

# Reunion Snapshots — Pages 6 and 7



Volume 26, Number 3

Fall, 2016

## From the President



Cadets, Faculty and Friends of CMA.

As I begin this journey as President of your CMA Alumni Association, I am honored to be considered for and elected to this office. The Past-Presidents of our Association are a group of men who I have been proud to work with for many years and have looked to for advice and guidance in Association matters. The CMA Alumni Association suffered a great loss on Aug 8 with the passing of Past President Robin Layton III. His dedication to our Association and love for CMA was unmatched. It was our blessing to have him in attendance for the Reunion, and to be able to visit with him over the weekend. He shared invaluable advice with me concerning the office of President and the guidance of the Association as a whole.

I would personally like to thank Mike Gilchrist for the four excellent years of leadership he has given to our Association. Mike is largely responsible for the Association owning the photo negatives from Orman Studios, which took all of the photos for CMA. Mike worked with David White and Mrs. Burt (Orman owner) to negotiate the purchase of the negatives. We have the negatives sorted by year and will continue to sort and catalog them for better

access. I have to recognize Woody Pettigrew for the job he does with our Museum. He won't let me have enough space in the *Bugle* to say all I would like about it, but all of you know. I look forward to working with those serving on our new Executive Board. The Executive Board consists of Vice-President Randy Howell (72), Secretary Sandra Hasler (74), Treasurer Becky Moon (75), and Assistant Treasurer Skip Snow (55).

I would like to thank Dr. Thomas and Columbia Academy for their respect of our CMA history and support of our Association. They continue to welcome us and accommodate our Association in our on-campus activities. Allowing us to have our Memorial and Museum on campus helps preserve the memory of CMA.

Our 2016 Grand Reunion has to be considered a great success. We had over 250 attend the Reunion this year. The 1966 and 1967 Classes celebrated their 50th Reunion and had a good showing with a lot of these old bellhops coming to their first reunion. Saturday morning at the General Meeting Dr. Thomas, President of CA, welcomed the Association to the campus and gave us an update on the new school year for CA. Dr. Thomas' address can be found in the General Meeting minutes in this issue of the *Bugle*. The Hall of Honor inducted two new members, CMA Coach Billy Gunn and Phillip Fikes, Class of 1965. Their information can be found in the minutes of the meeting and on the CMAAA website. The 1966 and 1967 Classes remembered their deceased class members at the Flag Pole

Ceremony.

At the Saturday night banquet, we recognized the Battalion Commanders, Deputy Battalion Commanders and Executive Officers throughout the years. These cadets were some of those who we looked up to during our years at CMA.

Even though we just wrapped up our 2016 Grand Reunion, I encourage all of you to contact those old classmates and friends and invite them to join us in 2018 for a bigger and better Grand Reunion. Be sure to let all of our former CMA Cadets know that the CMA Alumni Association welcomes all former cadets, faculty and friends. Whether you are a graduate, non-graduate, attended one year, or many years, we all shared the same experience.

Robin

Robin Salze  
Class of 1966  
CMAAA President

## Meet the New CMAAA Board

Your new CMAAA Board has been established to represent you as we move forward with the association. The full membership is listed on the back page of the *Bugle*. Eight members dropped off of the board this year with eight new members joining the board. They are Bob Harbin (61), Charles Field (63), Dan Duke (65), Jason Williams (67), Jimmy Bane (72), Tricia (Murphy) Brown (74) and Tom Carr (75). The full board will have its next meeting in the Spring of 2017.

**CMAAA Board of Directors  
Meeting  
August 5th, 2016  
Marriott Hotel**

**Attendees**

Mike Gilchrist-President (63), Robin Salze-Vice President (66), Randy Howell-Secretary (72), Becky Moon-Treasurer (75), Skip Snow-Assistant Treasurer (55), Robert C. Smith (44), John Bass (53), Don Kimbrell (53), Courtney Wilhoite (53), Marshall Cranford (54), Marvin Vernon (57), Lynn Boyles (58), Tom Walbert (58), Bob Harbin (61), Wally Couch (62), Bill Hart (62), Jim Madison (62), Charles Field (63), Don Noffsinger (63), Harold Smith (63), Douglas Townes (67), Bill Wade (68), Howard Keltner (69), Frank Lawing (71), Bobby Bain (72), Greg Thompson (72), Woody Pettigrew (73), Winston Elston (74), Sandra Hasler (74), Van McMinn (76), Jay Robins (76).

**Meeting Minutes**

The summer meeting of the Columbia Military Academy Alumni Association was called to order by President Mike Gilchrist. The invocation was given by Randy Howell, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by John Bass. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes from the April 9, 2016 Board meeting, as published in the Summer 2016 *Bugle*.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Becky Moon. The current balance in the general fund is \$39,086.96. Approximately \$17,000 of that total is money received for the reunion. A check was issued by Mike Gilchrist in the amount of \$8,500 which covered the reunion banquet and reception. We owe no additional money for rooms at the Marriott since we exceeded our contracted number of rooms and will receive three comp nights. The only other amount due is for the breakfast and lunch to CA, and to the Marriott for IT equipment to be used during the banquet. Woody Pettigrew provided the financial statement for the museum. The current cash on hand for the museum fund is \$18,761. Expected upcoming debits will be for the updates and additions to the memorial. As of now,

with current cash on hand and budgeted income/expenses through the life of the lease till 2022, we will have \$16,525 available to apply to the next five year lease (\$1,200 per year). Mike said he does not expect any problems with the extension of the lease. CA welcomes the extension and enjoys having the museum on campus.

**Old Business**

Mike Gilchrist gave an update on the photo negatives. Robin Salze, Charlie Field and Harold Smith spent the afternoon of the last board meeting going through the 14 boxes of negatives and photos, sorting them by year. Many of the composites were located and some of them will be available at the banquet. Mike expressed his thanks to Robin, Charlie and Harold. Also found in the negatives were some sketches of the four original buildings that will be made available for auction at the banquet.

Mike pointed out that the group photos made during the reunion will be made Friday evening during the reception from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. David White will be the photographer.

Robin Salze gave an update from the By-Laws committee. The committee is still in the process of developing the updates. The committee is reviewing all comments made to a revision recently distributed. Once those comments are reviewed, a final draft will be distributed for a final review, before the actual amendments are made before the Spring board meeting.

**Reunion Updates**

Reception will be held Friday night at the Marriott, until 7:30, with heavy hors d'oeuvres and a full bar in the reception area.

Photos will be taken at 5:30 and the photos will be available for pick up Saturday in the hospitality area.

Classes of 1966 and 1967 are having reunion dinners Friday evening, as well as the Classes of 1961 and 1962.

The decade of the 70s is having a get-together at another location.

The Saturday banquet has been configured differently this year to accommodate more attendees. It is currently set up for 200. More tables can be set up if needed.

Woody mentioned that the memorial was complete and in place to be viewed during the Saturday morning General

Meeting.

Mike reminded the board that the honorees for this year are the Battalion Commanders, Deputies and Executive Officers. Letters were sent to each of these individuals and responses were received from seven who could not make it to the reunion. One of these was from Dr. Ellis Tinsley, Class of 1951, who was unable to attend but mentioned in his letter that he appreciated the recognition, and told Mike he was still married to the young lady he took to his last CMA dance.

**New Business**

Van McMinn notified the board of the 2016 inductees to the Hall of Honor. The new inductees are Coach Billy Gunn and Phillip Fikes, Class of 1967.

Mike informed the board that Dr. James Thomas will present the American Flag that stood on stage during the latter years of CMA and the beginning of CA to the association Saturday morning.

The Honor Guard from the ROTC group at Columbia Central High School will be available for the flag ceremony on Saturday morning. The American Legion has supplied a bugle to be used for Taps during the ceremony. Bill Hart made a motion and the board approved to make a \$100 donation to the ROTC program from Columbia Central, and to recognize them for service to the association.

The board heard and approved a recommendation that Bill Wade be allowed to donate his hair for auction at the banquet on Saturday night. The highest bidder, with a minimum of \$500, will be allowed to actually cut his hair at the banquet, and will not have to pay his dues the next two years.

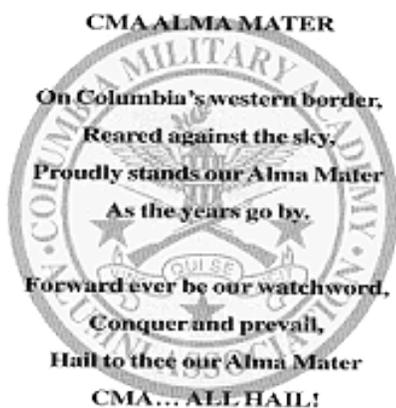
Don Kimbrell announced the nominees to serve as the new officers for the next two years. The nominees are: President—Robin Salze; Vice President—Randy Howell; Secretary—Sandra Hasler; Treasurer—Becky Moon; Assistant Treasurer—Skip Snow. Motion was made and approved that the nominated slate be presented during the Saturday morning General Meeting.

Bill Wade reminded the board of his recommendation to compile some videos of alumni speaking about their days at CMA. It was agreed to pursue this as

well as having the previously made videos published on the CMAAA web-site.

Robin Salze stated that David Caswell would make a presentation on Saturday morning regarding the Honor and Remember organization, as well as donating a Honor and Remember flag to the association. This organization is to honor our military who died in action or as a result of their action.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn.



### Publication and Mailing of the Bugle

Future hard copy mailings of the Bugle Newsletter will be limited to only those association members that are paid up in their dues. This will go into effect at the end of this calendar year. The December 2016 Winter Bugle will be the last one that is sent to the full association membership. In order to remain on the Bugle mailing list for the hard copy you must be paid up in dues for 2017 by the end of 2016. The list for Bugle mailouts will be revised at the end of the year with the revised list being used for the Spring 2017 (and future) publications. This is a much needed money saving change to reduce the cost of mailing the Bugle each quarter, which currently runs in the neighborhood of \$1,500 dollars a publication (\$6,000 a year). Additionally, you can help save the association money by opting out of receiving the hard copy of the Bugle even if you are current with your dues. To opt out of receiving a hard copy, please notify Woody Pettigrew at wpettigrew@knology.net or Becky Moon at athenae@bellsouth.net.

# Do You Remember?

## 70 Years Ago Fall 1946



In Chicago, a branch of the Exchange National Bank (now part of the LaSalle Bank) opens the first 10 drive-up teller windows on November 12th.

Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life*, featuring James Stewart and Donna Reed, is released in New York on December 20th.

The Flamingo Hotel opens on the Las Vegas Strip on December 26th.

At CMA, a fresh corps of cadets readies for the new year. Robert Hyde is selected as the Battalion Commander for the 1946-47 school year.

## 60 Years Ago Fall 1956



Elvis Presley appears on *The Ed Sullivan Show* for the first time on September 9th.

Cecil B. DeMille's epic film *The Ten Commandments*, starring Charlton Heston as Moses, is released in the United States on October 5th.

The *Huntley-Brinkley Report* debuts on NBC on October 29th.

At CMA, the Gold Star Drill Platoon begins training to defend (successfully) the State Championship conducted at Vanderbilt (for the 4th straight year).

## 50 Years Ago Fall 1966



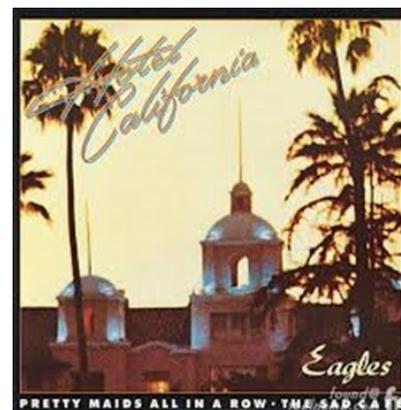
*Star Trek* debuts on NBC TV with its first episode, "The Man Trap" on September 8th.

The Beatles begin recording sessions for their Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band album on November 24th.

The Washington Redskins defeat the New York Giants 72-41 in the highest scoring game in NFL history (still) on November 27th.

At CMA, for the first time since 1931, the school year started without COL C.A. Ragsdale associated with the school in some way. He passed away on July 23rd 1966.

## 40 Years Ago Fall 1976



The Viking 2 spacecraft lands at Utopia Planitia on Mars on September 3rd.

The Cincinnati Reds sweep the New York Yankees in four games to win the 1976 World Series ending on October 21st.

Jimmy Carter defeats Gerald Ford in the Presidential election on November 2nd.

The Eagles release *Hotel California* on December 8th.

At CMA, Haynes Ward settles in his role as Battalion Commander for the 1976-77 school year.

# CMAAA General Membership Meeting August 6th, 2016 Columbia Academy Campus

The 2016 Grand Reunion General Meeting of the CMAAA was called to order by President Mike Gilchrist, Class of 1963, and a welcome home was extended to all attending alumni and friends. Mike made the assembly aware that Dr. Ernie Benko, Class of 1965, was video-taping the meeting and that the video would be available to those who would like to receive a copy, as well as being available on YouTube.

The invocation was given by Don Kimbrell, Class of 1953, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by John Bass, Class of 1953. The minutes from the April 6, 2016 board meeting were approved as published in the Summer 2016 publication of the *Bugle*. Becky Moon, Class of 1975, presented the Treasurer's report. The current cash on hand balance in the general account is \$39,086.96. This amount did not include any outgoing funds related to the reunion. Woody Pettigrew, Class of 1973, gave a report on the museum account which had a balance of \$18,761. This money will be used to pay the lease on the museum for the remaining time of the lease. With other budgeted money still coming in we will still have approximately \$16,525 at the end of the lease period, which will allow us to exercise the two options on the lease for an additional 10 years which would take us through the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion for our last graduating class.

Mike introduced Dr. James Thomas, President of Columbia Academy, to give the association an update on the new school year for CA. Dr. Thomas welcomed the association to the campus. He expressed his pleasure that CA is able to host our association for our reunions. He gave the following updates: (1) This year's enrollment is 950 students, which is a record enrollment for the school. That includes 98 students at the Spring Hill campus and about 100 in pre-school. There is now a waiting list for enrollment in the upper classes. (2) Academically, the Class of 2016 had an average ACT score of over 24, with 90% of the seniors qualifying for the Tennessee Hope Scholarship. (3) An armed Director of Security has

been added to the campus since the last reunion. (4) A Director of Academics has been added for the new school year. (5) The athletic program has continued to do well, highlighted by the previous season's football team that completed a 12-2 season, making it to the semi-finals of the state playoffs. Dr. Thomas encouraged the CMAAA to attend Friday night home games on campus. (6) The lady's basketball program has also shown improvement, from only 1 win in 2014 to making it to the sub-state last season. (7) Several of the athletes from the various teams have gone on to participate at the collegiate level. (8) A new Director of the Arts has been hired and the CA band continues to show improvement, as well as the addition of a chorus at each of the school's levels.

Dr. Thomas invited attendees to take a tour of the campus throughout all of the buildings. Dr. Thomas took a moment to recognize some of the attendees: John and Sue Bass, who provide the American Flags for the CA campus in the name of their grandson who lost his life serving in the military in the Middle East; former county mayor Jim Bailey, a CMA grad; and Woody Pettigrew and Marshall Cranford, Class of 1954, for their work on the museum. Dr. Thomas gave an update on the CMA Alumni endowment and encouraged the alumni to consider contributing to the endowment. The endowment is used to fund the upkeep of the original CMA buildings, memorials and markers. Dr. Thomas showed the attendees the pen Bill Wade presented him last spring. The pen was made by Greg Thompson, Class of 1972, from wood that was taken from Moore Hall.

Dr. Thomas opened the floor for questions.

Q. There has been discussion about adding an elevator in Main Building. What is the status?

A. Eventually there is a plan to add the elevator. There is one student currently enrolled in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade that is confined to a wheelchair. At 7<sup>th</sup> grade that student would begin classes in Main. There has already been a wheelchair ramp added to the back of the building. The expected cost of the elevator would be approximately \$150,000. The hope is that the elevator will be added in the next four years.

There were no further questions.

Dr. Thomas invited those who would like to receive a copy of the CA Com-

municator to sign up to be added to the mailing list to receive the publication. Dr. Thomas presented the American Flag that stood on the stage during the CMA years as well as the early years of CA to Mike Gilchrist.

Mike Gilchrist reminded the attendees, especially those who were returning for the first time, about the photo negatives that were purchased (with the help of photographer David White) from Mrs. Ray Burt, widow of the former photographer for CMA for many years. These negatives were purchased for \$5,000 and produced a total of 14 boxes of negatives, which include some class composites as well as many other photos that appeared in annuals through the years. Mike thanked those alumni, Robin Salze, Class of 1966, Charlie Field, Class of 1963 and Harold Smith, Class of 1963, who spent several hours sorting through the boxes to have them sorted by years. Mike reminded everyone of the 50 year reunion flag ceremony on the lawn after the meeting and prior to lunch. Also, we were reminded by Jim Borum, Class of 1966, that there are old books from the CMA library in the hospitality room at the Marriott that are available to be purchased for a donation.

Robin Salze gave an update from the By-laws committee. After obtaining recommendations from several board members, the committee will be presenting the suggested changes to the By-laws through the *Bugle*.

Mike turned the meeting over to David Caswell, Class of 1966, for a presentation regarding the Honor and Remember Program. This program was established in 2008 to honor our fallen military, either while serving or after their service was completed if their death was due to injuries received during service. A newly designed flag was developed to represent those who gave their lives. The flag was named the Honor and Remember Flag, and one of the flags is to be presented during the ceremony following the meeting. David explained the meaning of each of the symbols on the flag. For those interested in having one of the flags presented to the family of a fallen vet, they can obtain information at <http://www.honorandremember.org/>

Van McMinn, Class of 1976, made the presentations for the 2016 induc-

- Continued from Page 4 -

tions to the CMA Hall of Honor. Van informed the association of the changes to the Hall of Honor process, which now includes notifications of inductees and family members prior to the day of presentation. The following were the honorees for 2016. The wording of their Certificates of Selection can be read in entirety on the CMAAA website.

Billy Clayton Gunn – Navy veteran, serving in the South Pacific during World War II, coach and instructor for 9 years at CMA. Coach Gunn passed away in May of 2014; his certificate was accepted by his son who thanked many people who were there along the way for his dad, including Coach Gunn’s wife. In his acceptance he stated, “Somewhere in heaven today, Coach Gunn is saying, “Something should be done different, and somebody should be quiet and listen.”

Phillip B. Fikes – CMA graduate, Class of 1965, Army officer, Vietnam war veteran with several commendations for gallantry and heroism, including the Silver Star Medal and two Bronze Star Medals.

Phillip was present to accept his Certificate of Selection in the Hall of Honor. In his acceptance Phillip stated “It was a real honor for me to think that something I did in 1969 brought honor to both the school and my former classmates.” Phil was appreciative of the support of his former classmates through the years, and stated, “Would all of my classmates from 1965 please stand and be recognized, because this is an honor for all of my classmates, not just me.”

At the end of the presentation the assembly stood in recognition of the honorees.

Bill Hart, Class of 1962, spoke to the assembly about the flag ceremony to follow the meeting. Bill recognized the Central High School Honor Guard and Senior Chief Taylor who came to participate in the flag ceremony. In addition, the association made a donation to the Central High ROTC program in the amount of \$100.

Don Kimbrell of the nominating committee was called forward to present the nominations for the officers for the next term. The nominations were:  
President – Robin Salze - 1966  
Vice-President – Randy Howell - 1972

Secretary – Sandra Hasler - 1974  
Treasurer – Becky Moon - 1975  
Asst. Treasurer – Skip Snow - 1955

There were no other nominations. The slate was unanimously approved.

Robin Salze presented a gift from the association to recognize outgoing association president Mike Gilchrist. Mike stated that his time serving as president has been a privilege. Mike thanked CA President, Dr. Thomas, as well as others who have served on the board with him.

Robin also advised anyone who was interested in serving on the association Board of Directors to contact Randy Howell.

Motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting.

### Submit Your Story for Inclusion in a Future Edition of the Bugle

This is the eighth edition of the *Bugle* that incorporates a suggestion that was made during the 2014 reunion to make a collection of our alumni’s favorite stories from when they were at CMA. The stories that are told during the CMA Reunions are priceless and should be shared throughout the Alumni Association. There are great stories that are the kind of things that alumni enjoy reading in the *Bugle*. These stories will be run in the *Bugle* and, depending on the number of stories received, may be consolidated and bound as a “Collection of CMA Memories.” All alumni are encouraged to provide their favorite memory/story from CMA to be included in this collection. The memory/story can be whatever length is necessary. This section is another way for CMA alumni to share experiences through the *Bugle*. Everyone is encouraged to make a submission for inclusion in a future edition of the *Bugle*. In order for the *Bugle* to remain fresh and interesting, it needs your input. If you have a memory/story you would like to share with other alumni please submit it to Woody Pettigrew at the below snail mail address or you can e-mail it to [wpettigrew@knology.net](mailto:wpettigrew@knology.net).

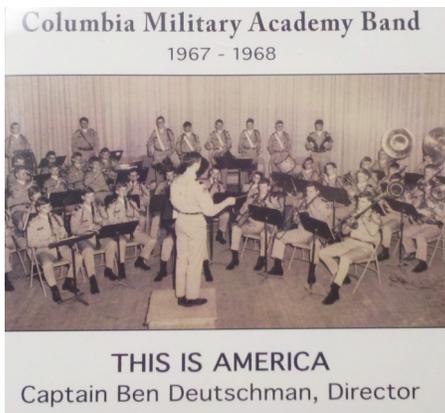
Woody Pettigrew  
101 Sansberry Lane  
Madison, AL 35756

### Support the Alumni Association and CMA Museum by Purchasing Great CMA Items

The upcoming holiday season provides a great opportunity to make a couple of purchases to enhance your festivities and support the CMA Alumni Association and CMA Museum.



The CMA Museum is still selling Christmas Tree ornaments designed after the CMA Crest, Old Main, Academy Hall, Ragsdale Hall and the Guard House. The ornaments are \$20 each. But wait...you can get all five for \$80. This set of ornaments will look great on your Christmas Tree while allowing you to show pride in your school for friends and family to see.



Additionally, the Alumni Association has re-mastered the album, *This is America*, that was originally recorded by the 1967-68 CMA Band. The CD includes songs performed as a Marching Band, a Concert Band, a Stage Band, a Rock and Roll Combo, and a Chorus. The CD is available for \$10.

To purchase any of these items, please contact Woody Pettigrew by any of the following methods:

Phone—256-653-7303  
E-mail—[wpettigrew@knology.net](mailto:wpettigrew@knology.net)  
Snail Mail:

Woody Pettigrew  
101 Sansberry Lane  
Madison, AL 35756

# 2016 Reunion Memories



CA President Dr. James Thomas presents old flag from the CMA stage to CMAAA President Mike Gilchrist.



Members of the Class of 1966 recognized for their 50 Year Reunion during the banquet Saturday night.



Members of the Class of 1967 recognized for their 50 Year Reunion during the banquet Saturday night.



Barbara Hampton-Franseen (77) and Mildred (Graham) Dolinger (76) share a few minutes visiting in Old Main after the membership meeting.



Over 200 alumni and guest enjoy the banquet Saturday night at the Marriott. The evening's festivities included recognition of Battalion Commanders, Deputies and Executive Officers as well as recognizing the Classes of 1966 and 1967 for their 50 year reunion. Randy Howell (72) auctioned off several items to support the CMA Museum fundraising efforts.



David Caswell, Class of 1966, presents Honor and Remember flag to CMAAA President Mike Gilchrist.

# 2016 Reunion Memories



The “Youngsters” group picture taken on Friday night at the reception. This is the group from the years 1974-1979 (with the addition of Randy Howell (72) who couldn’t seem to make his own group’s picture). Robin Layton (74), seated, anchored this group and enjoyed the entire reunion weekend. Robin, a Past President of the CMA Alumni Association, passed away on the Monday following the reunion.



The Honor and Remember Flag, presented by David Caswell, (66), will be displayed in the CMA Museum to recognize all CMA Alumni who lost their lives while in service to their country.



Jackson Hall



The CMA Memorial after the upgrade to add two pillars identifying important dates in the CMA History.



Bob Orr, Van McMinn, Jay Robins, Mildred (Graham) Dolinger and Bill Ryland (all from the Class of 1976) spend time catching up in the Banquet room. Unfortunately, they did this on Friday night when the room was not ours (our banquet was Saturday night). The staff finally cut the lights out at 10:00. No accounting yet as to the extra charge for use of the room and messing up the tables.



The Classes of 1966 and 1967 recognized their lost classmates during the Flag Ceremony on campus Saturday morning after the General Membership meeting. The Columbia Central High School ROTC Unit provided the Color Guard for the ceremony. Taps sounded on campus again.



Although Columbia Academy now has a modern Fieldhouse for athletic events, the old CMA Gym proudly stands on campus and is still used by the school. Countless CMA bowling matches, basketball games, swimming events, dances and graduation ceremonies took place in this facility.

## CMA Memories Great Stories from the History of CMA

At my age it's a kick to think back on times long past, so it's no surprise that my four years at CMA come into focus. One of my favorite episodes while there happened in my senior year. I was a "town boy," as was my good friend Jack Plylar. For background, in 1945 Coach Morgan Farris took a CMA track team to the Mid South Association track meet. We performed terribly there and Coach was furious. It was rumored that alcohol may have played a roll there but this remained a rumor. In 1946, Jack and I went to Coach Farris to ask if CMA would have a track team this year. The answer was a resounding NO! However, he said he would enter us if our parents gave permission, which they did. Coach made it plain he would not be able to accompany us to the event. Jack and I took a bus to Sewanee, Tennessee for the track meet. My race was the mile run and was scheduled before Jack's 880 yard run. Since I had never had the opportunity to run the mile for time I decided to stay behind two McCallie runners. Halfway through the race I felt the pace was too slow so I took the lead and built a healthy lead. I won the race and had almost lapped the other runners. What I didn't know (Jack told me later) was that Coach Farris came after all and stood with Jack as I ran. When I pulled so far ahead Jack said Coach lowered his head and predicted disaster as he thought I had miscounted laps and wouldn't be able to finish. In his eyes I would never finish and CMA would be embarrassed again. Jack went on to win his race, within a tenth of a second over the Mid South record. What makes this so memorable for me was that on the following Monday at the morning auditorium meeting, Coach Farris told the entire student body of Jack's and my victories at Sewanee, with pride in his voice. As an aside, Jack was A Company Commander and I was D Company Commander. Baker Huff and Jimmy Dedman were Companies B and C Commanders. Michell Bonds was Cadet Major and Leo Glen was Adjutant. Jack's company won Best Overall for the year and my company won Best Drill Competition

thanks to Lt. Lester Freeman's knowledge of military commands. A much delayed thanks to you Lester. 1946 was Coach John Bass's first year as football coach. He brought with him Doug Watson who made First Team All Mid South that year and already had a college scholarship. I was a scrawny 150 pounder who played behind Doug. Well, about mid season Doug hurt his shoulder at Baylor. Coach Bass sent me in. I was thrilled and evidently played well. The following Monday, Coach Bass elevated a kid "not as big as a minute" to a 1st Team starter in our next game. Here was a coach who thought more of his "other boys" than he did about winning. You won't find a coach like that today and I am just one of many who will remember him always with respect and affection!

Cecil "Bob" Shelton, '46

### Website for CMA Items

There is a new website that will carry CMA related items for sale. The initial items are Vacuum Tumblers with the CMA logo. Jim Law, Class of 1972, has been designing and developing shirts and hats for several years and is now working to get a website with numerous CMA items going. Take a look at [cma.pokeys.net](http://cma.pokeys.net) and get your tumbler ordered.

# MOVING?

**STAY IN TOUCH...**

*Please forward your new address to:*

**CMA Alumni Association**

**804 Athenaeum Place**

**Columbia, TN 38401-3156**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

GRADUATING CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

## Lest we Forget



**Nathan Green Gordon**  
**CMA Alumnus**  
**Medal of Honor Recipient**

Nathan Green Gordon was born on 4 September 1916 in Morrilton, Arkansas. He graduated from Columbia Military Academy in 1933. He participated in varsity football and baseball. He then attended Arkansas Polytechnic College and the University of Arkansas, graduating with a Law Degree in 1939. He was a member of the team that won a conference title for the Southwest Conference in 1936. In 1941, he enlisted in the US Naval Reserve. He completed flight training and received his Navy wings in 1942. He served in the Pacific Theater of Operations during World War II earning two Distinguished Flying Crosses and six Air Medals. On 29 April 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt awarded Lieutenant Gordon the Congressional Medal of Honor for "extraordinary heroism above and beyond the call of duty...in rescuing personnel...shot down in combat over Kavieng Harbor in the Bismark Sea." He was released from active service as a Lieutenant Commander in 1945. He then returned to Morrilton, resuming his law practice. In 1946 he was elected Lieutenant Governor for the State of Arkansas, an office he held for 20 years. He continued law practice until retiring in 1992. He was inducted into the CMAAA Hall of Honor in 1996. He passed away on September 8th, 2008 at the age of 92.

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# SILVER TAPS

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## John Oakley, Class of '48

John Richard Oakley, 86, passed away peacefully on June 23, 2016. Born April 13, 1930, John attended Bardstown City Schools and CMA. He attended CMA for three years graduating with the Class of 1948. He then graduated from Centre



John Oakley University of Louisville where he was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, and the University of Louisville Dental School where he was a member of Delta Sigma Delta. After graduation, he joined the US Air Force and practiced dentistry as a Captain for two years. He and his wife Delores returned to Bardstown where he had his dental practice from 1958-1995. He was a past president of the Kiwanas Club and a former deacon at the Bardstown Baptist Church. "Dr. John" was a force to be reckoned with. An avid fisherman for most of his life and a proud member of the Juniper Club, he adored the outdoors. He was often found in his boat fishing, in the field dove hunting, at the range shooting skeet, or outside enjoying a cigar or his pipe. He also loved keeping tabs on the racetrack, always appreciated watching a good game of baseball, and traveled anywhere when given the chance. He was always willing to tell you a joke, often one you had heard for the umpteenth time. He was preceded in death by his father, William Joseph Oakley; his mother, Clara Wells Oakley; his brother, William Oakley; and his sister, Clara Jennelle Dearen. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Dolores Cornell Oakley; by his three children, Karen Sweezey Jones, John Oakley Jr (Kim), and Mildred Neff, all of Louisville; and by his brother, Joseph Oakley (Mary) of Worcester, Massachusetts; and by eight grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

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## Herman L. Yeatman, Faculty

Herman Yeatman, age 90, died on June 5, 2016. Born the son of a farmer and the grandson of a Confederate veteran of the Civil War, Mr. Yeatman joined the U.S. Army two days after his high school graduation. During World War II, he served in General George Patton's Third Army. He



Herman Yeatman

received the Combat Infantryman's Badge, a Purple Heart, and a Bronze Star. Following the war, he returned to his native Mississippi and as a Distinguished Military Graduate earned a Master's Degree from Mississippi State University. As a student he was selected for membership in three honorary leadership societies: Scabbard and Blade, Blue Key and ODK. After graduation, he served as an instructor at Gulf Coast Military Academy and at Columbia Military Academy. He was at CMA from the Fall of 1951 through the 1954-55 school year. In addition, he served as a consultant for the Save The Children Federation. In 1959, Mr. Yeatman assisted the government of the State of Tennessee in setting up a statewide juvenile probation program. He later set up the statewide adult probation and parole system and served as its first director. He served as a cabinet member under three governors, as Commissioner of the Department of Welfare and the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections. He also served nine years as Director of the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy and as the first director of the Tennessee Peace Officer Standard and Training Commission. In 1990, he retired after serving five years with the State Board of Regents. An active member of Arlington United Methodist Church since 1961, Mr. Yeatman taught Sunday School and served on many committees. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 60 years, Faye Yeatman. He is survived by son, Clarke Yeatman (Shannon); grandchildren, Sheila and William Rigsby.

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## Denny Trousdale, Class of '46

Denny Trousdale entered into rest May 19, 2016. He was born August 30,

1928 in Nashville, Tennessee to Martha Perkins Trousdale and Goulding Marr Trousdale, Sr. He attended CMA, graduating with the Class of 1946 and then attended Vanderbilt University. He served in the United States Air Force and worked for FL Polk & Company in New York City and Nashville. He is survived by three children: Margaret Trousdale Woodard, Edwin Maury Perkins Trousdale, and Goulding Marr Trousdale III; and two grandchildren, Nicholas Perkins Trousdale and Lauren Marie Trousdale.



Denny Trousdale

## Charles Ray Brackett, PG Class of '56

Charles "Charlie" Ray Brackett, 78, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, August 11, 2016. He attended CMA for one year as a Post Graduate in the 1955-56 school year. Charlie had a love for life. His most important accomplishments included his family, friendships, and taking his family on adventures around the world. He leaves behind his loving wife of 55 years, Janet Linda Brackett; and his children: Lea Smith (Nelson), Aden Giles, Robyn Chunn (Rickey), and Cameron Brackett (Suzanne). He was a wonderful grandfather to eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Charlie Brackett

## Walter K. Hurt, Class of '58

Walter K. Hurt, 75, of La Porte, Indiana, passed away on April 9, 2016. Walter was born June 27, 1940, to Arlie and Louise Hurt in Charleston, West Virginia. He attended CMA for 2 years, graduating with the Class of 1958. He served his country proudly as a member Walter Hurt of the United States Navy. He retired from Bethlehem Steel with 32 1/2 years of service and considered his co-workers as family. He was a short



# SILVER TAPS

- Continued from Page 11 -

wave radio enthusiast and an active Tea Party member and defender of the Constitution. He was a kind, gently, quirky, generous man who will be especially missed by his sister and his close friends and neighbors, the Tuckert family. He is survived by his sister Jane Hurt (Michel Thomas) of Coral Gables, Florida and Innsbrook, Austria.

## Charles Coleman, Class of '60

Charles Edward Coleman, Jr., 74, retired employee of Whirlpool Corporation, died Saturday, July 16, 2016, in Delray Beach, Florida, where he had made his home for the past eighteen years. Born December 1, 1941, in Madisonville, Kentucky, he was the son of the late Charles E. Coleman, Sr. and the late Arlie Katherine Lynn Coleman. He attended CMA for four years, graduating with the Class of 1960. He then attended Western Kentucky University. Mr. Coleman's career with Whirlpool Corporation in Evansville, Indiana spanned over thirty-five years until his retirement in 1996. An avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting; but his greatest passion was fishing. While living in Newburgh, Indiana, he was a member of Newburgh United Methodist Church. Married July 3, 1966, at Williamsport United Methodist Church, he is survived by his wife of fifty years, Shirl Coleman of Delray Beach, FL; son, Chris Coleman of



Charles Coleman

Hemet, CA; daughter, Catherine Coleman of Orlando, FL; grandchildren, Alexander and Sophia; brother-in-law, Willis "Sonny" Jones of Williamsport, TN; sister-in-law, Jane Anne Jones Perkey of Louisville, KY; and cousin, Lynn Bowles of Loveland, OH.

## Robin Layton, Class of '74

Robert Lemuel Layton III, 60, passed away August 8, 2016. Robin was raised in Leighton, Alabama. He was a proud graduate of Columbia Military Academy in Columbia, Tennessee, a heritage he shared with his father. He attended CMA for four years, graduating with the Class of 1974. He graduated from the University of Alabama, where he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. Robin's interests were varied and his passion for knowledge was insatiable. Robin served on the Board of Directors of the Columbia Military Academy Alumni Association, including as Past President. He was an active foundation member of the Regional Library and Arts Center in Warrior. Robin is survived by his daughter, Laura Katherine Layton; his son, James Swayze Layton; his fiancé, Dana Self Sigler; his sister, Julie Layton Martin, and her children Samuel Robert Martin and Layton Elizabeth Martin. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert Lemuel Layton Jr. and Sibyl McMahan Layton.



Robin Layton

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