

Augusta Military Academy

Museum Newsletter

-November 2017 -

Thankful ...
for our veterans

**Support
the Museum**

[Make A Donation](#)

**AMA Museum
Hours of Operation**

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



Thank you

to

Brian and Vicki Miller for
helping us to keep the lights on
by donating to the new track
light fund!



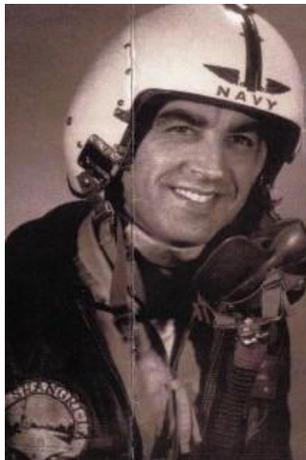
(Above, Gen. Charles S. Roller Jr.)
(At right, top to bottom:
Alex Wattay '53, Julian S. Lake '40
and Ed Click '50)

At The AMA Museum, we have pictures of you as cadets. We have LOTS of pictures of you as cadets.

However, we are missing photos of you in your Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine uniforms or any photos taken of you during your active duty.

We are interested in starting a new digital collection of our alumni veterans. And, by all means, if you are a second- or third generation cadet, please send in any photos you may have of your father or grandfather in his military uniform.

Photos supplied to the museum will be used in upcoming issues.



The 300 Club

52

donors
enlisted

The goal:

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



Volunteer Calendar

The following weekend day is open:

- Dec. 3



Thank you

to the folks who
have volunteered in
September and October:

- Victor Gomez '69
- Charlie Pascale '69
- Frank Spencer '49
- Brett Thompson '75
- Doug Carter '72
- Garry Granger '71
- BJD'Orsay '70
- Ed Click '50
- Mal Livick Jr. '75
- Ed Rogerville '76



Making Connections

Please email the photos in with your first and last name in the subject line along with your AMA class year.

In the message, please indicate your branch of service and your rank.

Our new email is
Museum@AMAalumni.org.

Thank you for participating in this new project!



***And, most importantly,
thank you
for your service!***

Lower School Cadets,
If you were in the 4th/5th grade from November of 1971 through the Spring of 1973, a former faculty member is interested in hearing from you. Edward Dale Brown visited the museum this summer and expressed an interest in hearing from the students he taught during his time here. If you would like to get in touch with him, he may be reached at dalebrown1@cox.net.



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[Visit our website!](#)

**Go To
amaalumni.org**

Can't make it to The AMA Museum but want to get in touch with the school's history? Take a look at the website!!

There are many items there that you can take a look at including:

**Past Reunions
Galleries of photos
submitted by alumni
Archival photos of notable**



Photograph file on Item Number 2017.693.01h belonging to Findley Beard, '06.



Image from the 1925 Banneman's catalog showing a Boys' Brigade Badge similar to the one belonging to Beard (below).

Surprise

Rare hat badge found in 1905 uniform pocket

One never knows what one will find going through others' pockets.

The case in point are the pockets of a very well-preserved Cadet tunic from around 1905. At one time it belonged to Findley Beard, an AMA cadet between 1904 and 1906. The tunic, and a good many other interesting pieces of clothing and athletic equipment from that period came to the Museum courtesy of David Western, Mr. Beard's grandson. While preparing the tunic for photo documentation, I discovered a number of items in the interior pocket - brass buttons, a rock, two cigarette papers and a large and very curious brass badge. It's construction showed that it was a hat badge: central screw post with washer and thumbscrew, stabilization pins at the sides, it looked very much like AMA's shako badges and later circular cap badges. But it was clearly not one of ours.

It had crossed muskets with a "fouled anchor" device superimposed. At the tips of the anchor flukes were two capital letter "B"s. Above the anchor's eye was the number 12; below the anchor's point was the capital letter "A." Adding to the mystery, construction details suggested it was something from the late 19th century.

Although the anchor and muskets suggested a Marine Corps connection, there was no record of any such insignia or badge in USMC archives. Forced to look elsewhere, I soon discovered a much more interesting origin.

The item is a rare "Boys' Brigade" brass hat badge from the turn of the 20th century. This organization was founded in Glasgow by Sir William Alexander Smith in 1883 to "...develop Christian manliness by the use of a semi-military discipline and order, gymnastics, summer camps and religious services and classes," according to a description in the 1911 Encyclopaedia Britannica . It spread quickly; by 1910, there were about 2,200 companies connected with different churches throughout the British Empire and the United States, with 10,000 officers and 100,000 boys.

After its heyday in the 1910s and '20s, the Boys' Brigade merged with two other similar organizations in Britain and America, and it slowly faded due to the predominance here of Baden-Powell's Boy Scouts of America, which shared its goals and ethos. But it didn't disappear. Today there are tens of thousands of Boys' Brigade members in the US and British Commonwealth countries, including thousands in Singapore and Hong Kong, which have the largest number of chapters.

alumni
The Recalls
Catalogs

Click on the
Publications tab;
go to *Galleries*;
and *Browse*.



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Upcoming
Events

Reunion 2018

April

19, 20, 21,
2018



Truly, one never knows what one will find...

-- Morgan Liddick, Senior Museum Assistant

Banner photo: 1960 Football

With football season in full swing, we thought it appropriate to give a nod to some of Augusta's elite!

Left to right: Ed Trott, Bud Allison, Franklin Williamson, Bob Gardill, Ralph Leonard



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
917 visitors in 2017 to date

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