



ROOSEVELT MILITARY ACADEMY ROUGH RIDER

MEL REPORTING, SIR!!

I am betting that you all thought I had forgotten you. Well, that is not true. It was a delay until the board was comfortable with our finances to send another issue to you. I have said it many times before; it is a shame that we have monetary confinements that interfere with our communications lines.

I do want to thank the cadets that sent donations and joined as Life Members. It provides a burst of income that helps the board act prudently with the association money. We can use all the help we can get. Speaking of that, it is time to renew your membership and send in your dues. Please take care of this as soon as you can. With the reunion looming money is important and so are members. If you have not joined the association, please do. We are a small enough group without having over four hundred cadets that have not joined. What could be the reason not to join? The Rough Rider Association has only one huge goal. "To preserve and enhance the spirit and traditions of Roosevelt Military Academy."

This brings me to another subject! It seems as though we have a small group of cadets that do not like the members of the board or anyone that has anything to do with the association at this time. That is why we have asked repeatedly for volunteers to serve, without results, and what we get is more personal attacks and statements that are mostly untrue. One of them even sent me an email saying they wanted to "TAKE CONTROL". What am I missing in the scenario? The board has done an exemplary job and those of you that care to look can see their efforts and results. We have a newsletter and a reunion every 2 years, which is a lot more than we had a couple of years ago.

We have a committee being formed to look at the bylaws and make some needed changes. Personally, I believe we should have 5 board members, not 4 and they should be elected for staggered terms. In other words, all the board gets elected at one time. 2 of the members serve 3 years, 2 of the members serve 2 years and one serves 1 year. From then on all elections are for 3 years and we never have a new and inexperienced board. It also means that the entire board cannot be replaced at one time because someone wants to change things and take control.

Guys, we are all in this because we had a serious interest in the preservation of RMA. Let us not evolve in to a bickering group of old military people with hatred towards anyone, particularly those who have stepped up, devoted a lot of time and effort and have done a terrific job starting from dead scratch.

I have included all of the Bio's on hand in this issue. Please send me more; there are a lot of you out there that your classmates would like to see and hear from you. Keep those cards and letters coming!!

We are still in dire need of volunteers to serve on the nominating committee and we need candidates that want to run for office. As the chair of that committee please send me your nominations for the board and I will include them for the reunion.

In the belief that I have covered all items outstanding, dues, candidates, volunteers, bio's and my editorial, I will close for this issue and leave you with a couple of thoughts: Don't criticize others when you are angry with yourself—Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none—One who cannot tolerate small ills can never accomplish great things—Regularly examine your motives.

Until next time,

Mel Bogus
Graduated RMA class of 1947

This is a letter I was sent from Larry Chadwick, class of 49. I thought you might want to see some of the names he mentions. Enjoy!

Mel,

I received the second issue of the Rough Rider and enjoyed it as much as the first. I am impressed with your editorial skills. I don't remember you having those skills at RMA. Keep up the good work. I look forward to receiving the next Rough Rider.

While at RMA we had five of us that we called the "big 5". Ron McIntyre, Dick Deal, Al Adams, Frank Woidat and me. Al and Dick are gone but Frank, Mac and I still correspond.

Keep up the good work
Larry Chadwick '49

BIOGRAPHY OF DAVE FAGEN, CLASS OF 1949

I graduated from RMA in June of 1949 and attended Northwestern until graduation in 1953. I entered the US Army July 7th, 1953 and served until released on July 6th 1956. I attained the rank of Specialist 3rd class. After basic training I was assigned to the 249th Military Police attachment at Ft. Chaffee Arkansas. After serving my 3 years I returned to Illinois.

I passed the examination as a Certified Public Accountant and have worked at that profession since 1956. I am currently self employed as an independent CPA where I work from home.

I married Arlene on June 27th, 1959 and we have 5 adult children and 4 grandchildren. For fun I sing with a group of older adults and have a great time.

We live in Wood Dale, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago.

Dave Fagen

BIOGRAPHY OF V. DEAN TURNER, CLASS OF 1944

I grew up in Illinois and attended RMA my senior year graduating mid-year 1944 as co-valedictorian. I was accepted into the Navy V-12 program and sent to Northwestern University in March of 1944. I transferred into NROTC and graduated from Northwestern in June of 1946 with a BS degree and the rank of Ensign USNR. Since the war was over I chose to go on inactive duty. I lettered in wrestling while at Northwestern and after graduation I married my high school sweetheart and last June 30th we celebrated our 61st anniversary.

I then went to Illinois University and earned a Masters in mathematics and taught for a year and a half at a Baptist college in West Plains Missouri and also coached basketball and baseball.

I was call to active duty during the Korean War and served on a destroyer as Asst. Engineering Officer. After my release I stayed in the Reserve program and later transferred to Naval Intelligence. I then taught math at a junior high in Champaign Illinois for 3 and a half years. In 1956 I was offered a position teaching math at Minnesota State and retired from that in January of 1989.

While at Minnesota State, I taught math and was promoted to full professor and server for 4 years as Chair of the Math Dept. and for the last 12 years as Dean of College of Science and Engineering. I earned my PHD at the University of Oklahoma and co-authored 2 college level math text books and was a member of the National Council of Teachers of Math. I was on a study group to China in 1980 to visit schools at all levels.

I have 2 daughters, 4 grandchildren (1 a pro golfer) and 2 great grandchildren. We enjoy spending winters in Florida and summers in Minnesota.

At RMA I played football and received the Chicago Tribune award as the outstanding new cadet. I am most appreciative of my opportunity to attend RMA and I am pleased that you and others are doing such an outstanding job with RMA Alumni affairs.

Thanks

V. Dean Turner '44

BIOGRAPHY OF GERALD FEITLER, CLASS OF 1952

I was prompted to submit when I read "Little Primo Westol's" bio in issue 2. I attended RMA for 2 ½ years, graduating in 1952. I also fondly remember "Sniffer" and the grapefruit rum we made in the chemistry lab under his supervision, when I went on stage as the drunken porter in Mac Beth, the reeling and staggering were for real!

I attended the University of Chicago for three years and Roosevelt University in Chicago for two years, finally getting my act together for a Bachelor of Science in Commerce (Accounting). Was fortunate to find my Lila and marry her eight days before reporting to Uncle Sam in 1958. After basic training I was assigned to the U.S. Army Audit Agency in Chicago and managed to pass the CPA exam while in service. Our marriage lasted over 49 years until she succumbed to cancer, in May of last year. We have three beautiful children and five grandchildren, our son is a retired Navy submariner, our older daughter is a Nurse Manager for a fertility clinic and our younger daughter operates a bike tour business in Washington DC. The grandchildren spread in age from 17 down to 7 and are all the requisite geniuses or beauties that grandparents brag about.

My career after the army took me through all the accounting and finance positions from governmental auditor, big 8 senior, comptroller, financial vice president, college instructor, and finally, Finance and Accounting Director for the Broward County Health Department here in South Florida, from which I retired in September of 2006 at the tender age of 72. Please note, since I still do write-up and tax work, retirement means that I only work three or four days a week, not six or seven.

Lila and I spent thirty years in Iowa before coming down to Florida in the mid 90's. I lost contact with most of the RMA crowd and was unable to attend reunions before 2006 because of job requirements. Imagine my surprise when I finally show up and get elected Treasurer, and am honored to serve the Association and our school!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RMA alumni bumper stickers will be available at the reunion. So far, the project has raised \$ 250.00 and we thank the folks that have purchased the stickers. They are—Mike Vagi—Robert V. Lake—Geri (Clyde) Sanders—Joseph Raimond Jr—Gary Lester—Steve Hansen—Steve Hansen Memorial Fund—Norman Bushee—Richard A. Karpes—Gene Shalander SR.—Lloyd E. Young Sr. and family—Ralph G. Downer—Ted Anderson.

We also want to thank Barnaby Wald, Thomas McAboy and James A. Regas for their monetary donations to the RMA Rough Rider Association. The entire goal and aim of the association is to preserve and enhance the spirit and traditions of Roosevelt Military Academy.

The board is forming a Bylaws Review Committee and any changes you would like to see made to our existing Constitution and Bylaws please submit to the board so they can be discussed and voted on at the business meeting at the reunion. Don't forget the dates of the reunion. August 15, 16 and 17 in Northbrook, Illinois!!

Thank you all!

LIFE MEMBERS

It looks like the institution of a category of Life Member has worked out very well for the association as well as several of our members. We will list the life members as they are now and keep you posted as new cadets sign up.

Bobby Wixson - '49	Norman Bushee - '63	Melvin Bogus - '47	James D. Crawford - '63	Thomas McAboy - '48
Dick Vanni - '49	Richard J. Wendt - '52	Gene Feil - '61	Veras Dean Turner - '44	Gerald Feitler - '52
James K. Schmitt - '55	James R Edgar - '56	Mack E Madzinski III - '48	Bill Tragos - '51	Ralph Antolino - '47
Ralph G. Downer - '52	H. Paul LaForce - '46	Howard E. Adler - '46	James Robertson - '62	Gene Shalander Sr. - '50

The Officers of the RMA Rough Riders Association thank you for your commitment and for being the charter group of Life Members.

RMA ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU!!!

- Jack Gwynne - President636.257.7111jackgwynne@consultant.com
- Gary Weaver - Vice-President.....309.274.4810weaver@ssi.net
- Mike Vagi - Secretary972.524.8825.....michaelvagi@att.net
- Gerald Feitler - Treasurer561.742.5784poppaj1@msn.com
- Bob Fritz - Webmaster775.847.7568....webmaster@rmaroughriders.org
- Gene Shalander, Sr. - Historian352.622.1099....genetreeone@cox.net
- Eric(Rick)Bogoff - 2008 Reunion Committee..847.514.3059ohmygto@aol.com
- Mel Bogus - Communications Committee281.334,0863melmaven1@comcast.net
- Ronn Jutkins - Memorial Committee.....847.259.2220harborboat@aol.com

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE

As chairman of the Nominating Committee I want you to know the slate for election as of this date, March 7th, 2008. If any of you are interested in running for office or serving on the Nominating Committee please contact me, either by phone-281-334-0863 or email melmaven1@comcast.net and I will add your name to the list.

- PRESIDENT:** Bob Fritz
Jack Gwynne-incumbent
- VICE PRESIDENT:**
- TREASURER:** Gerald Feitler-incumbent
- SECRETARY:** Jim Robertson
Mike Vagi-incumbent

ROOSEVELT MILITARY ACADEMY



ROUGH RIDER

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 300
Spring, TX