

Augusta Military Academy

Museum Newsletter

-July 2017 -



Roller's textbook found in collection

Often while trolling through uncatalogued boxes of bits



History Under Construction:

\$37,595

raised to date

The goal:

and pieces donated to the AMA Museum, one finds an unexpected treasure. Such was the case in early June when a nondescript little volume turned up.

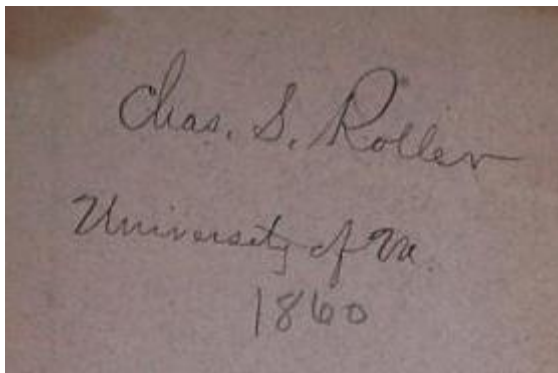


It was a typical pocket book of the mid-to-late 1800s: leather-bound with black pebbled covers, red spine and corners and title embossed in gold letters. The title and author both caught my eye: "Comoediae - T. Macci Plauti." What would a book of comedies by Plautus, ancient Rome's best-known playwright, be

doing among copies of "The Recall," photographs from the turn of the century and other memorabilia? And in Latin, no less?

The answer, and a bit of excitement, came on closer examination. There were voluminous Latin grammar notes and word translations in pencil on the inside pages and flyleaf; there was also a name and note on the inside front cover: "Chas. S. Roller, University of VA, 1860."

Since Professor Roller spoke, read and wrote Latin, being an "educated gentleman" in the antebellum sense of the term, he would have had books in the language. And since he taught Latin in the earliest incarnations of AMA, his use of Plautus - who died in 185 B.C.E. and wrote in the straightforward, clear Latin of the Republic - would make sense.



The date, however, creates another mystery. "Comoediae" was published in 1881 according to the title page, so the inside front cover date of 1860 is anachronistic. Either it was added to what Professor Roller thought was an earlier edition of the work, or it was part of a "name and pedigree" notation still occasionally seen among academics, or it was added in error or by another, which is doubtful. In the archives there are enough examples of Charles S. Roller's

\$75,000

Support the Museum

[Make A Donation](#)

The 300 Club

45

donors
enlisted

The goal:

Enlist 300 donors to
pledge \$500
per year for the
next 5 years

AMA Museum
Hours of Operation

Wednesday- Sunday
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Volunteer Calendar

The following weekends
are open:

- Aug. 12 & 13
- Aug. 19 & 20
- Aug. 26 & 27



handwriting to determine that it was, in fact, his hand.

This, too, is an example of what happens during processing of items in the AMA Museum collection. One runs across an item that is more than a hundred years old,

seemingly out of place, odd. But with a little study and thought it tells a story about its times, its use, and most importantly, a bit about its owner. In this case, it says that Professor Roller had a bit of trouble conjugating the genitive case.

"Omnia adsunt bona Quem penest virtus."

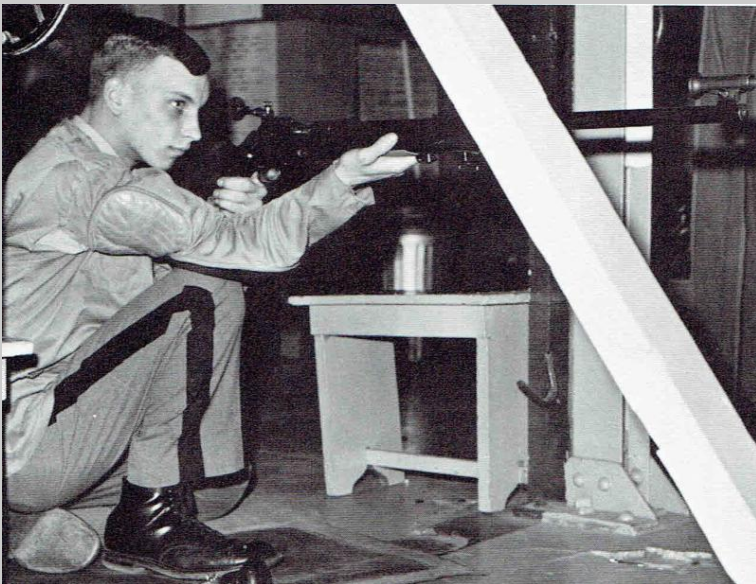
(He who has virtue, has everything.)

- Morgan Liddick, Collections Assistant

In Memoriam **Jim Hash '72**

1953-2017

As many know, Jim was well-liked by his classmates and fellow alumni. He was a regular contributor to *The Bayonet* via his column, "Hash Marks." He authored a touching "Serviceman's Toast," which is used all around the United States during significant moments when veterans are honored. We also know he was particularly proud of his son, Ross, who received the AMA Foundation's Legacy Scholarship in 2011 and 2012. Jim resided in Florida with his sister at the time of his death.



Thank you

to the folks who have volunteered in April and May:

- Victor Gomez '69
- Charlie Pascale '69
- Don Studer, faculty
- Ed Click '50
- Ed Rogerville '76



Upcoming Events

Sept 23 @ 10 a.m.
Board of Trustees
Board of Directors
Meeting
AMA Museum
Fort Defiance, VA

We made it!

Recent donations push campaign to halfway point

In the last issue of the e-mail newsletter, we challenged donors to help us reach the halfway point of History Under Construction's campaign goal of \$75,000. With your help, we did it! A big THANK YOU to the following gentlemen who responded to the challenge and helped us reach the halfway point!

Diego Suarez '72

Bill McVey '60

Harman Groves '70

Robert Tulloss '79

Ozzie Ferro '53

Stephen Williamson '79

Mrs. Charlotte Tribble

**Update your address books with
the AMA office email address:**

Museum@AMAalumni.org

Banner photo

Photo Collection #2012.2947.01a

This image is actually taken from a color glass slide donated by Jim Davis, the nephew of John Raymond Davis '49. We do not have identifications on any of the cadets in this image. If anyone can help us with names, we would be grateful.



AUGUSTA MILITARY ACADEMY MUSEUM
- Fort Defiance, Virginia -

MISSION STATEMENT "To preserve the traditions of the Augusta Military Academy and to honor the memory of the life and times of its alumni, faculty, staff, and supporting families through permanent and temporary exhibits and diligent conservation the museum's collections of artifacts, archives and photographs."

The AMA MUSEUM is operated by the AMA Alumni Foundation, which is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization. The museum is manned by former cadets and faculty members, who volunteer their time and talent. Funding for the museum is totally dependent on tax-exempt financial gifts and donations made by the alumni, former faculty, and friends of Augusta Military Academy, as well as the community and visitors to the museum.

1,120 visitors in 2016
431 visitors in 2017 to date

Augusta Military Academy Museum | 540-248-3007 | Museum@AMAalumni.org | <http://www.amaalumni.org>
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Fort Defiance, VA 24437

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