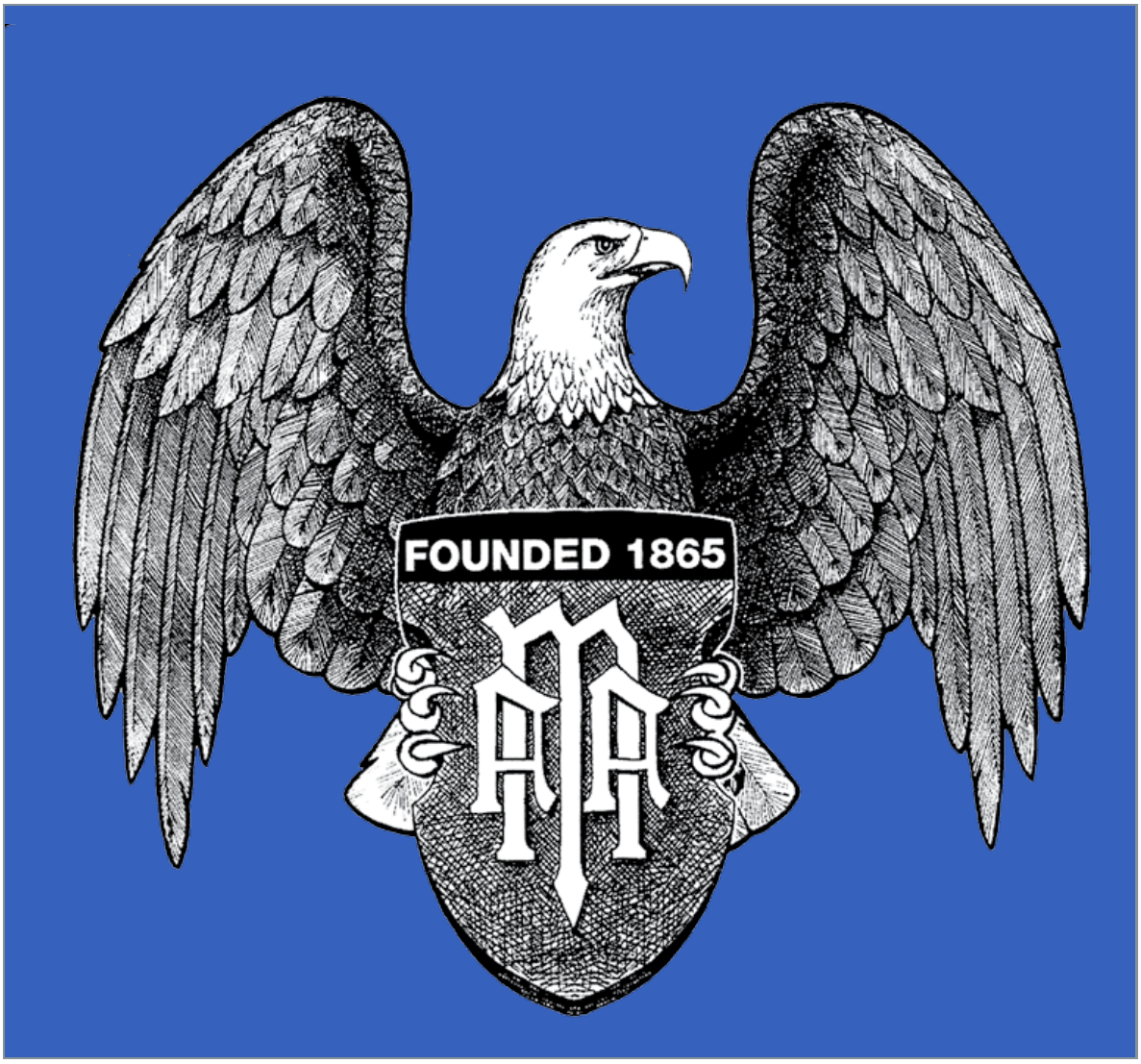
## Museum of Augusta Military Academy News



# Ad Astra Per Aspera

## MUSEUM OF AUGUSTA MILITARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

# FEBRUARY - 2022

"Look, my friend, one plus one equals two, how in the hell did you get three?!"
"Kick the damned ball!!!"
-Paul Hoover, AMA teacher and coach-

# Chairman's Notes

March 1, 2022

Dear fellow Alumni and Friends,

We are at the beginning of the end of the first quarter of 2022, and our day-to day lives continue to be affected by situations and conditions that we have no control over. As soon as we can see a light at the end of the tunnel at what feels like the end of the COVID scourge, inflation has woken up and we are at a 40 year high of that scourge!
Food and fuel prices have blown up, and to pile on what is turning out to be a large pile of feces, the Russians have invaded the country of Ukraine! We can only hope and pray that this conflict does not spin out of control and escalates into a world war.
These are realities and events that none of us has any control over so as has been my personal policy thought my 68 years, I will choose to monitor the events and the pandemic and not loose too much sleep over it.
On matters that I can control, I am much more involved and do worry. The AMA Alumni Foundation is a job and responsibility I take very seriously. Our museum is a wonderful beacon of Virginia educational history. Everything we do there is focused on preserving our AMA legacy. The museum staff is amazingly engaged at their jobs and although none are Alumni, they certainly "get it" and enjoy learning about and preserving our history.
It is actually a treat for Amy, Chris, Rich and Ainsley to have an opportunity to meet alumni face to face and listen to their particular memories of their time at AMA.
Come on by and visit the Museum and share a story or two with them…

Team effort!

Douglas W. Pennock
Chairman
AMA Alumni Foundation, Inc.

# AMA Alumni Foundation Financial UPDATE

## Great news!!

**On February 7, 2022 we received two notices from the IRS. The first was a notification that the pending $10,000 fine for failing to file a Form 990 in 2018 and the pending fine of $3,660 for failing to file a Form 990 in 2019, have been forgiven. That adds up up $13,660 that the Alumni Foundation will not need to pay unnecessarily to the IRS!!!**
**Thank you to all of the hard work by our bookkeepers Shen Valley tax, in collaboration with our Treasurer Gary Cripps for helping make this happen!**

## REUNION 2022

### September 9 - 11

### Honoring classes of:
### 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982

## Headquarter Hotel
## Hotel 24 South (Stonewall Jackson)

**Call 866-880-0024 or 540-885-4848 to make your reservations now and be sure to tell them that you are with the AMA group so that you get the Reunion group rate of $115.00 per night which includes covered parking.**

# AMA Alumni Foundation News

# Director Elections

**AMA Alumni Foundation, Inc.**
**2022 Foundation Election Procedures:**

In accordance with the By-laws,The Board of Directors shall be divided into three classes with staggered terms, with each class as nearly equal in number as may be i.e. four). Accordingly, approximately one-third of the Directors' terms of office shall expire each year. The following four incumbents have expressed their desire to continue on the Board:

**Gordon R. Metz '68**
**Larry D. Nicholson '75**
**John E. Arthur '75**
**Brett D. Thompson '75**

In addition to these four nominees, there currently is a **FIFTH** vacancy on the Board, due to the resignation of Ed Rogerville (2024 "rotation").

The nomination deadline is **Wednesday, March 30, 2022**, and the election electronic voting will open/commence no later than **Friday, April 01, 2022**, and voting will end at midnight (Eastern DST) **Friday, April 29, 2022.**

All nominations should be sent to Doug Pennock (chairman.amafoundation@amaalumni.org), to BJ d'Orsay (bj.dorsay@gmail.com) and to the museum (museum@amaalumni.org), all via email.

**You may review the AMA Alumni Foundation By-Laws HERE**

# 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 Springfield 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.**

**The rifle will have a new leather sling. Also included, are a cleaning kit and manual placed inside the storage area in the butt.**

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

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

**Buy your raffle tickets HERE**

## As of February 28, 2022, 105 of the available 250 raffle tickets have been sold!

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

**On January 8, 2022, the Foundation Board voted and agreed to formalize the AMA Legacy Preservation Corps. The Startup Committee is made up of two Alumni and one non-Alumni.**
**The two Alumni members are Garry Granger and Gordon Metz.**
**The Chairman is Jim Belcher, a friend of AMA and an avid historian, who created a similar organization 15 years ago to support the USS Arizona Foundation.**
**Jim's father was an Arizona survivor and Jim's initiative to begin a support organization made up of family and friends and Naval history buffs, has managed to revitalize the Arizona Foundation by adding hundreds of new members and supporters. Today there are only two USS Arizona survivors left, but by allowing a new group of supporters from all over to become involved in leadership, the Foundation is able to share the Arizona's proud legacy for years to come!**

**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:**

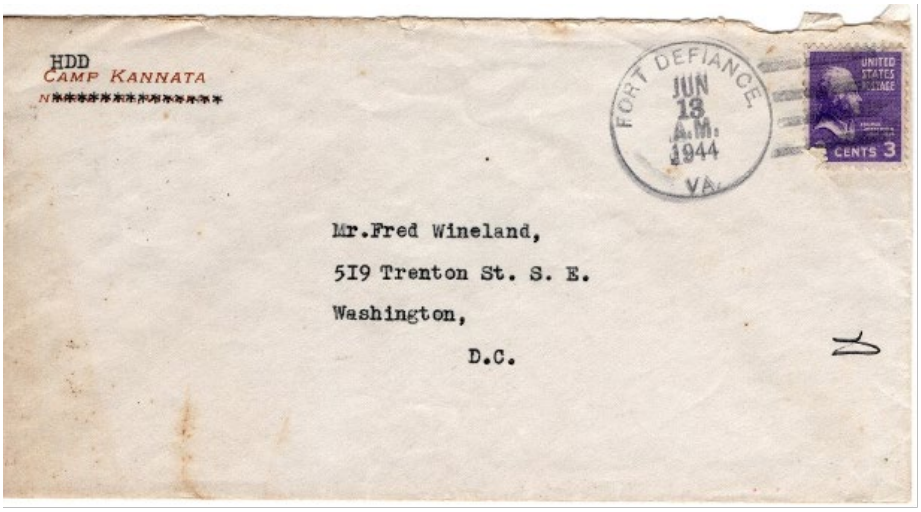
- Contact AMA's Curator at amacurator@gmail.com
- Contact AMA's Museum Director at museum@amaalumni.org

# Augusta Military Academy
# SNIPPETS FROM OUR ARCHIVES

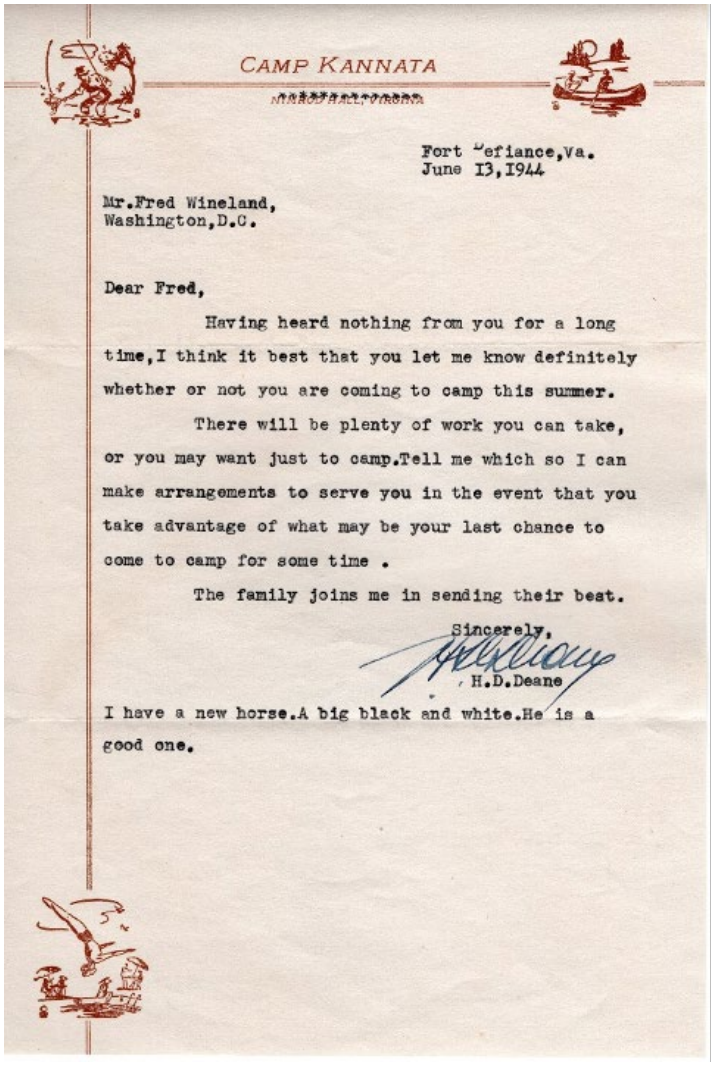
Editor's Note:
The AMA Museum collection includes thousands of documents that were originally kept in files which were found some years after the school closed. The files were discovered in the barracks basement where the old armory was housed. Over the years, volunteers and Museum staff have gone through most of the old files and all of the documents that were found to be of historical significance were saved and cataloged.
Having read hundreds of these documents myself, I was amazed at how much insight they give regarding the day-to-day life of AMA back in the day before internet, computers, TV and any other means of transferring information rapidly existed.
When I studied the handwritten and typed letters, I realized that our grandparents and great grandparents were vastly more capable of putting together huge amounts of information in a classical, graceful and punctual manner in a single one page letter than most of us are today! This wonderful talent and style has mostly been lost due to what we refer to as "progress".
I hope you enjoy reading these interesting snippets from our schools past.
DWP

As you know, the museum staff along with BJ d'Orsay have been working diligently to scan, index and publish as many of the old paper Bayonets as they can, making them available to everyone via our web page. In the course of doing so, they uncovered the following correspondence which is now in our archives collection. A little background info is appropriate: Fred Wineland was an AMA cadet for only one year from 1942-1943. The summer after school, he attended Camp Kannata. He opted not to return to AMA but obviously, AMA never left him. Mr. Wineland passed away in 2016

but if you go back through the Bayonet Index you will see he stayed in touch with his old school.




(Note the postmark date – one week after D-Day in Normandy)



CAMP KANNATA

MAROD HALL, VIRGINIA

Fort Defiance,Va.
June 13,1944

Mr.Fred Wineland,
Washington,D.C.

Dear Fred,

Having heard nothing from you for a long time,I think it best that you let me know definitely whether or not you are coming to camp this summer.

There will be plenty of work you can take, or you may want just to camp.Tell me which so I can make arrangements to serve you in the event that you take advantage of what may be your last chance to come to camp for some time .

The family joins me in sending their best.

Sincerely,

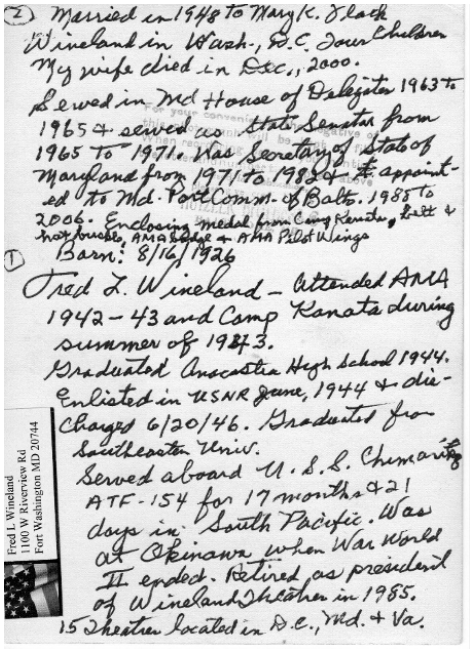
H.D.Deane

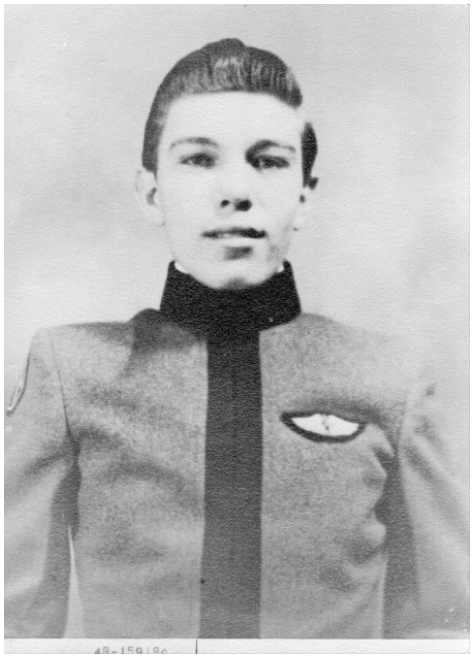
I have a new horse.A big black and white.He is a good one.

(Fred did not return to Camp Kannata – he went to war)

You often hear the museum staff talk about FACTS versus HEARSAY and this is a perfect example of how difficult it can sometimes be, to ascertain the “facts. In the 2014 SUMMER Bayonet (page 32), Mr. Wineland discusses the AVAITOR wings (on display at the museum). He states it was a one-off item given to him by Captain Hoover and was never worn on the uniform. And yet, Mr. Wineland himself sent in the following photo and information, showing him clearly wearing the wings on his AMA uniform. People’s memories can be a fickle thing and it only serves to wet our appetite

to uncover the truth. The question of aviation training at AMA is on our list of discovery.



Back of photo TRANSCRIBED:

1- Born 8/16/1926 Fred L. Wineland – Attended AMA 1942-1943 and Camp Kanata (sp) during the summer of 1943. Graduated Anacostia High School 1944. Enlisted in the USNR June 1944 & discharged 6/20/46. Graduated from Southeast University. Served aboard U.S.S. Chimariko ATF-154 for 17 months & 21 days in South Pacific. Was at Okinawa when World War II ended. Retired as president of Wineland Theaters in 1985. 15 Theaters located in D.C., Md. & Va.

2- Married in 1948 to Mary K. Black Wineland in Wash. D.C. Four children. My wife died in Dec., 2000. Served in the Md. House of Delegates 1963 to 1965 & served as State Senator from 1965 to 1971. Was Secretary of State of Maryland from 1971 to 1982 & appointed to Md. Port Comm. Of Balt. 1988 to 2006. Enclosing medal from Camp Kanata (sp), belt & hat buckle, AMA badge & AMA pilot Wings.

## 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 February**

**Brian Miller '67**

**Visitors in February**

**45**

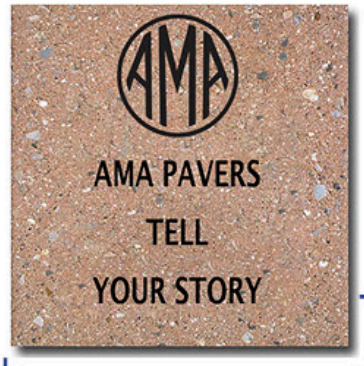
***Museum Volunteer's***

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

# Paver Special!!

**If you buy a paver brick between March 1 and April 30, you will receive a 20% discount on the 4" X 8" and the 8" X 8" bricks.**

**If you order a 8" X 8" brick with the graphic, you will receive a 33% discount!**




# 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

# The latest display at our Museum

**Bj d'Orsay, Rich van Breemen and Chris Correa completed this wonderful timeline of AMA.**
**Come by the museum and see this and many other new and not so new displays and exhibits.**

1960
1965
1970
1975
1980
1990
1960 Colonel Roller gets his Star Promoting him to General
1960 President Eisenhower visits AMA campus
1961 Neil McIver first Alumnus to die in Vietnam
1959 Castro takes over Cuba
1960 US begins sending military advisors to Vietnam
1961 Bay of Pigs
1959 VA Schools integrated
555 cadets
539 cadets
March 16, 1963 Charles S. Roller, Jr., "Big Boy", dies
1967 Col. Mal Livick becomes AMA superintendent
October 6, 1969 Gen. Roller's widow, Janet, dies
1963 President Kennedy assassinated
August 2 1964 hostilities in Vietnam begin
1970 - First Black students admitted to AMA; Inet Fall to keep ROTC program alive
1970 AMA Alumni Association formed by Parker Ward and others; Mr. Ward dies later that year in plane crash
438 cadets
1972 Greenbriar Military Academy closes as result of Vietnam war discord
1974 New infirmary built
1976 Staunton Military Academy closes
1964 Civil Rights Act passed
1969 First man lands on the moon
1969 TET offensive in Vietnam
245 cadets
1977 AMA becomes non-profit organization
1980 Col Livick resigns as superintendent citing his failure to revive the school
1973 Nixon ends draft, withdraws from Vietnam, 12 alumni killed in Vietnam
1979-1981 Iran Hostage crisis
150 cadets
110 cadets
1983 AMA closes during Christmas Break
1984 Culbertson family buys AMA
1993 Moore collects mor AMA
1985 D becor Lt. G later
90 cade

RESTROOM
THE SINKS

## New AMA Blanket at the PX

**We all remember our AMA blanket. It kept us warm and it 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**

**March 1, 2022**

**Dear Readers,**

**Sometimes I say some things in this column, that may be a challenge you. Sometimes I try and add a little comedy but mostly, I write what comes to mind at the time I sit down to write this piece.**
**We are a privileged country. Our form of government is not perfect, and is certainly not a pure Democracy (hence the electoral college), thank goodness.**
**We are a Republic, with a constitution that separates the three branches that make up our government who and who share their individual and**

**very specific responsibilities and powers equally. Separation of power is the cornerstone that has allowed our great Republic to be the most significant beacon of hope, liberty and limitless opportunity that the majority of the world's nations envy.**

**We have the right to speak our minds freely and openly, anywhere within the limits of our borders, we can worship whatever religion (or not) without fear of persecution.**

**Unfortunately, at this point of our 247-year timeline, we are very divided politically, right down the middle, as a people in terms of our political leanings. I hope and pray that we will eventually, sooner than later, reach a respectful consensus somewhere in the middle of our political pendulum which is the driver of this terrible national polarization.**

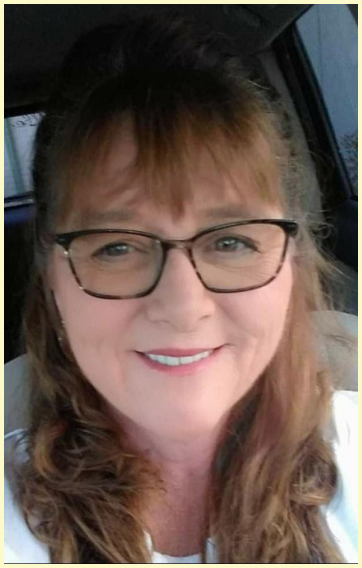
**Because I do not live on the US mainland and have traveled extensively throughout the Caribbean and Latin America and to a lesser extent, Europe. I am contently reminded how much better off we are in the USA than in most every other place that I have visited over the last 60 years. I am so thankful that I have the honor to live in this country. Yet, for the last six days watching the deliberate and non-sensical invasion of sovereign nation on live TV as I write this piece, I can see and am so impressed with the way the people of Ukraine are standing up to the bully from Moscow! They are proud to be from their country, and are willing to do whatever it takes to prevent an invading country to take them over even if it means to lose their lives.**

**There was a time, 247 years ago, that our forefathers and mothers stood up to and beat up a bully from London. Let us never forget where and when we were conceived as a nation. We are all blessed to be an integral part of the great American experiment!**

**God Bless the brave citizens of Ukraine and God Bless The United States of America!**

**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

**March 1, 2022**

Spring is on the way! We have made it through February and now heading into March, Spring is on the way! This is the time of year that is my most favorite. A renewing! The trees are budding and the daffodils are popping up and beginning to bloom. Spring is coming.

The renewal of Spring brings the beginning of events at the Museum. We will renew our Noble Legends Speaker Series on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 6:30 pm. The series will run until July. Every third Wednesday we will have a new speaker and we have a great line up this year!

Our Spring Festival is scheduled for May 7, 2022. We have planned a wonderful family fun day for the community and our Alumni. We will have a bouncy house for the kids, a car show, a military vehicle show, raffles, crafters and vendors and more. Valley Pike BBQ and Bayou Kitchen food trucks will be here too!

Spring is also the time we take to “spruce up” and clean. We are going to be planning a museum clean up day very soon. We will be publishing the

date in the April newsletter and on the AMA website under the EVENTS tab.
We love our volunteers and we love our alumni! If you can volunteer a few hours for the upcoming events or even volunteer to docent on the weekends we would love for you to come. Nothing tells the story of AMA like the alumni sharing their firsthand experience.
We hope to see you soon!

Amy Hensley
Administrator
AMA Alumni Museum

# vanBreemen's Expressions

March 1, 2022

# Keeping It Real

I'll bet you didn't know there was more than one AMA. Truth be told, there are over 12,000 AMA schools! I say that because each and every

cadet that stood on the parade ground, from 1874 to 1984 had a different experience and it was that experience that determines which AMA you attended.

There are several factors that contribute to that experience, most of which you had little control over:

- What year(s) did you attend?
- How long did you attend?
- Who were your roommates?
- What extracurricular activities did you participate in?
- Where were you from (home)?
- What was your upbringing?
- What was going on in the world?

Each of these items and more, played a part in shaping your personal AMA experience. It is because of these variables that each cadet had a different experience and therefore have widely differing views on THEIR time, at the AMA they remember. Change any one variable and the whole experience changes, albeit by varying degrees.

Now before you get all pissy and pick up the phone to chew me out over this, let me add that each person's experience is REAL for THEM. That is why, when we (the museum staff) talk to alumni, we often get widely varying stories and opinions on the events, the staff and the school in general. None of us on staff at the museum attended AMA or had family that went to AMA. In short, we don't have a dog in the fight. However, that also means we concentrate on finding the TRUTH as best we can through verifiable FACTS.

Recently, there has been some wild talk about the school on a social media site. It was obvious that the person(s) had some very strong and emotional sentiments they wanted to express. That's fine, as I said, each cadet had their own experience. However, when those expressions include known falsehoods, a line has been crossed. Memories are not the most reliable thing and it gets worse with time. Ask any lawyer and they will tell you the worst thing to have in a trial is an EYEWITNESS.

It is our sole purpose at the museum to tell the HISTORY of the Augusta Military Academy, good or bad, in the light of known truths. We have tried to help detail that history through the use of a new TIMELINE DISPLAY. It is

now a prominent part of the tour and is a good representation of facts and figures. The staff will continue to dig into the archives and what records we have available to us to ferret out the factual story of AMA. We leave the interpretation of sentiment, emotional experience and memories up to the alumni who have shared their experiences in written form, oral dissertation, video or by showing up and being a docent.

**Rich vanBreemen**
**Curator, Museum of the Augusta Military Academy**

# NEW

## The 2022 WINTER FALL BAYONET

**READ HERE**

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**

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.

Augusta Military Academy Museum | 540-248-3007 | Museum@AMAalumni.org | http://www.amaalumni.org
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P.O. Box 101
Fort Defiance, VA 24437