



MANY ALUMNI EVENTS CANCELLED AS THE PANDEMIC LINGERS



As the Coronavirus pandemic persists across the United States, the impact that this virus has had on life in America has been immeasurable. Aside from the health issues that the pandemic has inflicted on over 3 million people in the country, this outbreak has caused the disruption of life for many people in the U.S., including many who became unemployed as a result of businesses and organizations having to curtail their operations in order to meet the government imposed restrictions.

The PMAAA was not exempt from the consequences of the pandemic. This crisis has forced the Association to cancel/postpone several annual events. To date the following annual events had to be cancelled: The Mass of Remembrance, the St. Patrick's Day Parade, the Post Parade Party and the PMAAA Mixer. Since many of these events include fundraising opportunities for the PMAAA Scholarship Fund, donations have been negatively impacted for 2020. (Please see Fund Raising Alternatives below)

The Annual Hall of Fame Induction Dinner that was originally slated for November 7th, 2020 has also been postponed. The event is now tentatively rescheduled to March 6th, 2021. The Mass of Remembrance will be celebrated on the same day and both events will be held at the Immaculate Conception Center located in Douglaston, New York. Due to the uncertainties of the weather in early March, the Board decided to hold a day event instead of an evening event. The Mass will start at 11 AM in the chapel at the Immaculate Conception Center. The Hall of Fame event will occur immediately following the Mass in the main reception hall located across from the chapel. The PMAAA Board will update the alumni of any changes as the date for this event approaches.

FUND RAISING ALTERNATIVES

Since most of the 2020 PMAAA events had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a significant decrease in fundraising revenues benefiting the PMAAA Scholarship Fund. There are several alternatives that the alumni may utilize to contribute to the fund, including the following:

- Send contribution by mail, by sending a check to the following address:
Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association, Inc.
Cherokee Station
P.O. Box 20493
New York, NY 10021-0068
- An alum can click on the following link: [Donate to PMAAA](#) and donate utilizing PayPal from the PMAAA website.

The following are other methods that an alum can help the Association's Scholarship Fund.

If you and/or family shop utilizing Amazon, an alumnus can shop utilizing an **AmazonSmile** account. Amazon will donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases that are made on Amazon. There is no cost to the customer and you still enjoy the same price that you would receive on your current Amazon account. To set up an **AmazonSmile** account, simply follow the instructions below:

1. Copy and bookmark the following link:
https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/dashboard/ref=smi_se_ssr_bttr1_setch?ie=UTF8&pldnNewSubDash=1
2. On the registration page, there is a box/section to search for your charity. We are listed as **Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association Inc.** Once you make PMAAA your charity, you fill out some other minor info, then you are set.

Lastly, Facebook has a program that allows FB users to raise funds for their favorite charity. FB users can sign on to the FB Birthday Fundraiser Program and select Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association as the charity to donate to. Facebook provides all the information you need to establish a fundraiser by clicking on the link below:

https://www.facebook.com/fundraisers?birthday&source=search_shortcut



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

POWER ALUM, RALPH WETTERHAHN- PMA '59, AUTHORS ANOTHER BOOK



Ralph Wetterhahn

Ralph F. Wetterhahn - PMA '59 has authored another book entitled *The Early Air War in the Pacific*. The book was published through McFarland and Company.

In an email to PMAAA president, Chick Pisani, Mr. Wetterhahn provided the following glimpse into the book:

“During the first ten months of the war at sea, Japan achieved air supremacy with its carrier and land-based forces. But after major setbacks at Midway and Guadalcanal, the empire’s expansion stalled, in part due to flaws in aircraft design, strategy and command. The book offers a fresh analysis of the air war both from a combat pilot’s point of view and from a fully researched historical objective. Details include two personal expeditions that revealed the location of an American pilot missing in the Philippines since 1942. A third expedition to Guadalcanal cleared up a controversial account involving famed Japanese ace Saburo Sakai and U.S. Navy pilot James

“Pug” Southerland, in which both men triumphed over one of the most storied survival experiences of the war.”

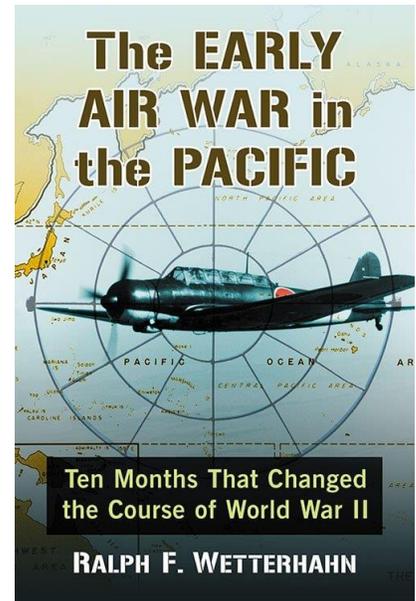
Ralph attended the Air Force Academy after graduating from Power in 1959. Completing his studies at the Air Force Academy in 1963, he subsequently served three tours during the Vietnam War. He piloted fighters in both the U.S. Air Force and Navy. Ralph flew 180 combat missions in the F-4 Phantom and A-7 Corsair, made 144 carrier landings, and later logged 1,000 hours in the F-15 Eagle.

In addition to his latest publication, Ralph authored three other books, including:

- *The Last Battle*
- *The Last Flight of Bomber-31*
- *Shadowmakers*

Ralph was inducted in the PMA Hall of Fame in 2014. He now travels the globe as an aviation archaeologist in search of missing aircraft/crews and the stories they reveal. He lives in Long Beach, California and writes for *Air & Space/Smithsonian*.

Ralph’s new book may be purchased through most book sellers or by clicking on the following link: <https://mcfarlandbooks.com/product/the-early-air-war-in-the-pacific/>



SPECIAL EVENTS

Unfortunately, the Nassau Pops and Symphony Orchestra Summer Concert Series conducted by PMA alum, Lou Panacciulli, was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. The NPSO issued the following statement on their website: “Due to our concerns for social distancing, both at rehearsals and performances, the Board of Directors of The Nassau Pops Symphony Orchestra has decided to cancel our summer concert series for 2020. We are sincerely disappointed that we are not able to bring our music to the parks of Long Island this year and very appreciative of the support you have shown us in the past. New information will be posted on this website and on our Facebook page and we anxiously look forward to seeing you again soon.”



PMAAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The PMAAA Board of Directors met on the following dates: April 18, 2020, May 16, 2020 and June 27, 2020. Due to concerns associated with the COVID-19 pandemic all meetings were conducted via teleconferencing.

Apart from the regular meeting that was conducted on May 16th, the Annual PMAAA Board of Directors Meeting was convened. In accordance with the organization’s bylaws, the purpose of the Annual Meeting is to hold elections of Board members. Since Board members terms are two years and half of the members terms alternate each year, the following Board members term expired as of May 2020:

- Andrew Pisani, President
- Michael Kelly, Vice President
- Kevin Bollbach, Treasurer
- Sean Crowley
- Joseph DeFazio
- Kevin McGearry
- John Torres

After a vote by the full Board, all members shown above were re-appointed for another two-year term since there were no new candidate submissions.

At the June 27th PMAAA Board of Directors meeting, Stephen Lazarus was elected to the PMAAA Board of Directors. (see article on Page 4)

Also, at the same meeting, the Board passed a motion to issue the following statement on the PMAAA website relative to the unrest that was experienced after the tragic death of George Floyd:

Race Relations in America

Power Memorial Academy brought all under one roof to follow the essential elements of an Edmund Rice education. As Alumni, we "are called to be in solidarity with those marginalized by poverty and injustice." Blessed Edmund also called upon us "to value and respect the dignity of each individual." These elements are the core of our being.

This statement follows the [Archdiocese of NY](#) and [Christian Brothers'](#) letters on race relations in America.

The death of George Floyd has shocked the national consciousness and rekindled the quest to end racism everywhere. As Powermen, we are actively listening, encouraging conversation and seeking growth. We are called to bring awareness on race, social injustice, not to be silent and recognize that our Black and Brown brothers and sisters continue to endure discrimination, pain and death due to inequities in our society. We support reforms to ensure an equal, fairer, and just application of our laws.

Minutes of the latest meetings are posted on the PMAAA website: www.PowerMemorialAcademy.com

REPLACEMENT PMA CLASS RINGS NOW AVAILABLE!

For those alumni who have either lost or had their class rings stolen, replacement rings are now available. Thanks to the hard work of Edward Finn – PMA '75, class rings may now be purchased through the original ring manufacturer, Jostens. Jostens was able to locate the original dye for the Power Memorial class rings. According to Mr. Finn, the cost for the ring is \$700.00 for the ten-karat ring and \$1,100.00 for the fourteen-karat ring. Mr. Finn cautions that the prices may fluctuate due to the uncertainties of the cost of gold. The ring is available with the original purple stone (amethyst) or a lighter purple stone. You may also have your name engraved on the inside of the ring.



Alumni who are interested in purchasing a replacement class ring are requested to contact Karen or Mike Isley at Jostens’ Hauppauge location at (631) 406-7262.

Thanks again to Ed Finn for his determination in tracking this down!



POWERFUL THOUGHTS 8

by Dr. John R. Cleary, PMA '57

Power administrators were very reluctant to have us students wander outside the building during school hours. We were essentially sandwiched between two public schools, Commerce High School several blocks to the north and Haaren High several blocks to the south.

Apparently, the brothers wanted to eschew any potential, real or imagined, confrontations. That is also why we were dismissed early, around 1:30 P.M., before those horrible *public school hooligans* were let out.

Jim and I would usually brown-bag-it for lunch: a peanut butter and jam sandwich with fruit or some sugary snack, maybe even potato chips. We could get a beverage in the school cafeteria which did serve lunch. UGH!

Then someone discovered a sub shop across the street one block south. So Jim and I, along with others, dashed out at lunch time when we had some spare change. I typically bought a ham and provolone cheese on Italian bread with lettuce and mustard -- and a Pepsi.

When the brothers saw what we were up to, they had to make a decision that would satisfy all our needs, security vs. subs.

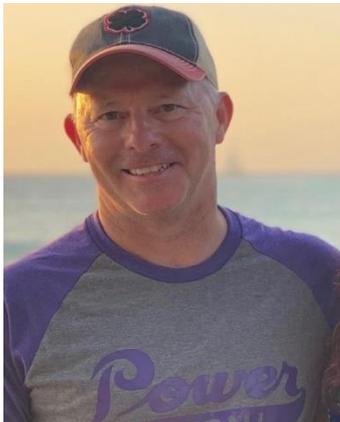
The remedy was painless. They invited the sub shop owners to set up a sub-station inside the building, keeping the students corralled and the brothers content.

Ah, the art of devising a satisfying security/sandwich solution!

Note: Dr. Cleary has volunteered to author a series of articles reflecting on his experiences at PMA. Alumni are encouraged to submit articles and share their experiences at Power Memorial Academy. Send your articles to: brian.mccann@powermemorialacademy.com

STEPHEN LAZARUS ELECTED TO PMAAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stephen Lazarus is the newest member of the PMAAA Board of Directors. His nomination was ratified at the June 27th Board meeting. Steve attended Power from 1975 to 1979. While at PMA he was a member varsity (B) basketball team and the track team. After graduating from Power, Steve attended Pace University earning a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) majoring in accounting. He has extensive financial experience working for high profile financial institutions such as Deutsche Bank and Credit Suisse. Currently, Steve is a managing director for Marathon Asset Management.



Steve Lazarus

Steve also has given back to the community by volunteering for the *R Baby Foundation* and *New York Cares* where he serves on the Board of Governors and Board of Directors respectively.

Mr. Lazarus' nomination was submitted by Board member Sean Crowley. The nominating committee, consisting of Jack Harren – PMA '65 and Joseph DeFazio – PMA '71, vetted Mr. Lazarus' qualifications prior to submitting the nomination to a full Board vote.

With Mr. Lazarus' election to the Board, all open positions have now been filled.



FINAL DISMISSAL

The following Alumni and Faculty have gone to their final dismissal.

- ✚ Jack O'Reilly – Class of 1960
- ✚ William (Ray) Heitzmann – Class of 1960
- ✚ Robert H. Ten Broeck* – Class of 1950

*According to his daughter, Mr. Ten Broeck was a part of the 1948 St. Patrick's Day shooting incident which student Thomas Brady was fatally shot outside of the school while practicing for the parade. Although Mr. Ten Broeck was largely left out of the written accounts of the tragedy, the gunman, Marko Markovich, put a gun directly to his chest and it misfired leaving him uninjured.

+ *May they rest in peace* +

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The association requests your assistance in keeping track of our Alumni. Should you know of any alumni who have recently passed, please notify Kevin McGeary at: Kevin.mcgeary@powermemorialacademy.com or Joseph DeFazio at: Joseph.DeFazio@powermemorialacademy.com. Kindly provide the name of the deceased alumnus and the class year. All alumni who have passed will be acknowledged at the next Mass of Remembrance which is scheduled for March 6th, 2021.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

My Dear Power Alumni,

I trust everyone is making the best of the summer despite the COVID 19 restrictions. Since March, we have endured tremendous deviations in our lifestyle. No one knows for sure, but to stay as safe as you can, please wear a mask and frequently wash your hands. And most of all, use common sense. But I do not have to tell you about common sense; it was instilled in us at Power, along with integrity, responsibility and honor.

Unfortunately, the COVID 19 crisis has put a damper on PMAAA activities. The Board is still discussing alternatives for our events. However, since these events are typically well attended, we are exploring all options to stay within the directives, and to keep everyone safe. To keep everyone informed and up to date, we post the minutes to the Board meetings on the PMAAA website. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, you can contact the Board members through the website.

We have a new member elected onto the PMAAA. Steve Lazarus, Class of 1979, has joined the Board. Steve comes to us as a true Powerman and was very devoted to Br. Michael Sheridan. He has been very supportive over the years and has assisted me on several occasions. I look forward to working with him. Welcome aboard Steve!

I would like to take this opportunity to shout out a big "Thank You" to Eddie Finn '75. He called me several months ago inquiring about Power rings and how to get a replacement. I gave Eddie whatever information I had when he said he would do the research. We spoke several times since, where he kept me apprised of his progress. As you can see in newsletter and in our Facebook account, Eddie struck paydirt at Jostens. I'm sure he is going to photograph the ring and post the pictures on FB. Way to go, Eddie!! You did a tremendous service for us all. Thank you, again!!

Pro Christo Rege
Andrew "Chick" Pisani
President, PMAAA



MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

The 2020 PMAAA Hall of Fame and Reunion Dinner that was re-scheduled for March 6th, 2021, will mark the milestone anniversaries for the following classes:

- Class of 1950 – 70 Years
- Class of 1960 – 60 Years
- Class of 1970 – 50 Years
- Class of 1980 – 40 Years

Celebrating these anniversaries at the next HOF Event held at the Immaculate Conception Center located in Douglaston, NY is a perfect setting for the occasion. In recent years, both the Class of '66 and the Class of '68 successfully held their 50th Anniversary reunion as part of the annual HOF dinner at the Immaculate Conception Center.

All alumni of the classes that have upcoming milestone anniversaries are encouraged to organize their fellow classmates to celebrate their anniversary. If you wish to volunteer to organize a reunion for your class, please contact Brian McCann at brian.mccann@powermemorialacademy.com. The PMAAA Board can assist volunteers with alumni contact information, reserving tables and providing special recognition at the event.

Announcements

Submissions from the alumni for the newsletter are always welcome. Please send any articles, pictures, memories of Power, personal situations (including grandchildren, anniversaries, retirements etc.) to Brian McCann at brian.mccann@powermemorialacademy.com

Please let fellow alumni who may not be aware of the Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association or don't receive notices about association activities to register on the PMAAA website: www.powermemorialacademy.com with their contact information so that they receive future announcements of PMAAA activities.

Remember PMAAA in Your Will or Living Trust



You can make a bequest (or a gift from your estate) to Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association (PMAAA) to help sustain the organization and its mission to provide scholarships to deserving youth for years to come. You can make a bequest to PMAAA by including language in your will or living trust. Sample bequest language is provided below. However, you are encouraged to discuss this with your attorney.

Pecuniary Gift: *Gift of a specified dollar amount*

"I give to the Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association ("PMAAA"), New York, New York, a non-profit 501(c)(3) Corporation, the pecuniary amount of _____ Dollars (\$_____) to be used for its general purposes."

Full Residuary Bequest: *Leaves any remainder after all other bequests have been paid ("residuary estate")*

"All the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, I give to Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association, New York, New York, a non-profit 501(c)(3) Corporation, for its general purposes (scholarship funds for students at All Hallows High School, Bronx, NY)."

Partial Residuary Gift: *Gift of a percentage/share of residuary estate*

"I give to the Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association ("PMAAA"), a non-profit 501(c)(3) Corporation, [Percent number] Percent (___%) of my Residuary Estate to be used for its general purposes."



Safety Language: *Language added to allow an alternate charitable beneficiary if PMAAA is no longer in existence or has merged with another organization.*

“If at the time of my death PMAAA is no longer in existence or not a “qualified charitable organization” to which donations are deductible for income and/or estate tax purposes, then such organization’s share is to be distributed to its successor in interest, All Hallows High School’s general funds, or to such one or more qualified charitable organization(s), as my Executor, in his or her discretion, determines.”

If you need legal assistance in preparing your Will or Living Trust, you may contact Jennifer V. Abelaj, Esq., Davidoff Hutcher & Citron LLP at (212) 557-7200, email: jva@dhclegal.com. Jennifer has provided pro bono legal advice to the Association.

Volunteers Needed!

The Association is seeking volunteers for the following initiatives:

➤ **PMAAA WEBSITE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

In order to improve the PMAAA website, the Board is seeking volunteers with website design expertise to volunteer their time and knowledge to assist with this initiative. Please contact Rick Martin at: rick.martin@powermemorialacademy.com or Dennis Mooney at dennis.mooney@powermemorialacademy.com.

➤ **SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAISING PROJECT**

Volunteers are needed to work on ad hoc committees that may be formed for special purposes. The Board is currently seeking alumnus who can bring financial expertise to the recently formed fund-raising committee. Anyone interested in joining this committee should contact PMAAA Board Member Carl Hall at: carl.hall@powermemorialacademy.com.

➤ **CLASS CAPTAIN INITIATIVE**

Class Captains are still needed for each graduating class. Class Captains play an important part in communicating with their classmates and getting the word out on various PMAAA events. All Class Captain volunteers will be provided with contact information for their corresponding classmates. Alumni who may be interested in volunteering to be a Class Captain, please contact Kevin McGeary at kevin.mcgeary@powermemorialacademy.com or Brian McCann at brian.mccann@powermemorialacademy.com

Follow PMAAA on Social Media



PMAAA has taken to social media to help spread the word about the association. Board member, Rick Martin, leads the social media activities for the Association. In addition to the PMA Facebook and LinkedIn accounts, PMAAA activities can now be tracked on Twitter. The PMAAA Twitter account that has been established by Rick is “#PMA4Life.”

