enterprises, Inc. He is hoping to get back to Reunion 2003. His e-mail:

