



VSPA GRAPEVINE

VOL. 50 NO. 2

SUMMER, 2025

The 156th Virginia State Police Alumni, Inc. FALL CONFERENCE

November 8, 2025

Room Cost:

Single: \$110 plus 15.3% taxes

Double: \$126 plus 15.3% taxes

Breakfast is included in the room rate.

DEADLINE TO OBTAIN ROOMS:

October 1, 2025

Reservations: Internet:

www.naturalbridgeva.com

or call: (540) 291-2121

GROUP CODE: 110725VSP

NOTE:

Reservations made after this date
subject to availability and room
rates are **NOT GUARANTEED.**

Please be timely!!



Natural Bridge Hotel

15 Appledore Lane

Natural Bridge, VA 24578

Phone: (540) 291-2121

Dinner Buffet

Meal & Hospitality Cost:

\$60.00 per person, includes
tax & gratuity

*Please note that we are unable to furnish anything to
eat in the hospitality room. The Hotel requires they
furnish sandwiches and snacks.*

Mixed greens salad with crisp fried Vidalia
onions, Roma Tomatoes, crumbled goat cheese
and red wine vinaigrette dressing

Two Entrée Selections

Cornmeal crusted catfish
with remoulade sauce

Rosemary roasted breast of chicken
with caramelized onions

Accompaniments

Herb butter potatoes
Sautéed seasonal vegetables

Desserts

Chocolate ganache cake with
raspberry coulis
Carrot cake

Beverages

Ice water, freshly brewed regular & decaf
coffee, herbal teas, and brewed iced tea

Meal served with baked breads and butter

Meeting Areas:

Hospitality Suite:	Noon to 4:00 p.m.	Jefferson I
Board Meeting Room:	1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Madison Room
Membership Meeting	3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Madison Room
Blue & Gray Cocktail Hour	5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Jefferson I
Dinner location:	6:00 p.m.	Jefferson II
After Dinner Night Cap:	open	Jefferson I

Guest Speaker: Lieutenant Colonel Eric Gowin

Pre-Paid VSP Alumni Registration Required.

RSVP to VSP Alumni Treasurer Jerry L. Davis

137 Fabric Lane, Rural Retreat, VA 24368 by

October 1, 2025.

Message from the President

Fellow Alumni Members,

Your Board and Division Representatives have been quite busy since our last meeting at Natural Bridge on November 2, 2024. We have some new faces on the Board including David Batkins as Vice President, and John Holsinger as Executive Secretary. I am continuing on as the Division V Representative. Kim Lettner is serving as the Chair of the Health & Welfare Committee and Miles Turner is serving as our Membership Directory Coordinator and Editor of the Grapevine. We are working to get the next Membership Directory and Grapevine to you soon.

Our next Conference will be at Natural Bridge on November 8, 2025. The Spring 2026 Conference will also be held at Natural Bridge. We have traditionally moved the conference location in the past; however, many of our members have reported that they appreciate a central location. Additionally, we are better able to control the expense at Natural Bridge. Natural Bridge is one of very few locations that will allow us to maintain our open bar. Some of our members have indicated that they are willing to pay more at different locations like Charlottesville and Williamsburg, but we found the expense to be nearly double on food and substantially higher on room cost. Those are the primary reasons why we had to cancel the Spring Conference this year. We will continue to search for other suitable locations while recognizing that cost and location are important factors for our members.

At our last Board meeting we recognized that our financial situation was not sound. We are looking at several cost cutting measures. We will try our hand at publishing the Grapevine in house. That could save us up to \$3000 annually. If that goes well, we want to try publishing the Membership Directory in house. That would not include allowing member information to be posted online. This could save us another \$5000 annually. We have other cost savings that we will look at. However, it is necessary to raise our dues for 2026. The Board decided that the dues should be set at \$40 annually effective January 1, 2026.

This is my first year as President and I would like to continue for at least one more year to complete the changes we have undertaken. After that, I hope that we will have someone new that is willing to step up and take the organization to the next level. Please encourage others to join the Alumni. Our members are the essential core of this organization!

I hope to see you at Natural Bridge in November. If you have any questions or comments, I can be reached at ahengemann@cox.net or (757) 615-7702.

Andy Engemann
President

The 155th Meeting and Dinner

The 155th Alumni dinner meeting was held November 2, 2024 in Natural Bridge. All in attendance appeared to be in a festive mood and enjoyed seeing and visiting with friends.

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Adcock, James and Cora | Galo, George and Shirley |
| Barone, Frank | Gregory, Howard and Linda |
| Batkins, David and Tammy | Handy, Cecil and Elaine |
| Beeson, Randy and Cindy | Holland, Robert and Lora |
| Berge, Eric and Susan | Hollandsworth, Paul and June |
| Blosser, Jim and Sharon | Holsinger, John |
| Bridges, Herb and Cindy | Huggins, Wayne and Wanda |
| Burchett, Larry and Linda | Jett, Lindsey and Linda |
| Byram, Ronald and JoAnne | King, Arthur and Mary Ann |
| Carr, Samy and Amy | Knott, Frank and Tana |
| Crowder, Bonnie | Kranchick, Ronald and Lucy Rowe |
| Dacey, Maurice and Nancy | McChesney, Steve and Cindy |
| Phillingane | Miller, Kyle and Dorothy |
| Daniels, Vickie | Norfleet, Robert and Leta |
| Davis, Jerry and Jodi | O'Neil, John and Joyce |
| Deavers, Carl and Judith | Petska, Cheryl and Mark |
| DeFord, Jim and Joanne | Rowles, John and Kristin |
| Denney, Richard and Lorrie | Rowles and Mike Pond |
| Doyal, William and Judith | Saunders, Ronald |
| Engemann, Andy and Regina | Taylor, Gary and Billie |
| Andes | Timberlake, Wayne and Becky Neal |
| Farmer, Michael, Dianne and Michael II | Tinsley, Marvin "Ed" and Edna |
| Fischer, Andrea and Pamela | Whitmer, Beverly and Margie |
| Gordon | Whitt, Eddie and Reba |
| Fridley, Rob and Emma | Wyche, Jesse and Maxine |



2025 Officers and Representatives

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| President | Andrew H. Engemann, Jr |
| Vice President | David L. Batkins |
| Secretary | Bonnie D. Crowder |
| Treasurer | Jerry Davis |
| Sergeant at Arms | Sammy Carr |
| Executive Secretary | John S. Holsinger |
| Division 1 Representative | David Wayne Holland |
| Division 2 Representative | William S. Doyal |
| Division 3 Representative | Frank M. Knott, Jr. |
| Division 4 Representative | T. Wayne Timberlake |
| Division 5 Representative | Andrew H. Engemann, Jr. |
| Division 6 Representative | I. Cecil Handy |
| Division 7 Representative | Ronald M. Kranchick |

Virginia State Police Alumni

*****ANNUAL DUES NOTICE*****

\$40.00 per year

Member _____ Amount _____

For Year _____ Date _____

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
VIRGINIA STATE POLICE ALUMNI**

Mail to Treasurer: Jerry Davis

137 Fabric Lane • Rural Retreat, Virginia 24368 **

Dues are due: **January 1, of each year.**

Cut out and mail, maintain a copy for your files!
Virginia State Police Alumni Dues Payment Slip

Virginia State Police Alumni, Inc.

General Membership Meeting, November 2, 2024, Natural Bridge, VA

President Ronald M. Kranchick called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The General Membership recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The members of the Executive Board present were:

President	Ronald M. Kranchick
Vice President	Andrew H. Engemann, Jr.
Secretary	Bonnie D. Crowder
Executive Secretary	John T. O'Neil
Treasurer	Jerry L. Davis
Sergeant at Arms	Sammy Carr

The Division Representatives present were:

1st	D. Wayne Holland – absent
2nd	William S. Doyal
3rd	Frank M. Knott, Jr.
4th	T. Wayne Timberlake
5th	Andy H. Engemann, Jr.
6th	I. Cecil Handy
7th	Ronald M. Kranchick

Trustees present were Wayne Timberlake, John Rowles and Art King.

Members in attendance totaled 31.

President: President Ronald Kranchick welcomed everyone and thanked them for their support for the last few years.

Vice President: Andrew Engemann discussed the increased expenses and decreased income. The dues were \$25 in 1975 and have not gone up since then. The total cost of printing the Grapevine twice a year and the Membership Directory once a year is about \$8,000; the net loss to cover two meetings a year is about \$5,000. The Board had discussed several issues to raise awareness of the finances and wanted some feedback.

The location, availability and costs of the venues were discussed and whether members were willing to pay more to go to a venue such as Williamsburg. Hotels are enforcing a no outside food rule and only about three allow the Alumni to bring in alcohol and in the future, it may be a cash bar. Cutting expenses for the hospitality room could mean going from sandwiches to snacks such as cheese, crackers, pretzels, etc. The price of rooms and meals plus 30% for gratuities and taxes also continue to go up. A proposal from Doubletree Hotel in Williamsburg showed rooms going from \$149 in November to \$169 in December. The goal is to try to maintain the \$50 per person registration fee and would be interested in why some members are/are not attending. Selecting a venue was discussed as to how it is selected and John O'Neil, Executive Secretary, added that there is the availability issue, a deposit is required, negotiating the conference, a signed contract, etc.

The cost of the hospitality room was discussed. John O'Neil said the room costs approximately \$600 for the sandwiches, snacks, etc. and an additional \$300 for the alcohol, beer, juice and soft drinks. The room was originally set up for those members arriving at the hotel and if rooms were not available, they would have a place to go. Over the years, it had grown to include sandwiches and snacks for those who had not yet had lunch.

As stated previously, the printing of the Membership Directory, two Grapevines and postage is approximately \$8,000 a year and averages between \$13 – 15 per person, and the dues for paying members are \$25. The Lifetime members have already paid and the honorary members do not pay dues. The printing costs could save some money that would help cover the costs of the conference and would not have to raise the dues. Questions were raised such as publishing the Membership Directory every other year or email on odd years. That had been done in the past and did not work and was not well received. George Galo had been the Membership Directory Coordinator for a number of years and spoke up and said he felt the Directory is the most important thing that keeps the group together and it should be printed every year in order to keep the information up-to-date. Willis Robertson also added that he felt the directory should not be done away with.

One of the expenses discussed by the Board was the \$100 Memorial contribution for the deceased members. This year there had been 14 as of this date and in previous years had been as many as 18 to 20 and this was a substantial portion of the budget. The Board voted today going forward to eliminate the \$100 memorial contribution.

Colonel Huggins suggested if a decision had to be made in the next two to three years, and the dues had remained the same over the last 50+ years, to raise the dues \$5 each year for the next three years. Discussion followed regarding the bylaws being changed.

Secretary's Report: Bonnie Crowder said for 2024 as of this date, there were 20 new members and 14 deaths.

Treasurer's Report: Jerry L Davis said as of October 27th, the checking account balance was \$30,312.50

3rd Quarter:

\$18,835 income received for the year

\$17,746 expenses as of today

\$ 1,089 positive cash flow

Membership Data

- Dues paying Members: 374 – \$9,350
- Lifetime Members: 109
- Honorary members: 24

Since January, Jerry has identified members regarding dues in order to remain current, obtain payments or to be dropped from the Directory.

Conference

- \$4,620.00 Paid Attendees
- \$ 495.00 Dinner paid for by the Alumni for 9 attendees
- \$5,953.54 Check to be written to cover expenses for this conference

A Dell laptop and Quicken software had been purchased to be used by the Treasurer's position.

Lieutenant Colonel Charles M. Robinson Fund – Balance \$1,590.35

(The money in this fund pays for the physical fitness awards for the Basic School Sessions.)

\$1,100 Memorial payments had been made for 11 members this year, however, if the deceased member was not current with the dues, a donation was not made. Ronald Kranchick added that the \$100 does not go to the family, but as designated in the obituary. If there is no designation, the money was forwarded to the Emergency Relief Fund.

Willis Robertson made the motion to approve the Financial Report and was seconded by Cecil Handy and passed unanimously.

Health and Welfare Report:

The following members have passed since the last Grapevine:

07-11-2024	Kenneth R. Bays	01-01-2025	W. Gerald Massengill
08-29-2024	Benton T. Leonard, Jr.	01-08-2025	Bruce E. Saylor
09-01-2024	Harry T. Haskins	01-12-2025	JoAnn Thomas
09-28-2024	Basil Joe Clark	01-20-2025	Norman W. Johnson, Jr.
10-10-2024	Emmett M. Crocker	01-23-2025	James A. Alexander
10-13-2024	Albert Christiansen, Jr.	01-31-2025	Walter W. Viohl, Jr.
11-09-2024	Frederick H. Bream	02-08-2025	John W. "Jay" Styles, Jr.
11-13-2024	Dwayne "Opie" M. Davis	02-18-2025	Bernard F. "Bernie" Chumney
12-01-2024	David "Stump" E. Olinger	02-27-2025	Jesse F. "Robbie" Roberts, III
		Feb, 2025	Manuel "M.A." Lunsford, Jr.
		04-01-2025	William J. "Bill" Sorokin, Jr.
		05-31-2025	Curtis L. Bailey

Executive Secretary's Report:

John O'Neil said the final cost to the Alumni for this conference was \$2,436.91.

Division Representatives' Reports: None

Old Business: None

New Business: John O'Neil read the 2025 Slate of Officers from the Nominating Committee.

President – Andrew H. Engemann, Jr.
Vice President – David L. Batkins
Secretary – Bonnie D. Crowder
Treasurer – Jerry L. Davis
Sergeant At Arms – Sammy Carr
Executive Secretary – John S. Holsinger

Division 1 – D. Wayne Holland
Division 2 – William S. Doyal
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Division 4 – T. Wayne Timberlake
Division 5 – Andrew H. Engemann, Jr.
Division 6 – I. Cecil Handy
Division 7 – Ronald M. Kranchick

Willis Robertson made a motion and Ron Kranchick seconded to close the nominations and the slate was passed unanimously.

Art King, Past President, performed the installation of the 2025 Board Members and Division Representatives

A motion to adjourn was made by Art King, seconded by Wayne Timberlake and the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Members of the VSP Alumni,

In our ongoing work to provide you a quality product, while reducing some of our expenses, it was suggested that we offer our membership directory in electronic format, but give members the option to receive a printed copy if they are not computer savvy, or desire to stick with the printed style. Allow me to explain how this would occur.

I am in the process of moving all the data to a more modern electronic format. The current vendor is aging, and her husband has significant medical issues. She has been making changes on the directory manually for years.

The change to primarily electronic format would benefit the Alumni in several ways, but before I get to that, I want to insure everyone – **NONE OF YOUR DATA WILL BE PUT OUT ON THE INTERNET.** We already, with our current membership directory vendor, are using an electronic means for her to get the information to the printer. This will just be moved to a more modern format. It will be essentially seamless once it is set up, and will move us from software that is usable, but older to a safer, more modern program.

When the directory is complete, it would be sent out via a secure email in a locked PDF format. Once you receive the email, you will enter a password I'll provide and you will have the directory at your fingertips. If you desire, you can print a copy for your use at home. If you have difficulty accessing the directory, feel free to contact me and I will try to assist you.

Why are we trying to move in this direction? In addition to a more secure format, the other driving factor is cost. Labor, production and material costs have, like many other things, skyrocketed. It is costing us approximately \$9 per copy to pay for the maintenance of the list, printing, drilling the holes, packaging, and postage.

One other factor is if you receive an electronic version, it is quite possible you'll get an updated directory more than the once per year that is currently provided. While this would not happen with every membership update, once enough changes have occurred, you could potentially get an updated electronic copy.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. My email exclusively for Alumni business is VSPAlumniDirectory@LEConsulting.org, or feel free to call me at 804-484-4471.

Fraternally,



Miles Turner
Grapevine & Directory Editor

PRE-PAID REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY OCTOBER 1, 2025

Send Form to:

Jerry Davis: 137 Fabric Lane, Rural Retreat, VA 24368

Print Name: _____ Number in Party: _____

I plan to attend the Fall Meeting in Natural Bridge, Virginia. Enclosed is my check payable to VSPA in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ people who plan to attend the Hospitality Room and Dinner @ \$60.00 per person. If you bring guests please list their names below.

2025 Dues - \$40.00 yr. _____

I understand that I must make separate room reservations by October 1, 2025 with the Natural Bridge Hotel. Phone: 540-291-2121 • www.naturalbridgeva.com
Full refunds are not granted for cancellations made after October 1, 2025.
The Alumni must guarantee payment for all meals that day.



NOTICE ABOUT UPDATES

Any changes to your name, address, telephone or email needs to be sent to:

Directory Editor - Miles Turner

1458 Railroad Ave, Midlothian, Virginia 23113-4329
Phone: 804-484-4471

Email: VSPALumniDirectory@LEConsulting.org

Treasurer - Jerry L. Davis

137 Fabric Lane, Rural Retreat, Virginia 24368
Phone: 276-613-3233 • Email: jldavis4165@gmail.com

Not receiving **email updates** from the Alumni?
Contact **Kim Lettner, Health & Welfare Committee Chair**
at healthandwelfare@vspalumni.org to update your preferred email address.

VSPA GRAPEVINE

Virginia State Police Alumni, Inc.
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Midlothian, VA 23113-4329