



The VMI Alumni Association, Inc.
Board of Directors
Spring Meeting
April 5, 2014

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Robert A. Heely '69, President of the VMI Alumni Association, Inc. welcomed members and guests of the Board to the Spring Meeting of the VMI Alumni Association Board of Directors. Mr. Heely made a few brief comments.

Mr. Heely requested that the roll be called and a quorum was present (see Appendix I and II).

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the minutes of the 2014 Winter Meeting of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and carried unanimously.

Report from General J. H. Binford Peay III '62, Superintendent

General Peay briefly reviewed a “Look Back” at main events which have occurred at VMI since the 2014 Winter Board of Directors meeting. He reported that the 24-25 February Honor Summit and Leadership Conference was well done and included sessions involving the entire Corps. The Virginia State Science and Engineer Fair in March was a great event that we host for the Commonwealth and is an excellent STEM recruiting opportunity for VMI. The Field Training Exercises are being conducted today with the ROTCs visiting Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine bases for training opportunities along with the non-commissioning second and first classman performing various community service projects in the local area.

General Peay updated the members on construction and non-capital projects. These included a host of improvements and maintenance for Barracks, a number of academic and support buildings, and training areas on Post.

There was a lot of discussion leading up to the schools breaking away from the NCAA as many members felt the organization catered strictly to the larger schools and conferences. He stated that the NCAA leadership made a significant effort at the convention to be inclusive and the movement to separate died down as a result. However, as of today, there is a trend for legislative autonomy for the Top 5 conferences. One of the issues the Conference is looking at is stipends. Other specific areas being studied are health and nutrition, closer coordination with the professional leagues, funding for families to attend bowl and playoff games, and a year round developmental model for athletes that would be a five year model.

On the rightsizing study of degrees granted and faculty positions, this initiative began in April of 2011. In May of 2012, approximately 32% of the Corps was enrolled in either International Studies or Economics and Business, with greater than 50% enrolled in those two majors along with History and Mechanical Engineering. The top 7 majors had 83% of the Corps enrolled. Two years later, there has been some downward adjustment in the percentages. This is an area that will take more time in order to work a better balance among majors. To get there, actions are being undertaken in admissions and enrollment. Since 2012, choice of majors has been a point of emphasis in the admissions process and “gateway” course criteria have been established in some majors—for instance if a cadet did not earn a C or better in a particular seminal course or courses, they would not go forward in that major. In the future, more major-specific admissions criteria are being established with even more emphasis placed on the desired major of the applicant. Presently, they are also investigating options for limiting enrollment. There is considerable interaction between the faculty and the applicants at Open Houses and other recruiting venues.

Mr. Adam C. Volant '88, EVP and Chief Operating Officer of The VMI Alumni Association

Mr. Volant reported on several events since our last meeting. On 26 March an Old Corps Luncheon was held with 110 attendees. Colonel Keith Gibson served as the key speaker. Other activities include Class Reunions of 1964, 1974, 1984, and 1994, there were nearly 400 alumni and a total of nearly 900 attendees. The Class of 1949C had a return rate of 46%. On 8 May, a well-attended Richmond event was held with guest speaker the Honorable Clarence Thomas at the Richmond Club.

He addressed upcoming retirements for Ms. Hope Hennessey, Managing Editor of the Alumni Review is retiring this summer after 15 years and Ms. Carole Green, Vice President for Alumni Activities and Director of Moody Hall at the end of this year.

Report from Mr. Brian S. Crockett, Chief Executive Officer, The VMI Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Crockett reported several board and staff changes. Mr. Walt Jeffress' tenure as president is expiring this summer and will be proceeded by Mr. Hugh Fain '80 with Bryan Barton '68 serving as Vice President for Fundraising and Steve Hupp '84 as Vice President for Administration. The staff changes include Ms. Frances Arehart being proceeded by Amy Reid and Colonel Red Taylor, USA (Ret.) will be proceeded by Jackie Bellaire, both will be retiring from the Foundation this summer.

Mr. Crockett reported that the Class of 1964 finished their 50th Reunion fundraising campaign with \$8.4M in donations. On the Campaign front, General Jumper and Mr. Slater have identified five corporations to visit along with General Peay to solicit their support. Mr. Walt Perrin will work with parents of current cadets and graduated cadets. Mr. Jimmy Rogers is making lots of telephone contacts with potential donors. Things remain very active on the Campaign with a public announcement anticipated in the next few months. The endowment is currently at \$350M with \$90M unrestricted.

Report from Mr. Gregory M. Cavallaro '84, Chief Executive Officer, VMI Keydet Club, Inc.

Mr. Cavallaro reported that Mr. Paulette will continue to enjoy his duties as President of the Keydet Club. They raised \$5.1M last year and believes they can exceed that amount this year. Next week

they expect to receive a cash gift of \$1M; the first cash gift of that size in history. It is hoped that will motivate others. He reported that the Keydet Club was able to absorb the costs of VMI's participation in the CIT basketball tournament. Over 450 donors answered the call and provided \$150K.

He also stated that Bucknell will be the start of the football season with VMI playing Annapolis on 11 October away and the Citadel on 26 November.

Reading of resolutions for members of the VMI Alumni Association Board of Director by Mr. Robert A. Heely '69, President

Resolutions were presented to:

Mr. Kenneth C. Herbert '81
Mr. Robert D. Clingenpeel, Jr. '69
Mr. Sean P. Boyle '91

A flag flown over Afghanistan was presented as a gift from Mr. Boyle.

Report from Mr. Charles L. Ramsburg '66, Chapter Task Force

Mr. Ramsburg reported that the Task Force is made up of 4 members which are regional directors. He stated several upcoming events were Rat Send Offs and everyone including widows and parent in chapter were invited. Also mentioned was Mr. John S. Powell '60 and his new novel "New Market."

Report from Mr. Samuel N. Stocks '90, Nominating Committee Chairman

Mr. Stocks announced the 2014-2015 slate of Regional Directors and Directors At Large for the Alumni Association Board as follows:

Directors at Large

Anthony U. Moore '78
E. Sean Lanier '94

Regional Directors

Region I – Far West	Matthew R. Hemenez '90
Region II – Midwest	Mr. James F. Dittrich '76 (Reappointment)
Region IV – Mid Atlantic	Mr. Peter R. Charrington '66 (Reappointment)
Region V – Southeast	C. Patrick Haddock '00 (Reappointment)
Region VI – Carolinas	Charles Ramsburg (Reappointment)
Region XI – Metro D.C.	Douglas B. Warner '03
Region XIII – Rappahannock	Mr. Richard A. Duke '90(Reappointment)

Mr. Stocks then presented the slate of officers for 2014 - 2015 as follows:

Officers

Edgar J. T. Perrow Jr. '96	President
Robert P. Louthan '82	First Vice-President
Asa H. Page III '79	Second Vice-President
Colonel Tom Davis '64	Historian
Adam C. Volant '88	Executive Vice-President

A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the slate as amended and carried unanimously.

Mr. Heely entertained a motion to adjourn as members of the Alumni Association and reconvene as members of the Board of Directors and was carried unanimously.

Report from Captain Asa H. Page III '79, Chairman of the Finance Committee

Captain Page reported that income bottom line was flat line 2% increase in wages due to movement of employees. A copy of the budget was reviewed and a motion was made and duly seconded to approve the budget as stated.

Report from Dr. Bland Massie, Chairman of the House Committee

Dr. Massie reported that the outside of Moody Hall is VMI's responsibility and the inside is the Alumni Association's responsibility. The money is here but will not see all of it until next year. An alumnus from the Class of 1964 has given money to replace furniture in the rooms - \$2,000 per year. As camera will be installed in the Hallway for security and locks of individual rooms.

Report from Mr. Eric J. Hunter '08 , Young Alumni Committee

Mr. Hunter reported that on upcoming events such as 13 May, will be the First Class reception. They will receive a diploma frame as a gift. A Young Alumni 5k is scheduled for 22 September for the Second Annual Reunion Weekend.

Report from Mr. Kenneth Herbert III '81, Career Networking Committee

Mr. Herbert reported that in March 2015, a Career Networking Breakfast is scheduled to include the PRC, Richmond, and Hampton Roads chapters. Other Networking events scheduled are the Maryland Dinner on 22 May, California event in October, and Visual Networking in the May and June timeframe.

Report from Mr. Robert Clingenpeel '69, New Cadet Recruiting Committee

Mr. Clingenpeel reported that admission applications are up 7% from last years and the female class size is up from 186 from last year to 246 this year. Test scores are up along with GPAs.

Many from 5 years ago would have been on a waiting list. E. Sean Lanier '94 had a Diversity Conference in Springfield with 40 alumni and 23 guests – total of 130 with great feedback.

Report from Mr. Richard A. Duke '90, Communications Committee

Mr. Duke reported that the Social Media Group meets weekly and referred to the VMIAA Facebook Aggregate. It was suggested that the *Review* run a half-page add each year to remind people to update their information.

Report from Lieutenant Colonel L. Randolph Williams, Jr. '66, Senior Alumni

Mr. Williamson reported that the Old Corps events are doing fantastic and they've had seven chapter events. It was suggested that the Regional Directors coordinate a meeting every quarter.

Report from Mr. Lane Toomey '74, Liaison to the BOV Military Affairs Committee

Not present.

Report from Dr. Reed Johnson '53, Liaison to the BOV Academic Affairs Committee

See written report (Appendix IV)

Report from Colonel Thomas W. Davis '64, Historian of the Alumni Association

See written report (Appendix V)

There being no further business, the fall meeting of the Alumni Association Board of Directors will be held on September 13, 2014. The spring meeting of the Alumni Association Board of Directors was adjourned at 1100 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Adam C. Volant".

Adam C. Volant '88