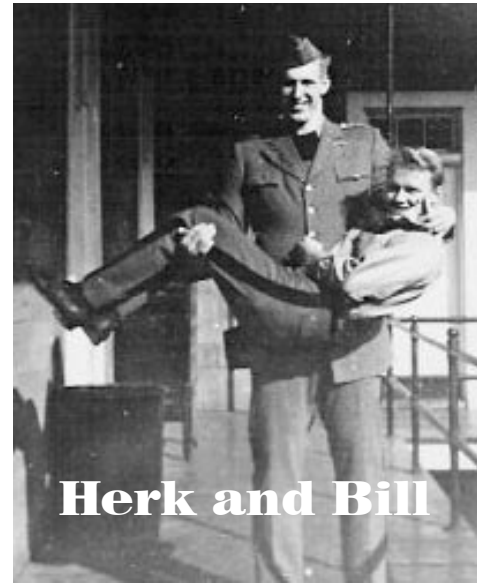




**Out of control!**

# Looking Back

◀ Steve Toth and his roommate Dave Litzenburg, both of the Class of 1958, are clowned for the camera in 1953, their second year in Junior School. We are not sure who the third cadet is, but he obviously chose to remain detached.



**Herk and Bill**

▲ Herk Wolfe and Bill Campbell, 1949. No explanation of what was happening here was provided with the picture. Perhaps Mr. Wolfe or Mr. Campbell will recall the incident and send the details to *The Kablegram* in the near future.



**Under control!**

▲ Eighteen years after the photo at top left was taken, Dave Litzenburg, SMA '58 — apparently matured and under control — posed with Major William Pandak, Jo Ann Litzenburg, Colonel Edward Dodge and Colonel William C. Moon. The photo was brought to the Litzenburgs' attention by Brocky A. Nicely, SMA '65, during the recent reunion in Staunton. Mrs. Litzenburg noted that she does not wear skirts that short anymore, and her hairdo is substantially more conservative.

Many thanks to Anthony Korvas, SMA '59, for providing the SMA-VVWL Museum with a photo album. The pictures are excellent and some will appear in future *Kablegram* "Looking Back" pages. If you have pictures from the past, we would like to consider them for future issues.

▼ Do you remember the Canteen? This might have been a posed public relations photograph. We all know it was never this calm and orderly! It was usually chaotic, which provided "Ike" Kivlighan with more than enough justification to toss some of us out the door on occasion. The photo was taken by John Deal, SMA '49.



**It was never this calm!**

**The Kablegram**  
 SMA Alumni Association  
 P. O. Box 958, Woodrum Station  
 Staunton, Virginia 24402-0958  
 kablegram@sma-alumni.org



**Baseball Caps**

The Cadet Store, located in the SMA•VWIL Museum in the former SMA Supply Room is stocked with a variety of memorabilia. Some of the items available are pictured here. To order items, use the convenient form on this page. The form should be mailed, with your check enclosed, to the address shown below. You can also contact the store by e-mail as shown below, or call (703) 885-1309 for information, leave a message, and your call will be returned.



**Golf Shirts**



**Sweat Shirts**

**T-Shirts**



**Belt Buckles and Shoulder Patches**

(Gold belt buckle not currently available)

Mail to:

SMA-VWIL Museum

P. O. Box 958 Woodrum Station

Staunton, Virginia 24402-0958

or FAX this order form to (540) 885-1366

or e-mail your order to

SMAOffice@sma-alumni.org

**Cadet Store Order Form**

QUAN.	ITEM	EACH	TOTAL
_____	Baseball Cap	\$10.00	\$ _____
	Navy blue with gold "Staunton Military Academy"		
_____	Baseball Cap	\$10.00	\$ _____
	Blue with green bill with "SMA-VWIL Museum" in gold lettering with crossed rifles.		
_____	SMA-VWIL Video	\$50.00	\$ _____
_____	T-Shirt with shield	\$15.00	\$ _____
	Sizes M to XXL		
_____	Sweatshirt (blue with gold hat shield)		
	M to XXL	\$25.00	\$ _____
	XXXL	\$30.00	\$ _____
_____	Golf Shirts	\$30.00	\$ _____

Blue with maze color and sleeve trim with "Staunton Military Academy" in gold lettering now in stock. Optional lettering of "SMA/VWIL Museum" is not a stock item and will be filled upon request.

_____	Old Boys buckle (silver)	\$20.00	\$ _____
_____	Leather Belt	\$15.00	\$ _____
	Sizes 28, 32, 36 and 38 available		
_____	Car Window Decal	\$ 3.50	\$ _____
	"SMA Alumni"		
_____	Postcards	\$ 2.00	\$ _____
_____	SMA Shoulder Patches	\$ 2.00	\$ _____
_____	Coffee Mugs	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
_____	Rank Insignia	\$ 1.00	\$ _____
	S/Sgt. and PFC available		
_____	Blue Boo (reprint)	\$10.00	\$ _____
_____	Artist Sketch	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
	(Asphalt with South and North Barracks, Mess Hall)		
_____	Artist Sketch	\$ 5.00	\$ _____

Two available (check your choices): [1] a 17" x 7¼" sketch of p South Barracks p Administration Building p Mess Hall p Kable Hall p North Barracks or [2] a 14" x 9" sketch of the p Asphalt p Memorial Hall p Kable Hall p North Barracks.

_____	License Plate Holders	\$10.00	\$ _____
	Black metal with "Staunton Military Academy" in white lettering.		

Shipping charges must be added:

\$ 0.00 to \$30.00	\$ 5.95	\$ _____
\$31.00 to \$70.00	\$ 6.75	\$ _____
\$71.00 and above	\$ 7.95	\$ _____

**Please print!**

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



The SMA Alumni Association regrets to announce the passing of these alumni. SMAAA extends our sincere condolences.

### **BERNARD J. BAUMILLER, III, SMA '69**

Bernard J. Baumiller, III, SMA '69, died March 28, 2004 in Baltimore, Maryland. According to his sister, Helen L. Baumiller, "Bernie had been chronically ill for years secondary to paraplegia and had recently been in the hospital." Mr. Baumiller died in hospice care.

"Bernie truly loved his time in Staunton," his sister said, noting that his SMA sword would be displayed during his funeral.

Expressions of condolence may be sent to Helen L. Baumiller, 215 Ridge Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21286.

### **JOHN R. "JACK" LEWIS, SMA '46**

John R. "Jack" Lewis, SMA '46, a legendary criminal defense lawyer in Nassau County, Long Island, New York in the 1970's and 1980's, died May 8, 2004. He was 76.

Mr. Lewis, known for his masterful cross-examination of witnesses, defended some of the most notorious criminal defendants in Nassau County history, according to an article by Robin Topping in the Long Island newspaper that carried his obituary.

"He was one of the true icons in criminal law at the time", said Nassau County Court Judge Daniel Cotter, who was Lewis' adversary on a case when he (Cotter) was an assistant district attorney.

Mr. Lewis' son, John R. Lewis, Jr., an attorney himself, recalled that his father had been stabbed by one of his clients during a visit with the mentally disturbed man at the Nassau County jail.

"Here, he had been stabbed in the neck, but when the detectives arrived at the jail, his first words to them were that they were not to interview his client....he was a tough guy," his son said.

According to the newspaper article, Mr. Lewis "had an easy way with jurors, who would routinely come up to him after a trial for his business card. During jury selection, he would call newly empaneled jurors by their first names, which he had memorized, so he could strike up a quick rapport."

Mr. Lewis was born in Brooklyn, New York. Following graduation from SMA, he attended State University of New York at Albany and subsequently graduated from the Brooklyn Law School. He served as a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve and was called up briefly to serve in the Judge Advocate Generals office at Fort Benning.

According to Nassau County Court Judge Donald Belfi, a close friend to Mr. Lewis for 40 years, "He was an excellent trial lawyer...he was aggressive and he had a way with jurors...and he was very well prepared when he tried a case."

"He was also a good friend," Judge Belfi added, "...the kind of guy you would want next to you in a foxhole."

Mr. Lewis is survived by his wife, Sally, a daughter, a sister and two grandchildren.

Nominations for Memorial Wall plaques are being accepted for the April 1, 2005 installation ceremony. Use the form below (and extra sheets if needed) to place an individual in nomination. The policy and rules governing nomination and plaques are included in the Memorial Wall Plaque Policy, available at [www.sma-alumni.org](http://www.sma-alumni.org) or my mail from the SMA Alumni Office. Nominations must be received at the SMA Alumni Office not later than November 1, 2004 to be considered.

## **MEMORIAL WALL PLAQUE NOMINATION**

NAME OF NOMINEE:

GRADUATION YEAR OR FACULTY POSITION:

REASONS WHY THIS PERSON IS BEING NOMINATED

PERSON SUBMITTING NOMINATION (PLEASE PRINT)

SIGNATURE

DATE

## JAMES A. VELLANO, SMA '68

James A. Vellano, 55, of Latham, New York died May 29, 2004 at Albany Medical Center Hospital after a long illness. Mr. Vellano was a 1968 graduate of Staunton Military Academy in Virginia and had attended the Junior College of Albany.

Mr. Vellano served in the Army Reserves from 1969 to 1975 and subsequently was an owner and officer of Vellano Bros. Inc., A.J. Vel. Ltd., Anjo Construction Ltd., Vellano Beacon Land Development, Shaker Development and several other entities.

A golf enthusiast, Mr. Vellano was past president of Shaker Ridge Country Club and a member of its board of directors. He was past president of Northeast Subcontractor's Association (NESCA) and served on the board of directors of the Water and Sewer Distributors of America (WASDA).

He is survived by his fiancée, Cynthia A. Applebaum and her children, Zachary and Jordyn. Memorial contributions may be made to the Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center, 47 New Scotland Ave., Albany, NY 12208 in memory of James A. Vellano.

## C. FRED HACHMEISTER, JR., SMA '51

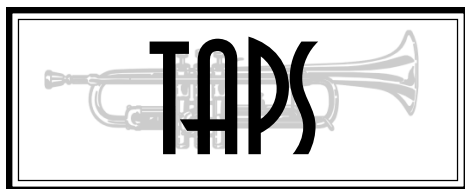
C. Fred Hachmeister Jr., SMA '51, of Bridgeville, Pennsylvania, a history buff and the former owner of The Flag Factory, died May 9, 2004 from complications of a heart attack.

Mr. Hachmeister's small store in Castle Shannon was always packed with flags and banners of every size and description. The biggest flag ever produced by The Flag Factory was 30 feet by 60 feet and hung at the Johnstown Flood Memorial.

Among the most memorable banners produced was a relatively small one, about 3 feet by 5 feet, that hung near the entrance to the office door, beside a photograph. It had a teal background with simple black-and-white lettering and shapes.

It had been carried by Pam Flowers, who in 1991 tried to become the first woman to make a solo journey to the North Pole. She intended to leave the banner there, but had to turn back within 24 miles of her destination because of a storm.

Mr. Hachmeister grew up in Point Breeze, attended SMA and went on to graduate in 1955 from Lafayette



The SMA Alumni Association regrets to announce the passing of these alumni. SMAAA and its members extend their sincere condolences.

College with a degree in psychology.

He served as an Army officer in South Korea. Upon completing his military service, Mr. Hachmeister returned to Pittsburgh and went to work for Callery Chemical Co. and Hachmeister Inc., before starting Adhesion Engineering Corp., a small company in Bridgeville.

In 1985, Mr. Hachmeister opened The Flag Factory, a company he owned until last year.

"He found the perfect combination of interest in flags and history," said Mr. Hachmeister's son, Hugh.

"He was always happy at his business and he didn't mind sharing his happiness. Whenever kids would come into the store, he would present them with a small American flag."

Mr. Hachmeister also was a founding director of the National Independent Flag Dealers Association.

"He had a passion for flags," said Mr. Hachmeister's wife, Lynne Johnson. In addition to his wife and son, Mr. Hachmeister is survived by a daughter, Gretchen Hachmeister Orzano, of Sharon, Connecticut; stepchildren Scott Flinn and Kellie Wild; and seven grandchildren.

*Editor's Note: This obituary is a condensed version of the article published May 11, 2004 by Nate Guidry of the Pittsburgh (PA) Post-Gazette.*

## COLONEL ROBERT E. LEE, SMA '60

Colonel Robert E. Lee, SMA '60, died in December 2002. Following his years at SMA, Colonel Lee attended Washington and Lee University. He was a veteran of Vietnam.

## JOSEPH L. MCGRAEL, SMA '32

Joseph L. McGrael, SMA '32, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, died in February 1992. Following graduation, Mr. McGrael embarked on a career in sales, subsequently establishing his own soap and detergent manufacturing and distribution business.

"I know he was proud of his years

at Staunton and valued the experiences — the education he received and the friendships he made there", Michael L. McGrael said in writing to the SMA Alumni Association.

## LAWRENCE WONDER, SMA '58

Lawrence Wonder, SMA '58, of Copley, Ohio, died in 2003. No further information was available.

## LOGAN LAWRENCE, SMA '30

Logan Lawrence, SMA '30, died in April 2003. No further information on his death was available.

## CAPTAIN GEORGE F. DALTON, SMA '34

George F. Dalton, 87, SMA '34, of Rosemont, Pennsylvania, a retired U.S. Navy captain and water conservationalist, died of complications from Alzheimer's disease at Bryn Mawr Terrace in March 2004.

Captain Dalton was raised in Overbrook. Following graduation from SMA he and his older brother, Jack, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1938.

During World War II, Captain Dalton served in the North Atlantic on sea patrols and later commanded the destroyer USS Gridley during the invasion of the Philippines. His brother, a Navy flier, died in combat.

Captain Dalton's daughter Frances said her father spent most of his 28-year Navy career in antisubmarine warfare service and commanded ships in the Arctic, Atlantic and Mediterranean.

After retiring in 1966, he worked in the oceanic division of General Electric in Philadelphia. In the early 1970's he was executive director of the Institute for Development of Riverine and Estuarine Systems, a consortium of scientific and educational institutions concerned with improving water quality. He was past chairman of the Delaware Valley chapter of the Marine Technology Society.

According to his daughter, Captain Dalton "liked debating politics with his children and tried to undo the 'damage' from their liberal college professors."

Captain Dalton is survived by his wife of 60 years, Miriam Brown Dalton; a son, John 2nd; another daughter, Harriet Mueller; and five grandchildren.

*Editor's Note: This obituary was provided by Joseph Koch, SMA '53.*

— TAPS continues on page 22 —

# PASS IN REVIEW

## DEATH COMES TO CAPTAIN W. H. KABLE

Died Late Friday Afternoon After Brief Illness. His Death a Bereavement to Entire Community. Was Principal of Staunton Military Academy, President Board of Aldermen, Soldier, Scholar and Educator. Funeral Sunday.

Death came suddenly to Captain William Hartman Kable, principal of the Staunton Military Academy and one of the most widely known and esteemed of the older generation of this community, late Friday afternoon at his home adjoining the academy. Very few were aware that Captain Kable was ill, and the sudden news of his death came as a shock and a bereavement to all Staunton. The cause of his death was acute indigestion, the first attack of which he suffered on rising Friday morning. He was forced to return to his bed, and although all morning he suffered greatly, his family was not alarmed, but he passed away very suddenly at about 5:30 o'clock.

Captain Kable was admired and respected by all who knew him, and by his friends he was beloved as a man of high principles and ideals. When Staunton became a first class city, he was elected to the Board of Aldermen, and since then has served the city faithfully and to the best of his ability. On H. L. Lang's resignation a short time ago, Captain Kable was elected president of the board, and attended to his duties as such the night before his death. Captain Kable was a man of brains and of ability, a soldier, scholar and educator. His death is not only a loss to his school, his relatives and friends, but to the entire city.

Born Sept. 25, 1837, in Kabletown, Jefferson County, Virginia, now West Virginia, Captain Kable was the youngest son of John and Mary Kable of that place. At the age of 17, he be-

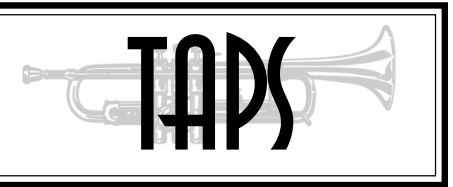
gan to teach, but entered the University of Virginia in 1857. His course there was interrupted by the Civil War, but he returned and received his degrees in 1866. His war record was a long and honorable one, as he served with distinction in the Confederate army. Enlisting as a private in June, 1961, Co. F, 10th Va., Cavalry, he was elected the next year to a second lieutenantcy in the same command. He was present at the capture of Harper's Ferry by Jackson, fought at Antietam, Sharpsburg and Fredericksburg, and in the Rapidan campaign. At Hanover, Pa., in the Gettysburg campaign, he was wounded, receiving three sabre cuts, and had his horse killed under him the same day. He had been appointed a staff officer with the rank of captain just prior to this campaign, during the fighting about Richmond. Captain Kable was present at Gettysburg, and fought from the Wilderness to Richmond. He helped defend that city during the siege, and was transferred to the staff of Gen. W. H. F. Lee, fighting with him at Five Forks and until the surrender at Appomattox, where he was paroled.

After his graduation from the University of Virginia, Captain Kable was president of the Jefferson County Court, serving for several terms. Records show that he never had a case reversed by a higher court during his entire term of office. He soon returned to teaching, and was given charge of the Charles Town Academy, founded by Lord Fairfax, succeeding to this position Hon. William L. Wilson, author of the famous Wilson Tariff Bill. In 1884, he moved his school to Staunton, when it became known as the Staunton Male Academy, changed about 1886 to the Staunton Military Academy. From a small beginning, it has become one of the largest private schools in the country.

In 1871, Captain Kable married Miss Willis Loffan Gibbs of Lynchburg, who died in 1888. All of his children were by this union

### Editor's Note:

The obituary published in "Pass In Review" at left was re-created in its original format from a copy of the newspaper article provided by Page "Lolo" Kable Bonfoey following the April 3, 2004 wreath-laying ceremony at Thornrose Cemetery in Staunton. We believe it is altogether fitting that Captain Kable, founder of Staunton Military Academy, be one of many to be highlighted in the "Pass In Review" series of articles.



### JAMES W. B. THOMAS, SMA '43 PG '44

James Webster Blaine Thomas, SMA '43, PG '44, died May 10, 2003 in Midlothian, Virginia. When he entered Staunton Military Academy in 1938 and until his graduation in 1943, he was known as Webster Blaine Jones. Following graduation and prior to his post-graduate year in 1944, he was adopted by his grandparents and took the Thomas name. After leaving SMA in 1944, he entered the U.S. Army and rose to the rank of First Lieutenant while stationed in Hawaii.

Following his service, Mr. Thomas attended and graduation from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida in 1950. He was employed for 40 years with the Kemper Insurance Company, retiring in 1991 as Resident Secretary and Regional Manager in Richmond, Virginia. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Bernice Noffsinger Thomas; two daughters, Kimberlee and Tracy; and three grandchildren.

"Throughout his life, Mr. Thomas kept in touch with some of his SMA classmates, most notably James A. Kindregan, SMA '44", according to a family spokesperson, adding that "they were lifelong friends and stood as best men at each others weddings in 1951." Mr. Thomas and Mr. Kindregan exchanged SMA Christmas cards each year, using the card with the Kindregan rendering of South Barracks.

— TAPS continues on page 21 —

# Staunton Military Academy Alumni Association, Incorporated

P. O. Box 958, Woodrum Station, Staunton, Virginia 24402-0958

Telephone: (540) 885-1309 • Fax: (540) 885-1366

E-mail: SMAOffice@sma-alumni.org • Website: <http://www.sma-alumni.org>



## SMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP DUES

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Dues (\$50.00) will be credited for fiscal year September 1, 2003 - August 31, 2004).
- Dues are not tax deductible. Please make checks payable to: SMA Alumni Association.
- Funds are used to maintain the office, publish newsletters, and help support the annual Reunion.

## SMA FOUNDATION, INC. ANNUAL FUND

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Contributions are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to SMA Foundation, Inc./Annual Fund
- Donations are used for the SMA museum and scholarships, and related expenses.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



Complete this form, include your check(s) and mail to SMAAA. Your support and involvement are critical to the continued success of the association and the activities and programs that have been developed and implemented in the memory of Staunton Military Academy, the Corps of Cadets and staff.



## SMA Alumni Association

P. O. Box 958

Staunton, Virginia 24402-0958

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