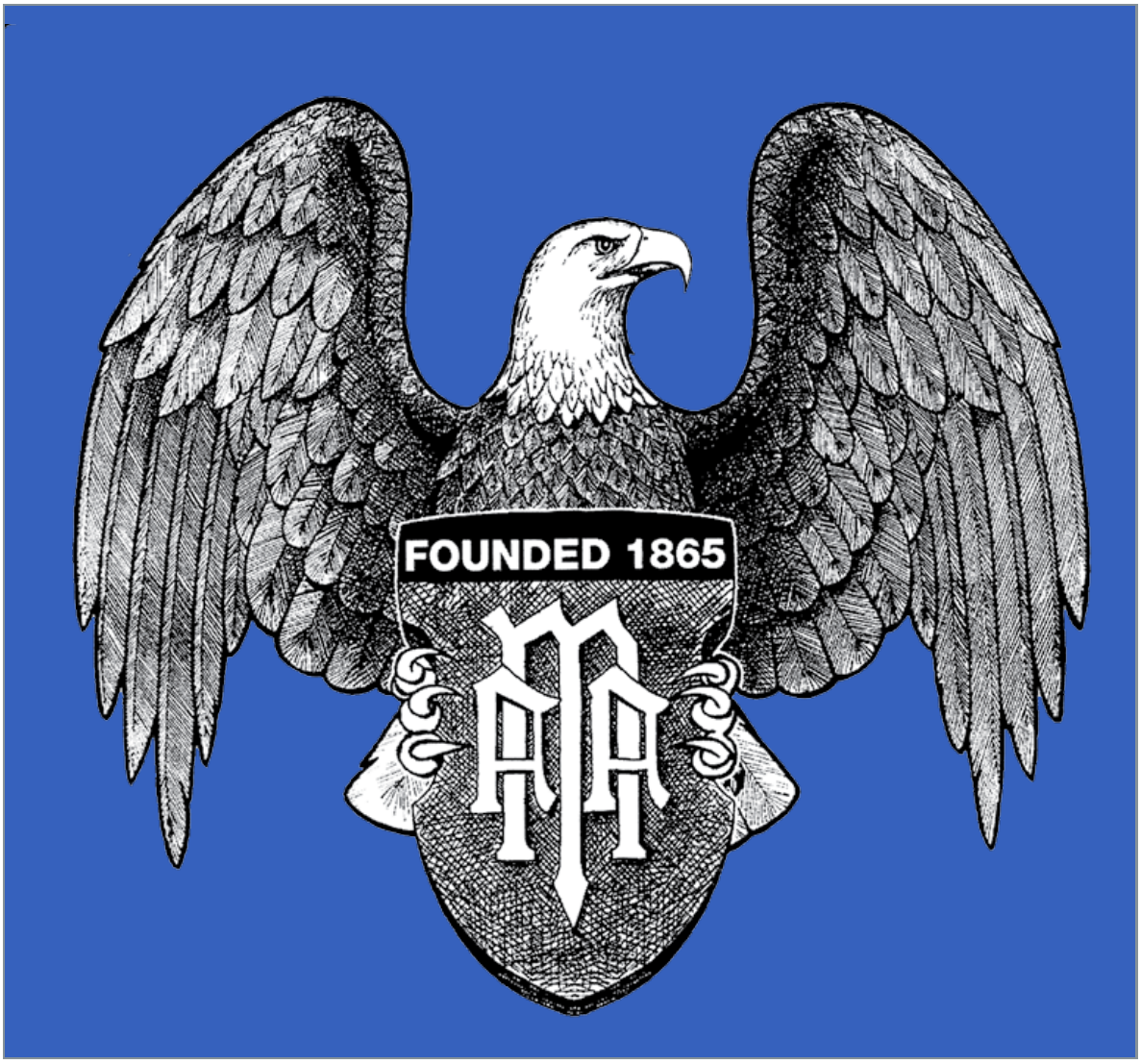
Museum of Augusta Military Academy News



Ad Astra Per Aspera

MUSEUM OF AUGUSTA MILITARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY - 2022

"It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation."

-Herman Melville-

Happy New Year
WishAFriend.cor

Dawn at the AMA Museum

Chairman's Notes

January 1, 2022

Dear readers,

Now that 2021 is over, we look forward to what awaits us in 2022. I intend to activate the new **AMA Legacy Preservation Corps** this year. This support organization will be made up of AMA Alumni decedents, and friends who will be the future leaders of the AMA Alumni Foundation Inc. Only in this manner will we be able to extend our legacy beyond our lifetime. More on this important Board initiative in follow up Newsletter announcements.
Our events calendar is filling up as we will hold our first AMA Alumni Foundation Board Meeting on January 8, at 1000 hrs Eastern. We will soon be announcing the dates for our monthly Noble Legends speaking tour, and we will be holding a "Spring Fling" event on May 7th which will host an assortment of car collectors from around the Shenandoah Valley. Military Vehicles, antique cars and possibly Corvette and Mustang clubs will be in attendance! The Stonewall Brigade band will keep everyone entertained, and there will be food trucks and other activities. In short, a very nice way to spend a Spring Day on the AMA Campus.
The Fundraising Committee led by Tom Del Valle along with the help of Warren Fleming '72 and Bud Okey are actively searching for grants and other sources of funds to assure our long-term survival.

I will be sharing our 2021 F/Y results in the February issue after we receive our reviewed financial statement from our accountants, Shen Valley Tax.
Our annual reunion will be held on September 9-10, 2022 and our second annual Fall festival will be held in October.
That is just a taste of what our organization is working on at this time.
Naturally, the day-to-day Foundation and Museum business will continue as usual, the PX inventory is constantly being updated, our museum displays are being changed out and updated.
Museum house maintenance is an on-going project. For example, a lightning strike destroyed our alarm system a few months ago, so we were forced to replace the entire alarm system at a cost of approximately $4,000. Fortunately, our insurance will cover the majority of that expense. All of the exterior lighting in the front of the house and under the flags have been replaced and upgraded to a LED system. The photograph of our museum that you see in this month's newsletter, clearly shows the difference the new lighting has made! Thank you, Brett Thompson, for fixing all of the lights!
I trust that everyone appreciates that The AMA Alumni Foundation and Museum are very much alive and working hard to get better every day!

If you are able to volunteer for Docent duty, please do. If you want to become active in Foundation Governance, please contact John Arthur or Doug Pennock. If you want to help with the Reunion Committee or be a volunteer at the reunion, contact Amy at the museum. If you have a recommendation for a candidate to serve on the new AMA Legacy Preservation Corps, please contact Amy or Doug Pennock.
If you are unable to help in any of these tasks, then please make a financial contribution!!

Team effort!

Douglas W. Pennock
Chairman
AMA Alumni Foundation, Inc.

AMA Alumni Foundation News

The AMA Alumni Board of Directors will hold our first meeting of 2022 on Saturday January 8, at 1000 Eastern. This will be a regular business meeting and as always, will be open to all Alumni.
The meeting will be held on campus and depending on the turnout, will be held at the museum or at Hoover Hall. I will not be able to attend in person, but will preside the meeting via Zoom teleconference.

Sports Hall of Fame

It's time to be thinking of who you would lime to nominate for induction into AMA's Sports Hall of Fame.

You can discover current inductees on our website:
https://amaalumni.org/sports-hall-of-fame/

Nominations are being sought for the Class of 2022 AMA Sports Hall of Fame (SHOF) inductees. You may nominate an individual athlete, coach, team or anyone that you feel contributed in a significant way to AMA sports. Personnel / Team(s) selected will be recognized during Reunion 2022.

Please email your nomination to John Arthur '75 email: john.arthur@cdg-1.com AND Amy Hensley, the Museum Director, email: museum@AMAalumni.org.

All nominations must be received no later than FRIDAY, January 28, 2022!

GUN RAFFLE 2022

It has been customary over the past few years that we raffle a firearm during Reunion Weekend. This has proven to be a terrific fundraiser and very popular with our Alumni. This year's raffle choice, is a Smithfield 1903A1. The rifle is in perfect working order and was recently field tested and fired by our Collections Curator, Rich vanBreemen. This rifle is similar to the ones the Roller Rifles carried at all of their performances.

1903 model Springfield bolt-action rifle, caliber .30 (30-06), with reproduction 1907 leather sling. It has a 4 groove barrel which is dated 10-36 with little to no pitting. It is considered to be a "high number" rifle

and bolt which eliminate the concern some people may have about early receiver issues.

Total value of the weapon is roughly $1000 and will be considered NRA Very Good - Good condition at auction.

Tickets for a chance to win this Smithfield 03 rifle are on sale now!

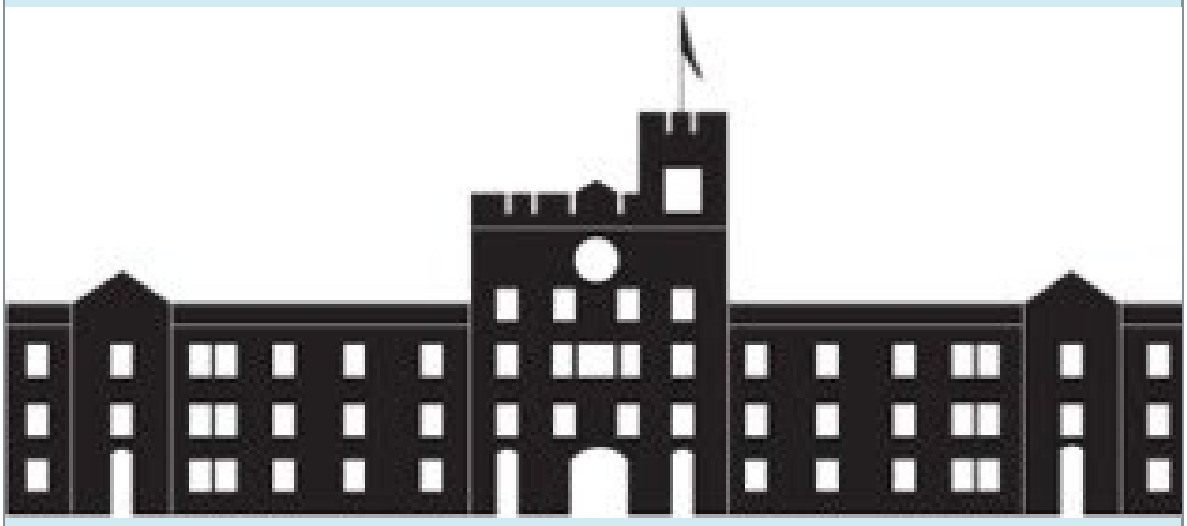
Ticket cost are $25.00
or
(5 tickets for $100)

Buy your raffle tickets HERE

You may also purchase tickets by contacting the Museum at 540-248-3007

The winning raffle number will be drawn at the Saturday evening Reunion event. You do not need to be present to win!

You must be 21 years or older to participate in this raffle.
This raffle is void where prohibited by law.



ATTENTION IN THE BARRACKS!

Augusta Military Academy Legacy Preservation Corps

Purpose:

To create a committee of descendants and/or friends of Augusta Military Academy Alumni, Faculty and Staff, who are as passionate

about the Academy and dedicated to Preserving AMA's Legacy and to:

- Learn the history of our Academy
- Be trained to be an effective docent at the museum
- Keep the memories and stories of AMA alive
- Manage the AMA Alumni Foundation into perpetuity

Expectations:

- Meet regularly
- Develop a structure of management / leadership
- Seek participants
- Assist with financial stability
- Protect and preserve AMA's history, artifacts and legacy

How to get involved:

- Contact AMA's Curator at amacurator@gmail.com
- Contact AMA's Museum Director at museum@amaalumni.org

Augusta Military Academy Oral History
MEMORIES FROM OUR ARCHIVES

Jim Hash, ‘72

27 April 2005

Remembering my various encounters with Nurse Mollie Canevet

Reprinted from the Summer 2019 Bayonet [Editor’s note: this is a VERY long story, but well worth the read. Be prepared to laugh heartily.]

In late November or early December, 1965, I was in the seventh grade and attending public school in Howard County, Maryland. I was taking seven subjects and by the end of the first semester, I was flunking six of them and had a D+ in the seventh, which happened to be Physical Education. I think I got the D+ for showing up, God knows it wasn’t for my dedicated participation. My grades weren’t the result of being a moron so much as I just didn’t give a damn. It was, after all, the sixties, revolution and rebellion were in the air, and hey, as a newly anointed teenager, I wanted to make my mark in history. My Father had a different idea.

Read the entire story HERE

FEED THE BARRACKS!!

Please remember that a monthly pledge from everyone that reads this newsletter means that the future of the Museum will be assured.

SET UP YOUR MONTHLY DONATION HERE

MUSEUM DOCENT DUTY

THANK YOU!

To those who volunteered in December

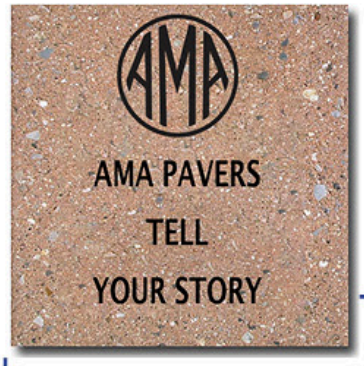
Brian Miller '67

Visitors in December

30

Museum Volunteer's

We really need Volunteer Docents! Please sign up by calling Chris at the museum.



Paver Order Form

Options:

4" x 8" ~ 3 lines of 20 characters each - $50
8" x 8" ~ 6 lines of 20 characters each - $100
8" x 8" ~ 3-6 lines of 20 characters plus graphic - $225
*number of lines depends on size of graphic

Left: example of 8 x 8 with graphic and three lines of text.

Fill in the blanks below. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!** Only one paver per order form. Print additional copies for additional pavers. When you buy a paver, you SUPPORT AMA'S ALUMNI FOUNDATION.

Your Name : _____ Class, if any: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ Email: _____

WHAT SIZE PAVER DO YOU WANT? ____ 4" x 8" - $50
____ 8" x 8" - $100
____ 8" x 8" with _____ graphic - $225
graphic at ____ top or ____ bottom

Punctuation marks and spaces count as characters!

* contact museum for custom size and placement of graphic, additional charges may apply

Please PRINT below what you want on your engraved brick:

Line 1: _
Line 2: _
Line 3: _
Line 4: _
Line 5: _
Line 6: _

Mail form to: AMA Museum, PO BOX 100, FORT DEFIANCE, VA 24437
Include check or money order made payable to AMA Alumni Foundation
OR call the museum at (540) 248-3007 with your credit card information
OR email form to museum@AMAalumni.org, then call with payment information
OR call the museum to place your paver order over the phone.

BAND | AMA | ROLLER RIDERS | ROLLER RIFLES

Revised May 2020

Purchasing a Paver Brick allows you to recognize anyone that had a positive impact on you while attending AMA

All Paver Bricks are placed in a permanent location along the sidewalk running East of the Museum

Visit the Brick virtual map HERE

Please order yours TODAY!

Brick Order Form

SHOP THE PX

THESE ITEMS and MANY MORE

ARE AVAILABLE IN OUR ONLINE STORE,

shop.AMAalumni.org

AMA

New AMA Blanket at the PX

We all remember our AMA blanket. It kept us warm and was a little bit scratchy. This new version is even warmer and softer than a newborn baby's gluteus maximus!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Painless Giving

Imagine if you could send the AMA Foundation a little bit of money every time you bought something on Amazon. YOU CAN if you sign up to Amazon Smile. You are going to buy stuff anyway, why not allow Amazon to help the Museum?

Doug Pennock's Viewpoint

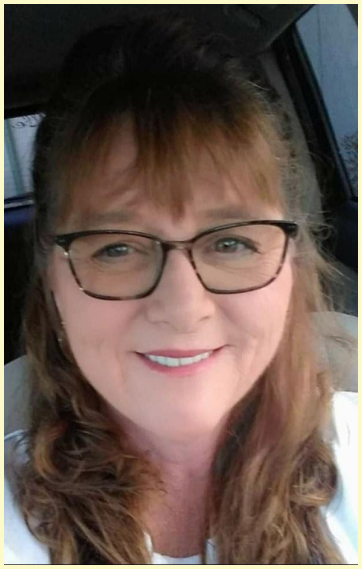
January 1, 2022

Dear Readers,

2021 is in the books and it was a very interesting year.
COVID continues to be hiding in the bushes ready to pounce on all of us at any time. We are fed up with this pesky virus, but unfortunately, I believe that we are all destined to live with it for the foreseeable future.
I have also come to the cold supposition, that sooner or later, we will all probably catch one variance or another of the virus. So, let's live our lives smartly, but not allow the thought of this inevitable possibility ruin our lives.
Trudy and I have chosen the path of getting vaccinated and have had our booster. I would not be surprised if we will be needing another booster in a few months! Some of our friends have opted not to get vaccinated. Time will tell which was the right path to take, but for now, let's live and enjoy life to its fullest!
In spite of the various aches and pains that welcome me when I wake up every morning, I am still excited to get out of bed and discover what life will throw at me… I feel the same about the upcoming year for the AMA Alumni Foundation and our Museum.
Similarly, we also have our pains and aches at the Museum! Fortunately, we have a tremendously strong and talented group of men and women on our team that will assure whatever challenges we are handed over the coming year, will be diligently dealt with and put to rest.
I look forward to connecting with all of you sometime this year, whether by email, phone, snail mail, or in person at our September Reunion.
Until then, Feliz Año Nuevo everyone!!!

Doug out

Editor's Note:
The following expressions are mine alone. I look forward to your feedback. You may contact me directly at:
chairman.amafoundation@amaalumni.org



From the Administrators Desk

January 1, 2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I sincerely hope that each and everyone had a wonderful Christmas. We seem to set the holidays aside to keep sacred the time we spend with friends and family but the Joy of the holidays should be spread throughout the year!
As I write this I am reflecting on this past year, my first year here with AMA. What a wonderful year this has been and I am so happy to be a part of the AMA family. I am thankful for the love and encouragement I have received from all of you and I feel like I am truly a part of this amazing story we share with all those who come to visit. I am so very thankful for the outstanding staff here at the museum. Rich, Chris and Ainsley really bring so much to the table and are always on the ready to pitch in to get

things accomplished. This team is amazing and have brought forth so many outstanding new ideas to keep the spark fired!
We have a busy and EXCITING year a head of us. Many events are planned for the upcoming year. We will be kicking off the year with some changes to exhibits and beginning in April the Noble Legends Speaker Series! There are plans for a Spring festival, a picnic, Memorial Day ceremony and of course Reunion 2022 and much more!
We have added new things to the PX and these items can be purchased via the online PX on the website. We have added beanies, a new version of the AMA blanket and MORE! Your PX purchases, docent time and volunteering are all ways of helping us share the AMA story and contribute to the community. We look forward to seeing you here soon!
Best Wishes to everyone for a fantastic 2022!
Amy

Amy Hensley
Administrator
AMA Alumni Museum

vanBreemen's Expressions

January 1, 2022

YO-YO Time

Another year has come and gone, faster than you can spit shine your boots. Frankly, for me, this is always the hardest time of the year. The build up to the Holidays has peaked; the holidays came and went and leaves behind them an emotional vacuum that doesn't abate until around the middle of January. Normally, we have snow storms to distract us, but this year, even that is missing (it's going to be 67 degrees here in Virginia today). It would be so easy to crawl back into bed and just wait for spring.

But that simply won't do - my wife won't let me. So instead, I make myself look back on the past year and look forward to the coming year. So much has transpired in 2021: I fulfilled my obligation as Interim Director and we brought on Amy Hensley (thank GOD for that). Collectively, we made it through reunion, which was a first for all of the staff at the museum! Not only did we make it through, it was a rousing success! We introduced new programs and events at the museum: Nobel Legends speaker program, the Ft. Defiance Elementary School benefit and the Fall Festival. Administratively, several significant things occurred: We successfully transferred our records database to the web, giving more people access and updating our records. We did the same with our financial software. We continue to add new items to the AMA web page as well as scan in old documents. Amy has the PX running in the black and has added several new items as orders continue to rise. [Yo-Yo up]

You would think those are all positive things (true), but they didn't happen without some angst along the way. With each successful milestone, there seemed to occur a setback or loss of a friend and you can't think of one without being reminded of the other. Why do these things seem to happen together? [Yo-Yo down]

My wife says I think too much. She's probably right but that means I also think of upcoming things and the Yo-Yo goes back up. We plan to start 2022 off with a BANG and have LOTS more planned throughout the year. I won't go into details here; look for that in the upcoming Bayonet. The museum staff along with help and support from several board members have big plans for the museum. However, to make it truly successful, we need your help. I'm not asking you to come down here and get on a ladder or paint – we need your input. You will be seeing requests from us in the coming months for information, or simply to answer some questions. Please don't S%^T-can them and move along with your day. A little information from you will go along way to helping us maintain the AMA Legacy.

So, I will end my contribution to this month's newsletter with the Yo-Yo high in the air. All in all, 2021 was a decent year. With your continued support, 2022 will be even better. I wish you all a happy, safe and healthy New Year.

Rich vanBreemen
Curator, Museum of the Augusta Military Academy

The 2021 FALL BAYONET

READ HERE

The 2022 Winter BAYONET will be available by mid January

The Museum Newsletter is written and prepared by Doug Pennock and edited by Trudy Pennock

This issue of the AMA Museum Newsletter was sponsored by
The 2021 Reunion Committee

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.

Augusta Military Academy Museum | 540-248-3007 | Museum@AMAalumni.org | http://www.amaalumni.org
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