



Volume 19, Number 2

Summer, 2009

Board Sets Donation Cutoff Date, Long Term Museum Budget Plan

**MINUTES OF THE
COLUMBIA MILITARY
ACADEMY ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING**

DATE: April 25,
2009

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

LOCATION:
Academy Hall,
Columbia Academy
Campus, Columbia, TN
Agenda and Reports

The meeting was called to order by President Don Kimbrell. Randy Howell offered
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Board Members in Attendance

R.C Smith '44	Mike Gilchrist '63
Steve Harper '45	Tom Colvert '65
Jack Walker '45	Walker McGinnis '65
Bill Shaw '51	Jim Borum '66
John Bass '53	Robin Salze '66
Don Kimbrell '53	Rob Zimmerman '67
Marshall Cranford '54	Bill Wade '68
Randall Henderson '55	Randy Howell '72
Skip Snow '55	Jim Pennington '72
Bill Raiford '55	Dudley Dolinger '73
Tom Hayward '56	Woody Pettigrew '73
Tom Walbert '58	Winston Elston '74
Ron Nall '61	Becky Moon '75
Wally Couch '62	Barry Crotzer '76
Don Noffsinger '63	Jay Robins '76

A History of CMA Part 2

by Woody Pettigrew, Class of '73

As the need for a military arsenal in Columbia diminished,

the citizens of Columbia conceived a plan to have the property set up for educational purposes. Senator



E.W. Carmack

and Congressman L.P. Padgett, both of Columbia, cooperated in this movement. This involvement, along with the earlier involvement of Congressman W.C. Whitthorne of Columbia in the establishment of Columbia Arsenal, demonstrated the political support provided by Columbians in

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CMAAA Officers ...
Pictured at the April 25th Board meeting are (lower left), Don Kimbrell, Class of '53, president; (top, 1 to r) Nelson Snow, Class of '55, Treasurer; Mike Gilchrist, Class of '63, vice president; Becky Moon, Class of '74, assistant treasurer and Robin Salze, Class of '66, secretary.

50th Year Reunion Contacts for 2010

1960

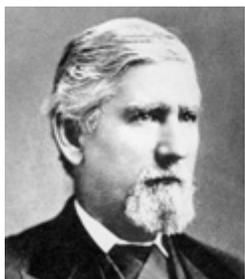
Ed Smith
4201 Quail Springs Cr.
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1961

Ron Nall
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the early days of Columbia Arsenal and Columbia Military Academy.



W.C. Whitthorne

As a result, an Act of Congress in 1904 (approved on 23 April) authorized the Secretary of War, Frank Elmer Oliver, to

transfer the Co-

lumbia Arsenal property to Columbia Military Academy with the condition that the estate created would be used for educational purposes only. Additionally, the Secretary of War was given full rights of visitation to the school and could, in his discretion, prescribe a military curriculum for the school. Finally, the Act also stipulated that the United States had the right to use the property for military purposes at any time on demand of the President of the United States.

The first Board of Directors meeting of the Columbia Military Academy was conducted at the Tullane Hotel in Nashville Tennessee on 25 April 1904, two days after Congress approved the Act transferring the Columbia Arsenal to Columbia Military Academy. Board members present for this first meeting were B. Lawton Wiggins, James H. Kirkland, Seymour A. Mynders, Harvey H. Hannah, William E. Bostick, Edward E. Barthell and Abram M. Tillman.

The first order of business was the election of officers for the board. B. Lawton Wiggins was elected President, Seymour A. Mynders was elected Vice President and A.M. Tillman was elected Secretary and Treasurer. A resolution was then formally adopted that authorized and directed Mr. Wiggins and Mr. Tillman, President and Secre-

tary, to execute a formal acceptance of the Columbia Arsenal property to be transferred to Columbia Military Academy by the Secretary of War. The board then approved a motion for Mr. Wiggins and Mr. Tillman to select and procure a seal for Columbia Military Academy.

Finally, the board approved a motion that Professor H.C. Weber be made custodian of the property to be conveyed to Columbia Military Academy. Thus, two days after the Congressional Act was approved the CMA Board took the first steps in establishing Columbia Military Academy.

During the next Board meeting on 6 May, 1904, the board adopted the seal of Columbia Military Academy. Also of note from the second meeting of the Board was a resolution that the President travel to Washington, D.C. and deliver the formal acceptance of the Columbia Arsenal property to the War Department and receive the deed from the Secretary of War. That official transfer took place on 10 May, 1904.

First Board Meeting

The Board conducted its first meeting on the CMA property on 8 July 1904.

An interesting nuance of this meeting is that the Board approved the transfer of the property of Columbia Military Academy to the new corporation, "The Columbia Military Academy". This was done to meet the requirements set out by the government. Columbia Military Academy was originally founded as a stock company and remained so until 1949. The original restrictions placed by the federal government kept the physical plant separate from the school operation and governed by a separate board.

The Board of Trustees, or Government Board as it was called,

leased the property to an Operating Board. Professor Weber made a verbal report as custodian stating that he was on the premises on 30 June, 1904 and received the property from the Federal authorities. The Board members then had an additional meeting; that meeting being as the Board of Directors of The Columbia Military Academy. Mr. Wiggins was elected temporary Chairman and Mr. Tillman was elected temporary Secretary of the Board. The Board then approved the By Laws of The Columbia Military Academy.

After the By-Laws were adopted, Mr. Wiggins was elected President, Mr. Mynders Vice President and Mr. Tillman Secretary of the Board. At this point there were two separate Boards; the Board of Trustees (Government Board) and the Operating Board. The President and Secretary were authorized to borrow whatever amount of money might be necessary to meet the current expenses of Columbia Military Academy and they were also authorized and empowered to execute a mortgage on all the property to secure a loan not exceeding \$50,000 to be used in improving and repairing the property and furnishing necessary capital to start operating the school.

The Executive Committee was then authorized to make a contract with Mr. H.C. Weber for the conduct of Columbia Military Academy. Finally, a motion was made, and unanimously carried, that Columbia Military Academy not be opened until the Fall of 1905.

There was a meeting of both boards on March 27, 1905. This meeting was called at the request of Mr. Weber. CMA was experiencing financial problems before the school had even opened. Mr.

continued on next page

Weber reported that he had been assured that the necessary funds would be forth-coming, and as a result he had made statements in Columbia that were now embarrassing since the money necessary to adapt the buildings for school purposes had not been obtained. Additionally, expenses incurred to that date were approximately \$3,000, which he could not afford to lose. Finally, he did not want to let an opportunity pass for him to be elected Superintendent of the Nashville City schools unless he had positive and definite assurances that the Trustees could provide the necessary money to start the school.

As a result, the board asked Mr. Weber and Mr. Bostick to assess some different propositions from various persons looking to open the school. During a subsequent meeting of the two boards on April 18th 1905, the committee of Mr. Weber and Mr. Bostick reported out on two propositions that were made for the opening of the school.

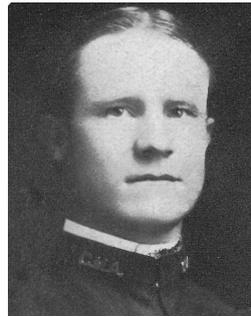
One proposition was submitted by Mr. Dudley Gale and another



Prof. J.C. Hardy

was submitted by Professor J. C. Hardy from Southwestern University in Texas. After discussion of the two propositions, the Board unanimously accepted the Hardy proposition and the President was authorized to execute the necessary lease or contract with Professor Hardy. The President and Secretary were then authorized and instructed to execute a deed conveying the property of Columbia Military Academy to The Columbia Military Academy. Mr. Weber resigned as

Superintendent. Professor Hardy became the Principal and brought with him Professor Edgerton as Co-Principal. These two served as the initial leaders of the school when the first cadets arrived in the Fall of 1905. They remained as Co-Principals of Columbia Military Academy until June 1912.



Prof. Edgerton

The two boards met on May 22, 1905 for the sole purpose of adopting the official seal for The Columbia Military Academy. Professor Weber presented the seal which had been prepared and upon a motion that unanimously carried, the seal was adopted. An impression of the seal was made on the minutes from that meeting. (That impression is still visible on the official minutes from the meeting and the stamp that makes the seal impression is on display in the CMA Museum.)

Columbia Military Academy opened on August 28th, 1905 with classes scheduled to begin on the first of September. The first year of the school was successful beyond expectation, with a total enrollment of 167 cadets representing the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, New York and Tennessee.

The first application for enrollment was received for a son of the famed horseman, Pop Geers.

The faculty, all college graduates, represented Vanderbilt, Cumberland, Virginia Military Institute, Hiram College and the University of Nashville. The first CMA uniforms arrived in October 1905 and CMA's long grey line took form.

Sources:

“Columbia Military Academy His-

Mini Reunion for 70's, Aug. 22 in Nashville

The CMA Cadets from the Decade of the 70's are holding a Mini-Reunion / Get Together this summer on the 22nd of August. All former cadets that were at CMA anytime during the school years of 69-70 through 78-79 are encouraged to join us for an evening of socializing, dinner and listening to some of the best music ever written (we will go easy on the disco). We will be gathering at the Embassy Suites – Nashville South/Cool Springs for this special evening. We have already had enough registrations to sign our contract with the hotel and are now encouraging those that have not yet signed up to do so. We will continue to take registrations until the event but would appreciate you signing up as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly. If you have already signed up, we encourage you to contact an old classmate or two and get them to join us. If everyone that is already planning to attend finds two other classmates to join in the evening we will have a great turnout. You can get additional information on the event and the registration form from the CMAAA website (www.cmaaa.com) under the Mini Reunion link or call Woody Pettigrew at 256-653-7303 or e-mail at wpettigrew@knology.net for more information or a copy of the Registration Form. The hotel is offering a special room rate for those that want to stay overnight... just tell them you are part of the “CMA Group” when you make your reservation. Hope to see you there.

tory Book”, Turner Publishing, 1996; “Maury County Encyclopedia” (www.maurypedia.com) “Trotwood's Monthly”, July 1906

“Minutes” continued from page 1
the invocation.

John Bass led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Don Kimbrell asked each of the members introduce their self as this is the first meeting of the 2009 – 2010 Board.

Minutes from the August 1, 2008 Board Meeting, and August 2, 2008 Reunion General Meeting were approved by the board as written.

Treasurer’s Report was given by Becky Moon, Assistant Treasurer. CMAAA Regular Checking Account - \$33,511.00 as of 3/31/09. Becky reported that Marshall Ledbetter’s family asked that donations be made to CMAAA in his memory. At this time, \$1,250.00 has been donated. The Treasurer’s Report was approved by the Board.

Old Business

Bill Raiford presented the Castle Heights Golf Challenge plaque, which the CMAAA team won by one stroke in October, 2008. Randy Howell reported that Castle Heights had contacted him about the 2009 rematch, with a date yet to be determined. Motion approved to dedicate the plaque to Bill Fricke ’39 who was instrumental in overseeing our Reunion Golf tournament.

Rob Zimmerman ’67 asked the Board to consider moving the Reunion to a later date in the fall. After discussion, no decision will be made at this time as to a change of date for the 2010 Reunion. The discussion will be brought up at the next meeting under Old Business.

Museum Report was given by Woody Pettigrew. Woody reported in detail the financial situation of the Museum. At the present time there is \$31,258.41 cash on hand, which is derived from Cash Received \$127,663.00 less Expenses \$96,405.00. Woody made a mo-

tion, which was passed for the Museum Fund to pay the General Fund the \$15,000 seed money provided to start the Museum Fund. The \$15,000.00 will be paid to the General Fund. Woody provided the Board Members with the Long Term Budget Plan.

The closing date for Museum Donors was discussed, with September 30, 2009 being the cut off date to have the Donor’s name placed on the Donor Plaque.

There will be a notice in the next Bugle advising members of the closing date for contributions to be included on The Plaque.

Woody proposed having the Board make a donation to the Museum in honor of Mariemma Grimes. A motion was made and passed to donate \$1,000.00 to the Museum in Honor of Ms Grimes. Woody discussed investing the Museum Fund, and General Fund in a Certificate of Deposit or other interest bearing account. No decision was made at this time. Woody addressed general questions from Board Members concerning the Museum.

Woody reported the Cannon and Caisson has been restored, with John Hubbard ’59 donating the wood. Woody will ask Columbia Academy to allow CMAAA to have a concrete pad to set the Cannon and Caisson on. Woody asked the Board to decide the color for the Cannon & Caisson. No decision will be made at this time, and will be discussed when the Cannon needs painting.

Woody reported the CA Maintenance Crew has restored the water fountain which had been at the corner of the Quadrangle, and has made it available to us. He is working on placing the water fountain in the Museum area for display.

There was a discussion of a virtual display for the museum. Woody

will investigate the possibility of a virtual display. Woody informed the Board there is a good representation of yearbooks and catalogs from the early years with yearbooks for all years from 1953 – 1979.

Marshall Cranford addressed the possibility of advertising the Museum in the Columbia area. Woody reported the tourism office is considering adding a link on their web site for the Museum, and adding the Museum to their tour options. There are pamphlets available at the Visitors Bureau.

Woody will offer better access to the Museum by providing several local residents with a key to the Museum. Anyone interested in visiting the Museum will be able to call Woody, who will have someone locally who can open the Museum.

New Business

Don Kimbrell asked the Board to consider increasing the amount of the CA Scholarship or adding another Scholarship. After a discussion, a motion was made and passed to increase the CA Scholarship to \$1,500.00.

Bill Raiford asked the Board to consider an increase in dues. A motion was made and passed to increase the dues \$5.00 per year, and send notices to all members.

There was a discussion of e-mailing the Bugle to those who have email access. Bill Raiford said not mailing a paper copy of The Bugle would not be practical, as there is always incorrect email information. He will continue to mail paper copies of The Bugle to the entire membership.

Woody proposed updating the Memorial to include the new Hall of Honor members. A motion was made and passed to have the Memorial updated. Jack Walker and Mar-

continued on next page

Out of Retirement, Improves Environment

During Earth Day celebrations, many people made an effort to improve the environment.

A former Cadet has been doing just that for the past several months.

Stanley Boyd, Class of '56, of Louisville, played a role in the construction of Reynolds new "green" aluminum foil that debuted in April.

"There is a government definition of 100 percent recycled foil," Boyd said. "It has to be either post-consumer or post-industrial."

Boyd said the metal can come from stadium seats, boats, cables, aluminum siding and other metals. Normal aluminum foil has only about 2 percent recycled materials in it, he stated.

Boyd, a metallurgical engineer from Georgia Tech, was called out of retirement in February because of his experience. He had been with Reynolds for 35 years before retiring to play golf 12 years ago.

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shall Cranford will contact Hunt Memorial to have the names added to the Memorial.

Randy Howell asked about the changing CA Administration. Mike Gilchrist said he does not foresee any problems working with the new Administration. Mike and Woody gave the new CA Board a tour of the Museum, with which they were impressed.

There was a discussion of location for the 2010 Reunion Banquet. Becky reported there is uncertainty about the availability of the Saturn Hall. Saturn increased the charges for the 2008 Banquet and they were not helpful with any of the set-up. The board discussed another location for the banquet. The location for the 2010 Banquet will be discussed at the next Board Meeting under Old Business.

Bill Shaw '51 gave the Board a

Cannon and Caisson Restoration Complete

Last Fall's Bugle included an article about the Cannon and Caisson being back on campus and located alongside the CMA Museum. As indicated in that article, the Cannon and Caisson were in need of restoration as a result of their years of neglect.

Thanks to John Hubbard, CMA Class of '59 and CMAAA board member who furnished all of the material for the restoration and to Mr. Randy Walters, Woodcarving Specialist in Columbia, that restoration is complete.

The Cannon and Caisson are fully restored and on display beside the CMA Museum in what will become a permanent location.

Our next step in the process is to work with Columbia Academy to have a permanent concrete pad poured for the Cannon and Caisson to both protect the wheels and add to the appearance of the display.

We will also develop a marker providing a brief description of the Cannon and Caisson. A final step, if it can be done, will be to install a permanent canopy over the Cannon and Caisson to provide further protection.

All former Cadets, faculty and friends of CMA are encouraged to go by the CMA Museum and take a look at this rare piece of military equipment that was part of Columbia Arsenal and then was a key fixture on campus for the entire tenure of Columbia Military Academy.



"Ramon Diaz, Class of '44, and his wife Arlene pose for a picture with the newly restored Cannon and Caisson. Ramon and Arlene, of Memphis, stopped by campus to visit the CMA Museum during a recent trip across the state.

report of the sad state of repair of Academy Hall.

Motion to adjourn was made and passed.

Marshall Cranford offered the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted:
Robin Salze, CMAAA Secretary



CMAAA Scholarship . . . CMA Alumnus Woody Pettigrew, Class of '73, presents the \$1,500 CMAAA Scholarship to Columbia Academy graduate Caroline Wolfe during the school's Commencement Ceremony on 16 May. Caroline plans to attend Lipscomb University and major in psychology. Caroline's mother, Gina (Bastone) Wolfe, attended CMA for the 6-8th grades during the years 1976-1979.

B. Regen Peebles, Instructor

Bascom Regen Peebles, Sr., 65, former Columbia resident and CMA instructor, died January 12, at his residence in Lebanon.

An outstanding athlete, he was 1961 graduate of Columbia Central High School where he lettered in baseball, basketball, and football.



B. Regen Peebles

He went on to play college football with Joe Willie Namath under Coach Bear Bryant at Alabama.

He later graduated from East Tennessee State University and earned a law degree from Nashville School of Law. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

Survivors include his sons, Bascom Regen "B" Peebles, Jr. and his wife, Julie Ann, of Kalamazoo, Mich., and John Arnold Peebles and his wife, Alicia Yvonne, of Memphis; brother, Martin Arnold "Peeps" Peebles, Jr. of Franklin; several cousins, nieces, and nephews.

MSgt. Mike Sutton, PMS&T

MSgt. Michael H. Sutton, Sr. US Army, Special Forces. Known to everyone at CMA as "Sarge", died Jan. 8, 2008 in Sheffield, AL.

He was the Military Instructor from 1975 until the school closed in 1978. MSgt Sutton was buried with full military honors in Sheffield.

At the 2006 CMA Grand Reunion he presented CMAAA with the last flag to fly over the Academy grounds. The flag is presently on display in the Guard House Museum on the CA campus.

According to his daughter, Becky Sutton Clark, Class of 78, he was overcome with emotion in meeting many of the "young folks" he was blessed to have known at CMA. "He loved the academy and the students loved him," said Becky. "He was a hard instructor but everyone gleaned from him values they would carry with them the rest of their lives."

MSgt. Sutton was Special Forces, Special Operations, Delta group. He was awarded the Bronze and Silver Stars. Special Forces (SF) was his passion, as was his wife, Shelby J. Saint Sutton, who died April 21, 2006.

He will be terribly missed by anyone who knew him.

Survivors include: Martha Cooper Cousin in Tampa FL, Jana Fine Cousin of Tampa also. His children: Rebecca (James) Clark, Michael H. (Dana) Sutton Jr. of Alexandria, NC, Georgia Anne (Mark) McCuen both military veterans; Grandchildren: Karen Clark (Jonathan) Gobble, Andrea Clark (Jennifer Ballard), Michael H. Sutton III, Daniel Sutton, Aaron Sutton, Mark McCuen III, Lauren McCuen, Shelby McCuen, Amanda Sutton, and Kym Sutton; and four Great grandchildren. Last, but by no means least Sarge's best friend, his dog Muffin.

**Columbia Military Academy Museum Project
Donation Form (September 30 Cutoff Date)**

I support the CMA Museum Project with a donation in the amount of _____ . I am including my check made out to the CMAAA

NAME: _____

CMA CLASS _____

ADDRESS: _____

I DO NOT want my name included in any recognition for making a donation _____. (Please indicate with an "X" if you DO NOT want your name included in the donor's list...an Anonymous donation)

Mail To: **CMAAA, 804 Athenaeum Place, Columbia, TN 38401**

INSTEAD of making this donation in my name, I want this donation to be in Memory of Mrs. Mariemma Grimes _____ (Please mark with an "X" if you want this donation to be recognized in Mrs. Grimes' name INSTEAD of your name.)

Donation Levels

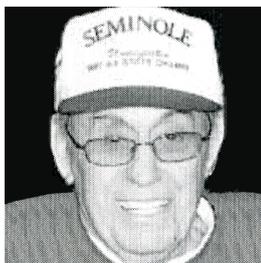
- Up to \$499 – Foothills Club
- \$1,000 - \$2,499 – Plateau Club
- \$5,000 - \$9,999 – Bronze
- \$500 - \$999 – Ridgerunner Club
- \$2,500 - \$4,999 – Trailblazer Club
- \$10,000 - \$24,000 – Silver
- \$25,000 and Up – Gold

SILVER TAPS

Wallace Jackson Sr., Class of '39

Coach Wallace Jackson Sr., age 89, resident of Osceola, AR since 1955, died April 27 in Harrisburg, AR.

A WWII Navy veteran, he was a life long Baptist.



Wallace Jackson Sr.

After graduating CMA, Coach Jackson attended Cumberland University and was a graduate of Arkansas State University, lettering in football and wrestling.

He is survived by his son, Wallace Jackson Jr. of Jonesboro, AR; three daughters, Janice Croom of Jonesboro, Jackie Massanelli of Jonesboro and Bernee Thurow of North Little Rock, AR; and four grandchildren, all of Jonesboro.

Lt. Col. E.L. Scharff, Sr., Class of '43

Lt. Col. Eduard L. Scharff, Sr., retired, of Little Rock, died March 20. Mr. Scharff, known to his friends and family as E.L., was born in Houston, Texas. Upon graduation from CMA he married Bette C. Terry of Columbia. He then entered the U.S. Army during World War II.



E.L. Scharff Sr.

After completion of Officer's Training School at Fort Benning, GA, he saw action as an infantry platoon leader. He received the Purple Heart after being wounded on Luzon.

Following his recovery and discharge, he returned to Little Rock where he joined Little Rock Builders, Inc., as a contractor in residential construction.

He learned to fly and joined his

father, who was also a pilot, on trips around the state.

At the beginning of the Korean Conflict, E.L. was recalled to duty as a Captain in the Corps of Engineers building airfields in Korea. Upon his return to the States he continued his military career, stationed with the Corps of Engineers at Camp Walters in Mineral Wells, Texas.

In 1955 he was reassigned to Germany for three years where he became Company Commander of the 502 Float Bridge Company. In 1958 he returned to the States.

In 1963, on his return from duty in Japan, E.L. was assigned as Commander of the Little Rock Sub-Sector, U.S. Army Reserves. In 1967, as a Lt. Col. he saw a one year tour of duty in Vietnam as a part of MACV, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. After Vietnam he was made Deputy District Engineer with the Corps of Engineers in Little Rock.

E.L. received two Legions of Merit awards. He retired after 25 years of active duty in 1968.

Following retirement, he became Vice President of Production for Ouachita Marine in Arkadelphia, AR.

He is survived by three children; Eddy Scharff and wife Lizabeth of Memphis, Terry Shipley and husband Paul of Charlotte, NC, David Scharff and Kathy of Little Rock; one sister Faylese Gruber of Memphis, 4 grandchildren; Amber Mock, Ted Scharff, Max Shipley, and Hayden Scharff, and 2 great-grandchildren; Sara Mock, and Anna Grace Mock.

He was buried at Little Rock National Cemetery with military honors.

Lake D. Kelly, Class of '52

Lake D. Kelly, who crafted Austin Peay State University into an

Ohio Valley Conference basketball power, leading the Govs to three NCAA Tournament berths over two separate coaching stints, died in his hometown of Flemingsburg, Ky.

Kelly, 75, entered the Flemingsburg hospital for kidney stone surgery, but complications developed causing his death.



Lake Kelly

Kelly had returned to Austin Peay in early February for the retirement of James "Fly" Williams' No. 35 jersey. During a three-day stay, Kelly was reunited with his 1972-73 and '73-74 Austin Peay teams that won the OVC titles and played in consecutive NCAA tournaments. "He meant the world to me," Williams said. "He was a big part of my life. When I came to Clarksville to play for Austin Peay, he took me in like a parent."

Kelly retired as an assistant principal at Flemingsburg Elementary School days before Christmas, and was looking forward to watching his grandson, Centennial High standout Drew Kelly, play college basketball at Miami of Ohio. "This is definitely a shock to us," said Kelly's son, Brian, the head boys basketball coach at Centennial. "We weren't ready for it at all. He had made big plans to see Drew play (at Miami-Ohio the next four years) and go fishing in his retirement, and take mom around to see the country."

Kelly coached at Austin Peay from 1971-77 before leaving to become the men's basketball coach at Oral Roberts for two seasons.

He left college basketball to become the boys basketball coach at George Rogers High in Winchester, Ky. After a four-year stint he re-

SILVER TAPS

turned to the college ranks joining Joe B. Hall's staff.

Kelly returned to Austin Peay in 1985 coaching the Govs through the 1990 season. Kelly's biggest moment in his return to the Clarksville campus came during the opening round of the 1987 NCAA Tournament when the Govs upset Illinois 68-67. They lost in overtime in the following round to Providence, coached then by Rick Pitino. After leaving Austin Peay, Kelly coached at Columbia Central for two seasons, directing the Lions to consecutive Class AAA state runner-up finishes.

"What a great coach he was," said Columbia High athletics director Lee Clayborne, who Kelly succeeded as boys basketball coach. "We had good players, but you don't finish runner-up in the state of Tennessee two years in a row without having talent, but that second year he got them there by his coaching."

Kelly left Columbia for Flemingsburg to become the boys basketball coach at Fleming County High School.

He coached from 1994-2003, leading the program to consecutive Sweet 16 appearances, including a semifinal finish in the 1997-98 season.

He ended his coaching career at Fleming County as he guided the Panthers to Sweet Sixteen appearances in 1998 and 1999.

Kelly attended CMA his senior year and a post graduate year where he was among the top players in the highly-competitive Mid-South Conference.

He is survived by his wife Marti, a daughter Jane and two sons, Lake Jr. and Brian, who is the head basketball coach at Centennial High School in Franklin.

Kelly's grandson, Drew, is a senior at Centennial High where he

is one of the state's top scorers. He has signed an NCAA scholarship with Miami (Ohio) University.

Kelly recently retired from high school administration work in Kentucky.

"He and his wife attended our 50th Reunion, and I talked to both of them for a fairly long conversation in the lunch room for our seniors back celebrating our 50th. before luncheon at Rattle and Snap" said Bill Alexander, Class of '52.

Marshall P. Ledbetter, Class of '54

Marshall Powell Ledbetter, Jr., 72, well-known Middle Tennessee businessman and horseman, died Sunday, February 22 at Williamson Medical Center, Nashville, TN.

Funeral services were conducted at St. Peter's Episcopal Church with The Reverend Thomas Wilson officiating.

Memo-
rials may
be made to
Columbia
Military
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o Becky Al-
good Moon,
804 Ath-



Marshall Ledbetter

enaenum Street, Columbia 38401 or St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 311 West 7th Street,

His early education came from the Columbia public school system. He later attended and was a graduate of CMA where he lettered in football and in the ROTC program was selected a member of the Gold Star Drill Team. He continued his interest in CMA throughout the years as an avid supporter and member of the CMA Alumni Association.

After graduating CMA, he received an appointment to the Air Force Academy for the first class

accepted there, but optioned to attend Vanderbilt University where he graduated in 1958 with a B.A. Degree. He was offered Rotary International's grant to study in Oxford, England, however his desire to enter business and marriage overrode his acceptance of this honor.

He married the former Catharine Browder of Nashville in 1958 and they moved to a farm in Maury County where in the early 1960s the family began to raise Tennessee Walking Horses.

With his father, he owned and operated Victory Van Lines, a household goods moving and storage company based in Columbia for 47 years. The company began with an affiliation with North American Van Lines and later with Allied Van Lines, Recognized as a leader in the industry for many years, he served as secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Movers Association for 20 years.

Mr. Ledbetter was active in civic and community affairs throughout his life. He was a member and past president of the Columbia Rotary Club and was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow. He was a member of Columbia Masonic Lodge #31, was a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason and member of Al Menah Shrine Temple.

Active in the Tennessee Walking Horse community, he was a member and served as president of the Maury County Horsemen's Association from 1968-1972.

Survivors include his wife, Catharine Browder Ledbetter of Columbia; children, William Browder Ledbetter, Mary Kate (James) Barr, and Marshall Powell Ledbetter, III of Columbia; grandchildren, Catharine Ann Ledbetter, Joseph Browder (Joey) Ledbetter, and B. J. Ledbetter; sister, Bettye Ledbetter (Dan) Buckner of Dickson; brother, Gary Clement (Lucy)

SILVER TAPS

Ledbetter of Columbia; brother-in-law, William (Elnel) Browder of Freeport, Maine; nieces and nephews, Emily Browder (Tom) Forti, Hannah Browder, Mary Marshall Ledbetter, Rachael Dirr, Clement Ledbetter, Reed Buckner, and Robert Dirr; aunts, Mae Ledbetter Duncan, Faye Shaw Ledbetter, and Clara Durand Ledbetter.

Honorary pallbearers were special friends, Nancy and James Hoil Walker, Marshall Cranford, CMA Class of '54, Wade Morgan, Billie and Ray Cherry, Ashley Brown, Jerry Brown, Brenda and Mike McClure, Mike Sopak, Lola Trimble, Paula and Al Kirwan, Jennifer and Mervin Logue, Louis Holloway, Debbie Silverthorne, past and present employees of Victory Van Lines and VIP Moving and Storage, Columbia Military Academy Alumni Association, coaches and staff of the Tennessee Titans.

James R. Bienvenu, Class of '56

Funeral services for James Rogers Bienvenu were held at Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Church, in Opelousas, LA with interment following in Bellevue Memorial Park.

Mr. Bienvenu, 71, a resident of Opelousas, died Feb. 24 at Doctor's Hospital in Opelousas.



James Bienvenu

Jimmy attended Opelousas Elementary School and graduated from CMA, where he attained the rank of Captain as Commander of Company "D". He then attended Springhill College in Mobile, AL., the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette and Tulane

University School of Law in New Orleans.

He was appointed City Clerk and Tax Collector for the city of Opelousas in 1970 until his retirement in 1987. He owned several businesses including Bienvenu Real Estate, Five H&R Block Income Tax franchises and was co-owner of Communications Center of Opelousas.

He was elected to serve on the Democratic Executive Committee for two terms, elected President of the Louisiana Municipal Clerk's Association and was Ex-Officio Member of the Board of Directors of Louisiana Municipal Association.

He was appointed to several committee chairs of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. He was a member of several community and civic organizations including the St. Landry Parish Community Action Agency where he served as vice-chairman.

He was also the District Vice Chairman of Evangeline Area Council of Boy Scouts of America, Past President of Parents Against Drug Dealers, Board of Advisors of Doctor's Hospital from 1985 to 1986, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Doctor's Hospital from 1987 to 2009 when he was designated as Chairman Emeritus, St. Landry Parish Economic Industrial Development District, Board of Advisors of Women's Imaging Center in Lafayette and a member of the Board of Trustees of Teche Federal Bank.

He was a parishioner of Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Church and also a member of Knights of Columbus Council 11270 and Past Coordinator of Eucharistic Ministers of Doctor's Hospital of Opelousas.

Jimmy's hobbies include playing bouree, attending college sporting events, watching college and professional football and baseball games on the television and he loved studying and reading the Bible and was a regular Chapel attendant.

Survivors include his wife of 32 years; Jeanne Francois Bienvenu of Opelousas, daughter; Alyce Bienvenu Landry and her husband Mackie of Prairieville, stepdaughters; Cherie DeSterre Werner and husband Jon of Austin, Texas, and Francois Bienvenu and husband, Robert (Hutch) Hudgins, of Las Vegas, Nevada, 4 step-grandchildren; Caryn, Courtney and Cayley Werner and Daniel Toney.

Vernon D. Crockett Class of '58

Vernon Dewees Crockett died March 26, in Birmingham, AL.

After graduating CMA, he attended Auburn University and the University of North Alabama. He has been a Colbert County farmer and later became a professional photographer and businessman in Florence, Ala.

He was a member of the Episcopal church, Rotary Club, and had been a leader in professional photography associations at the state and national levels. In recent years, he had lived in retirement on Lake Martin, near Alexander City, AL.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Mary Lynda Hodges Crockett; sons, Vernon Hodges Crockett and his wife, Julie, of Wetumpka, and John Gardiner Crockett, of Birmingham; daughter, Marianna Dewees Crockett Odom and her husband, Michael, of Birmingham; grandchildren, Ryan

continued on next page

SILVER TAPS

and Juliana Crockett, of Wetumpka, and Lilly and Caroline Odom, of Birmingham.

The family celebrated a private memorial March 29, at St. Mary's on the Highlands Episcopal Church.

His wife recounted how thankful she was that they had attended the last CMA Reunion. She said she immediately saw the special relationship that exists among the members of his class.

Dewees had been suffering from hepatitis for quite some time and the reunion weekend was one of his better times physically in a long time, according to a classmate.

John D. Bryant, Class of '61

John Demarest Bryant, CMA '61, died Feb. 26, of cardiovascular problems, at his home in S. Pasadena, FL, where he had resided for almost 25 years.

His memorial service was held Mar 8, 2009 in S. Pasadena.

Born October 26, 1943 in Washington DC, John attended CMA as a "homeboy" and graduated in the class of 1961.

John attended Antioch College, Yellow Springs, OH, and then

transferred to American University, Wash DC (BA in Math). In 1968, he and his wife moved to San Francisco, CA, where he completed the manuscript "Systems Theory and Scientific Philosophy", and found a publisher for it. Moving back to the East Coast, John delved into commodities trading in and around Philadelphia, PA. He re-found his niche as a writer just before moving to the Tampa Bay area in Dec. of 1985.



John Bryant

He was the creator of the website "thebirdman.org", a website dedicated to challenging the orthodoxy and to giving the alternative point of view on problems of the day.

He also wrote approximately 40 books, most published under the banner of Socratic Press.

Before his illness, he was an avid tennis player and jogger.

He is survived by his wife Lenora.

BUGLE QUARTERLY is published quarterly for a \$3.00 portion of member's annual dues, by the CMA Alumni Association. First Class postage paid in Columbia, TN. POSTMASTER: Please forward address changes to CMA Alumni Association, 804 Athenaeum Place, Columbia, TN 38401-3156.

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BUGLE QUARTERLY
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