

Augusta Military Academy

Oral History

by Peter Lambert, '44
October 18, 2003

I was not a model cadet ...

Basically, I ended up at AMA because my relatives couldn't put up with a bratty teenage orphan.

I roomed with **Fred Prince** my first year and we took turns having the most demerits of all the cadets that year. I washed every window in the Mess Hall at one window per demerit.

I became very adept at stealing food, so much so that I even had **Captain Fontaine** ask me, when I graduated, how I did it.

I also became proficient at lying occasionally. Once I was going on a trip to Staunton and you had to wear a white shirt. **Dave Eborn** was the Officer of the Day and he sent me back, because I wasn't wearing a white shirt.

So, I tied a white handkerchief around my neck, pulled down my collar and Dave sent me off to town. **Major Roller** saw me in Staunton with my coat open and my grey shirt showing. That night at Mess he called me out. I gave him a song and dance about visiting my aunt, spilling Samson preserves on the shirt and having another shirt there, etc. etc.

I knew I was lying, the Big Boy knew I was lying, but the FIRST CAPTAIN said I did have on a white shirt!!! Major Roller nearly had apoplexy!

Later, I was the only person who could answer his little quizzes worth a buck apiece.

AMA did have its share of, shall we say, a poorer sort. It is my firm opinion that AMA failed because they admitted too many brats like me.

P.S. My wife later straightened me out and I became a productive citizen.



You can view the 1944 RECALL here:
<https://galleries.amaalumni.org/Recalls/Recall-1944/>