

THE RED DRAGON



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Admin Building in 1939



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Fernando Carranza, '81: (805) 577-9989
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Lexington, Missouri Area

Al McCormick, '67: (816) 255-0641
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If you are interested in participating in a Regional Alumni Chapter, please contact one of the Regional Commanders above.

If you wish to start a Regional Alumni Chapter in your area, then contact either Al McCormick or the President of the WMA Alumni Association.

WMA Alumni Association Elected Officers



President

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john.francis@fisglobal.com



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Vacant - Your Name
Could Be Here!



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President's View

By John Francis, '83

Sold Out! A term typically used when referring to a Super Bowl game, an NCAA final face off or when my beloved Chicago Cubs go to the world series....and yes, they will be there someday! Sold out is becoming the phrase best describing the 2011 Wentworth Homecoming Reunion. The confirmation rate has been overwhelming and I would strongly suggest booking your hotel reservation, WMA confirmation, and travel plans now before we are SOLD OUT. The weekend schedule will be posted on the school website (www.wma.edu) and will include all of the usual alumni activities. The WMA vs. Kemper trapshoot, parade through downtown, football game, Cmdr. Ed Ellis golf outing, bonfire, and many more event will give rise to a memorable homecoming for all in attendance. For the record, Team Francis still holds a one match lead over Team Sellers (Jim) at the annual golf outing. Game on Jim!

In May I attended the Wentworth graduation pizza party for high school seniors, Falcon cadets, and College Sophomores. What a great evening! As I spent the evening chatting with the Cadet Corps, you couldn't help sense the pride and respect each graduate had for the Academy. As in years past, these individuals will go on to be productive citizens and leaders in their chosen profession. I salute the school's faculty, administration, and the parents of these fine young adults. Job well done!

Have you purchased your 2011 raffle ticket for a chance to win an Apple Macbook Pro? If not, send Al or myself an e-mail and we will get some in your hands ASAP. All proceeds from the sale of

raffle tickets and our auction Saturday night will fund our annual scholarship drive. Our 2011 goal is to provide two (2) scholarships totaling \$8,000 for the upcoming school year.

I would like to throw out a special thank you to the homecoming team that has worked hard to bring this band reunion together. There is still work to be done, but things are taking shape quickly. It's going to be a good time, be there. Along with the Regional Red Dragon Rally commanders and all alumni who support Wentworth, thank you.

This will be my last newsletter as the Alumni Association President for in October of this year the very capable Jim Wright will assume the leadership role for this elite group of Old Boys. Jim's past contributions to the Academy and its Alumni Association make him the perfect fit for the job. I have been truly honored to serve as an Alumni Association officer and urge every old boy to join this group and help secure the future of Wentworth Military Academy. In all honestly, the commitment can involve long days, cross country road trips, endless recruiting calls, and the occasional bump in the road. That said, I would not trade the last two years as Association President for anything. With that, I leave you with a quote from George Carlin: "Life's journey is not to arrive at the grave safely in a well preserved body, but rather skid in sideways totally worn out, shouting holy crap...what a ride!"

En Dieu Est Tout

John Francis

Dates To Remember

August 5-7, 2011- Work Weekend at WMA
October 7-9, 2011 - Homecoming - Lexington, MO.



Cadet Cutcher and Trumpet - Date unknown

Director's Corner

By Al McCormick, '67

Homecoming Class Reunions:

1961 50th Anniversary
1986 25th Anniversary
2001 10th Anniversary

Keepsake Medallions will be presented to each class member who attends the Saturday night banquet and awards ceremony. And a reunion picture will be taken on Saturday.



Sunday Memorial Service to honor Stephen G. Wentworth - A special service to honor his 200th birth anniversary

The Homecoming mailer will be out soon and forms will also be available on the Alumni portion of the web page. Note that pricing has not increased.

Band Reunion

The interest in the Band reunion is strong. This is an important event which does not occur very often, don't be left out. For additional information or to show interest contact me at: amccormick@wma.edu or Jim Sellers at: jimsellers3@gmail.com

Jim Bloomberg '87 has an idea for **social, informal gathering** near campus during the Homecoming event, for details please contact Jim at: jlbloomberg@netscape.net. He has an interesting idea; I encourage you to contact him.

Keep the Old Boy News Coming.

We have heard from several of you since the last newsletter and I absolutely love it! In my opinion this is a major function of a newsletter, sharing news about you, the alumni. I would like to hear from any of you about activities and updates. Keep the news coming please! If you wish to have others contact you then send a note to us with permission to publish your personal information and we will pass the word and publish your request here. Contact amccormick@wma.edu.

A new Hall of Honor Addition

Thanks to Verne Sandwall, '46 of Ventura California, we have learned of other alumni who were decorated with a Silver Star. James C. Glasgow '47 and World War II Veteran will be inducted into the Wentworth Hall of Honor during this Homecoming weekend. Thank you Verne, your communication is thoughtful and appreciated!!

Scholarship Support

Joining the Alumni Association is a tremendous help to the Association Scholarship Fund and your support is appreciated as it is directed to a great cause, helping Cadets on a merit base with WMA Tuition. The recipient of the second Alumni scholarship award this year is Cadet Captain Michael Blackmon of Rockwall Texas.

This is the second Alumni scholarship award of this calendar year. Both awards are valued at \$2,000 each and your dues along with support of the silent and live auctions are counted upon in continuing this excellent program and support the mission and goals of Wentworth.

Alumni House Improvement Update

Thanks to Mrs. Marion Ratliff (Joan) and her estate gift to the Alumni House in memory of her husband, repairs and improvements continue. To date, we have we have replaced missing or bad mortar and sealed the exterior thanks to a local craftsman. Bellis Guttering of Independence, Missouri has replaced the gutters all around the building and the National Staff is gathering bids to repair the front porch. We have high hopes that by the time Homecoming arrives, we will have that repair complete along with new carpets and new blinds on the first floor. We will hope that you come by for inspection.

Class Ring Replacements

Many of you are indicating interest in replacing lost class rings. Our official class ring vendor is Herff-Jones and the representative is Scott Mark. He can be reached at: 913-522-5839 or you can contact me via e-mail amccormick@wma.edu

Hope to see you at Homecoming or anytime throughout the year. Please stop by and say hi.

Al McCormick

Editor's Notes

By Jim Wright, '66

It is time for another issue to hit the street. This issue is the longest yet. Please don't get bored and forget to read the whole thing. There is a lot of great information in here about our wonderful school. As always we welcome your valuable input. All Old Boys and families are welcome to send information to us for publication.

Speaking of sending us information, with this issue we are announcing our first ever WMA trivia contest. You can find the information on Page 11 of this issue. This should be a lot of fun. If you have trouble thinking something up, then contact one of your Old Boy friends. They might be able to help. There will be a prize given for the best submission. The decision of the judges will be final (no matter what their condition was during the judging process). We will be having more of these contests in the future but we are hoping to hear from many of you for this first contest.

Don't forget that Homecoming is just around the corner. This should be our biggest Homecoming in many years. You really don't want to miss out. You can get all of the information you need on the school's website at www.wma.edu. Select the "Alumni" tab at the top of the page and then select "Homecoming" from the left of the Alumni page. It is not too late to register for this year's homecoming. However, you do need to make reservations for someplace to stay. We will be filling everything up for miles around.

Of course the big event for Homecoming this year is the All Band Reunion. If you haven't signed up for it yet, you still can. This is a chance to get back into the swing (or beat) of things. This is also a great chance to see all of your Wentworth friends and classmates from years gone by. This will really be a fun Homecoming for all of us.

Now for the answer to the burning question. Who are the two workout fanatics in the picture on page 18 of this issue and when was the picture taken? Also, where are they now? The skinny guy lifting weights is Bob Sellers, '89. He is the President/CEO of AKELA Laser Corporation

in Monmouth Junction, New Jersey. His buddy is Paul Walter, '87 who is currently living in Independence, Missouri. The picture was taken during the 1985-86 school year.

If you have pictures of your time at Wentworth and would like to share them with all of us, please send them, with some explanation, to the Editor of *The Red Dragon*. I would love to include them in future issues.

Please plan on attending a WMA Rally in 2011. We will keep the listing on page 4 up-to-date with the latest information. If there is not a rally scheduled in your area, contact Al McCormick or John Francis for help in setting one up. It is not hard, is a lot of fun, and is very rewarding.

Also plan on attending a work weekend at the school. This year it will be held on August 5-7. These are also great fun (and work). It really is fun when you can get together, socialize, and accomplish something positive for the school. I don't know what Al's brain is planning for us this year, but I am sure that it will be something to cause you to break a sweat.

One more thing. Plan on getting involved with the WMA Alumni Association. We can always use the positive influence of people who volunteer to help. We will need some new officers next year. Actually we need a new Secretary right now. Anyone interested in the job? We need volunteers to write articles for *The Red Dragon*. We need pictures, old and new, for *The Red Dragon*. We need workers for the work weekends. We just want to hear from you and get to know you. That is what it is all about.

A final note, this issue of the Red Dragon is very long. That is because there was so much news to report. I will try to keep the issues shorter in the future (but I won't promise anything).

On behalf of all of the officers and members of the Wentworth Military Academy Alumni Association, I want to wish all of you the very best of what life has to offer in the coming year. See you at Homecoming.

Until next time, I hope you enjoy this issue of *The Red Dragon*. I will be looking for you on the Quadrangle.

Jim Wright

ATTENTION

WMA Headquarters Company / Band Members, Alumni, Drummajors, & Color Guard Reunion !!!



WMA Marching Band, May 1964

Save The Homecoming Weekend of October 7, 8, and 9, 2011

Alumni Band Will Play and March During Homecoming

Pull Out Your Old Instrument and Dust It Off

You Might Want To Practice A Little (or a lot)

There will be rehearsals on Thursday, October 6, Friday, October 7,
and Saturday, October 8. Contact the Following To Get Involved In The Fun:

1950's: [Looking for a volunteer - What about you?](#)

1960's: Jim Horton, '64: jimmer50@aol.com; (913) 940-4089;

1970's: Jim Sellers, '80: jimsellers3@gmail.com; (901) 828-6325; 3100 W 7th St #719 Ft. Worth, TX 76107

1980's: John Francis, '83: john.francis@metavante.com; (414) 350-5460; 4479 North Lake Drive Shorewood, WI 53211.

1990's: [Looking for a volunteer - What about you?](#)

2000's: Joel Fowler, '09: fowle118@umn.edu; (651) 491-7700

For all you can contact: Jim Sellers, '80: jimsellers3@gmail.com; (901) 828-6325; 3100 W 7th St #719 Ft. Worth, TX 76107

Truck Raffle Winner Announced

By Al McCormick

Congratulations to the Daugherty family who are the lucky winners of the 2011 GMC Extended cab truck. The winning ticket was drawn by the Battalion Queen during the Annual Wentworth Military Academy Ball on April 16, 2011. Thanks to Tom Dinsdale of Dinsdale Automotive from Grand Island, Nebraska who made this event possible.

The educational fund at Wentworth benefited from the total income of \$31,300 from the campaign.



Thank you for your participation in the Wentworth Military Academy 2011 GMC truck raffle project to benefit the Wentworth Educational Fund. We realized \$31,300.00 benefit from this outstanding project.

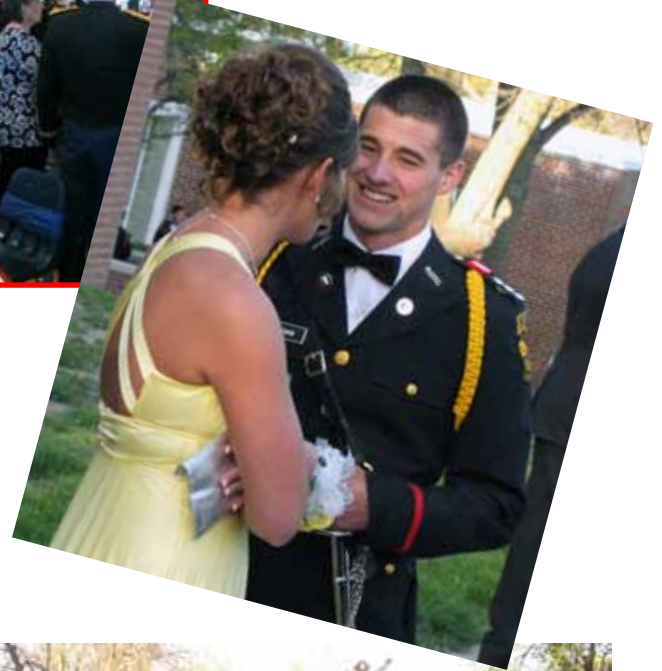
On Saturday evening during our annual Military ball our Battalion Queen drew the winning ticket and the lucky winner is: Gaither and Mary Daugherty Jr. of Sikeston, Missouri.

Congratulations to our winner and thank you so much to those of you who supported our efforts to boost our general education fund at Wentworth Military Academy.

For parents and alumni who participated as a result of our last promotional mailing, we have promises to you and those will be fulfilled soon.

Each of you will be receiving an official note from COL. William Sellers soon to express more of his thoughts and appreciation.

Military Ball A Great Success



Military Ball (continued)





Alumni Association scholarship award for 2011 was presented to Cadet Captain Michael Blackmon of Rockwall, Texas. Cadet Blackmon, a returning Junior College Sophomore was awarded the \$2000.00 scholarship based upon merits and performance as an outstanding cadet in the 131st Cadet Corps.

Wentworth Foundation Donation

Glenn Miller, CFO of Wentworth Military Academy has the following good news from the Wentworth Foundation, Inc. This is an outstanding announcement and reflects a solid position on the part of the foundation and its' abilities:

"Wentworth Military Academy is pleased to announce that we just received a \$100,000.00 gift from the Wentworth Foundation toward the general operation of the school. This is a major gift and a significant show of confidence and support as the school continues to move forward" said Miller. In a recent Foundation board meeting, the following motion was made and passed: "The WMA (WFI) Foundation does hereby proudly support the mission of WMA with a donation of \$100,000.00 (one hundred thousand dollars) to the general operating fund."

Trivia Contest

Announcing the first of many Red Dragon Trivia Contests.

A Prize will be awarded for the best submission (in the view of the judges)

Here is the first Red Dragon Trivia Contest -- Send in your submission, in 150 words or less. This first trivia contest will concern Wentworth trivia. Give us your most memorable, but unknown or little known moments from your Wentworth past. Your submission must be factual. Give the whole story (who, what, where, when, and how). For this first contest, please stick (no pun intended) to actual events and people, we will get to tall tales at another time. The rules are simple:

- Your submission must be in written form. If you have pictures, send them along (we can't return them). Also, watch your language. Many of these submissions will be published and you never know who is reading this newsletter.
- Submissions must be received not later than **September 15, 2011**.
- You can send your submission via e-mail or regular postal mail. For e-mail send your submission to the Editor of the Red Dragon, Jim Wright, at jimwright@kc.rr.com or to Al McCormick at amccormick@wma.edu. For postal submissions, please send to Al McCormick at Wentworth Military Academy, 1880 Washington Avenue Lexington, MO 64067.
- The decision of the judges will be final in all cases. We will publish as many of the submissions as possible. The prize will be interesting.

Current Homecoming Silent Auction Items

More Items Welcome



Below is the listing of the auction items received so far and they are in order left to right, top to bottom.

- WMA Team Autographed Basketball 2010-2011, the 21 and 4 team
- Framed Photo of the 1980 Honor Guard in Washington D.C
- 1919 Framed Wentworth Ad from the Saturday Evening Post
- Framed Wentworth Crest in Glitter
- Greg Jennings Autographed football
- Mike Ditka Autographed football
- Garmins
- Framed Backstage Pass to a Rolling Stones Concert
- Framed Backstage Pass to a Jimmy Buffet Concert
- Framed, autographed photo of the soup Nazi, Seinfeld soup
- 1919 Framed Wentworth Ad from the Saturday Evening Post

Also donated so far are:

- 3 each wine and cheese baskets (great for the Alumni Banquet Saturday evening)
- An HTC EVO Shift 4G Cell Phone, donated by Sprint Corporation (see picture)



We will continue to accept donations of Wentworth Memorabilia, Sports Memorabilia, and worthy items for the Alumni Silent Auction. The Silent Auction supports our Scholarship Program and other support activities organized by the Alumni Association. **Please help if you can. Contact Al McCormick at amccormick@wma.edu.**

Old Boy News

--1940s--

- **Kenny Maib** '48 fell and broke a hip several weeks ago and is in rehab in Blue Springs, Mo. His wife who has been in poor health and cannot be left alone is in the same center as Kenny.

Al McCormick spoke with him last week and he seems to be doing good and was upbeat about his rehabilitation. He thought he may be in there awhile. Cards would be appreciated: Kenny Maib, Saint Marys Manor, 111 NW Mock Ave., Blue Springs, Mo. 64014.

If you prefer to call, here is the direct number to his room. Keep in mind he has rehab assignments throughout the day, it may be difficult to catch him: 816-228-3850.

- We just learned about this: **Verlyn (Swede) Roskam**, '49 is responsible for yet another cadet enrollment and one who is about to graduate. It seems there was an Iowa student who was drowning in public school and not receiving the focus he needed to achieve desirable grade point averages. The candidate enrolled in June of 2010, and today, the family reports all is well and the cadet is on his way to graduating with some honors. As a side note, Swede has a long history of recommending Wentworth to families and an enviable track record of placing students. Thanks Swede for your dedication and long term history of being a faithful alumni partner!. Al McCormick

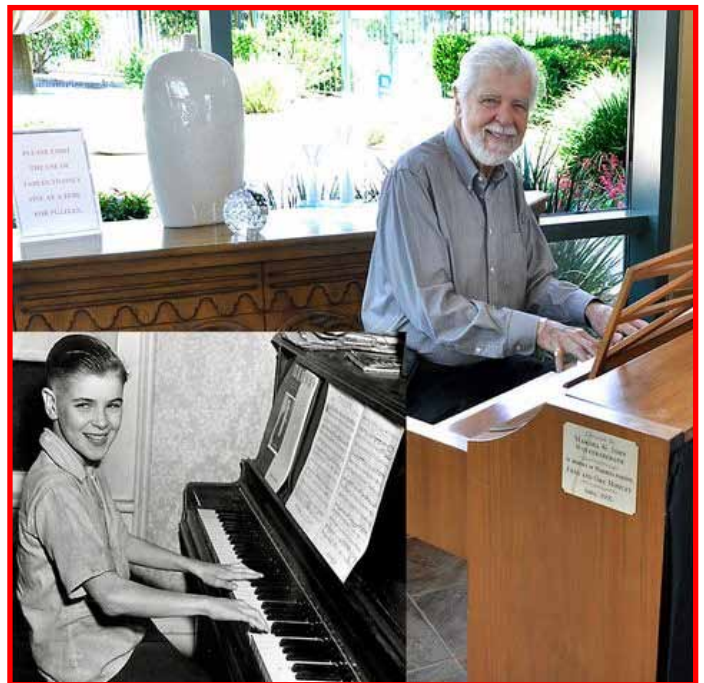
--1950s--

- Thanks for the update on the news letter. I graduated from Wentworth High in 1955 & would like any info on grads of my year. I retired from the Air Force as a Msgt.. Also from ADP, & IBM. **Carl Davidson**, '55; cdavidson02@suddenlink.net.

- **Dick Amos**, '52 almost always attends Homecoming. He is always willing to assist us with activities and has sent us this picture (below) and the caption was "so many keys, so little time!"

Dick is a life long practicing musician and has provided piano music for us at every social gathering we can remember. His knowledge and memory of the music adds atmosphere to our gatherings. And here is a little unknown fact about Mr. Amos: He was at one time the stage manager for Lawrence Welk. Dick is retired and living in Beaumont, Ca.

Thanks for the photo Dick and keep those ivories polished.



Dick Amos, '52 - So Many Keys, So Little Time

- **Jim Mantz**, '51 was our guest on campus late in May during Jim's annual visit to his home area in Iowa to conduct personal business. Jim is living in Mission Texas and would like to hear from anyone close by. You can reach him at: (956) 585-2557. It's always a pleasure to see Mr. Mantz and I hope to see him again next year on the annual trip home if not before. Thanks for stopping in Jim!.

Old Boy News

Continued

--1960s--

- Many thanks to **Hal Howard**, '61 who has donated numerous items to the Alumni Department that are most valuable. Among those many memories are: several copies of old Trumpeters, Red/White yearbooks covering the years of 1957 to 1963. A panoramic photo of a roll call formation under the leadership of Cadet Colonel John Groendyke.

And something invaluable, an original copy of the script for the 1961 Re-enactment of the Battle of the Hemp Bales during the Civil War. Hal had the privilege of serving as the narrator of that huge event. Great memories Hal and thanks for sending. We have provided copies to the city of Lexington for their use in the upcoming battle re-enactment taking place in September of this year. Thanks Hal, valuable memories.



- The Alumni Department was notified on April 8th that one of our own families received some recognition in their hometown. **Tom (Gail T), '64 and Christie, '71 Butler** of Lexington, both Wentworth Alumni, were awarded the Square Knot Award presented by the American Legion. The award recognizes members of the American Legion family who are dedicated to and actively involved in furthering the Boy Scouts of America program. They received a certificate, and a gold and purple knot ribbon that may be worn on a Scout uniform. Commander Jean Beyer of the Lexington American Legion Post conducted the presentation. Congratulations Tom and Christie!

- (Picture next column) A Red Dragon meets the Dragons at the Dragon Hill Lodge at the U.S. Army installation in Seoul. South Korea. **Jeff Latz**, '66 (Major, USA Ret.), traveled to Korea recently to visit his son, SSG Andrew Latz who is stationed there.

--1970s--

- Congratulations to the **William Click** family on a milestone wedding anniversary. Bill is a member of the Junior College class of '75. "I will be sharing my 25th wedding anniversary with my wife Olga we were married 4/26/86 in Hof, Germany when I was serving in the Armed Forces. I currently reside at 79 Karen Drive, Upton, Ky. 42784 with our two pet dogs Sir Willie and Baxter."

- **Arlie Schiermeier**, '75 visited the Wentworth campus on May 10th and purchased the first new Alumni shirt available in the QM. It was a great visit and of course stories were exchanged much to the delight of some visiting staff members. Arlie is based in Philadelphia and is with the U. S. Department of Homeland Security where he is a Lead Inspector. Arlie was in the area on business and planned to visit the Butler family before returning home. Thanks Arlie for coming by, great to get acquainted.

Old Boy News

Continued

--1980s--

- **Allen Cook**, '84 reports a new address, you may write to him at: 15425 Sherman Way Blvd, 139 Van Nuys, Ca 91406.
- **John Bodenburg**, '86 has checked in and is reporting a new address, contact him at: 570 E Columbia Avenue, Pomona, CA. 91767.
- Congratulations to **John B. (J.B.) Meyer** '86 who passed the Florida Bar in April.
- **Kent Haley**, '88, '89 reports a new address. You may send notes to: 15200 Glacier Hwy, Juneau, AK. 99801.

--1990s--

- Major **Stephen Skelton** '93, United States Army, recently graduated from the Command and General Staff College, Intermediate Level Education at Fort Leavenworth, Ks. In May, 2011, he also received his Master's Degree in Continuing Adult Education from Kansas State University. He completed both programs under the Army's Professional Military Education model. Major Skelton's next assignment will be in Fort Belvoir, VA as a Team Chief and Logistics Planner. Major Skelton is the son of John '57 and Kathi Skelton, Bradenton, Florida.

--2000s--

- **Brian Gardner**, '01 has reported a new address and you can write to him at: 3049b Gorgas Ave. , Fort Campbell, KY 42223. Brian is hoping to attend Homecoming 2011.
- **Josh Porter**, '01 has reported a promotion to the rank of Major. Congratulations Major Porter! "Hope things are going well for you. I was promoted to MAJ on 1 FEB 11 and my family and I are stationed at Fort Bragg, NC. Family: Wife, Christy; Son, Matthew five years old; Daughter, Hannah three years old."
- **David Roberson**, '01 has sent a note to inform everyone he is serving with the U.S. Air Force in Afghanistan. He is also interested in ordering a replacement class ring. He welcomes notes from his classmates.



Mrs Beth Hepler and Cadets study the Wentworth Show poster for the 12th Wentworth Show in Kansas City. The year was 1962.

Old Boy News

Continued

- **Brandon Lincoln**, '02 who has been living and working in British Columbia for the past six years, has reported a return to the United States. Feel free to contact him at: 14150 W 89th Loop, Arvada, CO 80005.

- We have news about **Andrew J. Wommack**, High School class of 2002 and originally from Parsons Kansas. His mother has been kind enough to respond to our truck raffle and included the news We are grateful for both. Andrew graduated in the Spring of 2006 from William Jewell College and entered a graduate program at Boston College in Organic Chemistry. Mr. Wommack will receive his PhD in that discipline in July of this year. He has accepted a Post Doctorate research position in Bio-Chemistry at MIT in Boston with Professor Liz Nolan.

- 1st Lt **Jared Broderick**, '04 has reported a new home address, you can write him at: 2380 SE Lark St, Milwaukie, OR. 97222. 1 Lt Broderick is currently deployed in Iraq.

We recently were made aware of an award that took place last year honoring a member of the class of 1947, Mr. **Lindsay Alexander** a longtime Tulsa, Oklahoma Opera aficionado and supporter. All of Wentworth is very proud to know him and of some of his accomplishments.

Excerpts from an article published in Tulsa World.com written by Dianna Sue Walker, World Staff Writer.

Rock on.

It's what everyone was saying and what Tulsa Opera proved it could do when it held its recent "Tulsa Opera Rocks" sixth annual celebrity gala at The Summit Club.

In what was billed as a "think Tom Petty meets Puccini" kind of evening, Tulsa Opera raised more than \$140,000 to support its education and outreach initiatives.

Opera singer Joseph Valone and classic rock band Zoom City teamed to perform songs by

rock-opera group East Village Opera Company. Longtime Tulsa Opera aficionado and supporter Lindsay Alexander received the organization's Celebrity Award, which was presented by Lt. Gov. Jari Askins.

As the vice president of First National Bank & Trust Company of Tulsa, Alexander served several terms on the Opera board of directors. He and his late wife, Rosalie, also led numerous fundraising activities, including the Tulsa Opera Ball. He is a member of Tulsa Opera's emeritus board of directors, is the honorary lifetime chairman of the Grand Prix and is a lifetime member of the President's Council.

"Tulsa Opera holds a special place in my heart, and it has been an honor to receive this recognition. My hat goes off to Tulsa Opera and all it has accomplished for arts education in Oklahoma," he told the crowd.

Event co-chairwomen were Anne O'Shea-Quattrini, Evelyn Hatfield, Dr. Soohyun Jin, Kristin Bender and Toni Freese.

O'Shea-Quattrini said, "It was a real honor for me to be chairing an event that honored Lindsay, as he and Rosalie were such good friends of my parents," the late Robert Edward Mockley and Betty Ann Mockley.



Tulsa Opera Artistic Director Kostis Protopoulos (left), Lt Gov. Jari Askins, Lindsay Alexander and Anne O'Shea-Quattrini pose for a photo at Tulsa Opera Rocks on May 14.

Saga of Firebase 5

Richard K. Kolb, Editor in Chief
VFW Magazine

By May 1971, America's offensive ground war in Vietnam was over. Most U.S. actions were tied to South Vietnamese operations. Though GI participation in major combat became infrequent, those who did continued to display courage under fire.

There is no better example of this than the rescue attempt at Firebase 5 in the Central Highlands on May 25, 1971. Located north of Pleiku near Dak To in Kontum province, the ARVN base was under siege and completely surrounded by two NVA regiments. The day before, a chopper on an ammo re-supply mission was downed by a mortar, killing two crewmen and stranding a wounded crew chief on the firebase.

The mission assigned the UH-1H of A Co., 227th Assault Helicopter Bn., 1st Cav Div. (then under the 1st Avn. Bde.): rescue him and two wounded ARVN. Knowing full well the strength of the NVA, the four-man medevac crew, call sign "Avengers," voluntarily flew through a hail of fire. The three wounded were picked up, but while leaving the base the bird was hit by fire and burst into flames, crashing into the jungle.

All four crew members were KIA: Maj. William E. Adams (pilot), Capt. John P. Curran (co-pilot), Spec. 4 Melvin C. Robinson (crew chief) and Spec. 4 Dennis Durand (door gunner). The wounded American and two ARVN also died. All told, Firebase 5 claimed seven GIs' lives in two days. The crew's remains were not recovered until July 1971.

Adams was awarded the Medal of Honor and the other three crewmen the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC). Adams is honored with a special helicopter memorial at his alma mater, Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Mo. 'Durand was on an extended tour. Robinson had been approved for a hardship discharge to care for his ailing grandmother.

Epilogue; Just a week later on Firebase 5, Chief Warrant Officer Peter Bradsell of B Trp., 7th Sqdn., 17th Cav, 1st Avn. Bde., volunteered to fly in a Vietnamese doctor. This was despite two previous shoot-downs and the base now being under siege for a week. Bradsell piloted his AH-1 Cobra, call sign "Undertaker," through intense mortar and rocket fire.

Grounded by an aircraft power failure, he assisted in base defense, directing air and artillery strikes. Continually exposing himself to enemy fire to care for the wounded, Bradsell inspired the garrison to victory. His ordeal lasted from May 31 until June 5, when the siege was lifted. He survived to receive a DSC.



Alumni Director's note: Thanks to Major Sam Ratcliffe who brought this article to our attention and our hat is off to Mr. Richard Kolb, Editor in Chief of the VFW Magazine who granted permission for reprinting "Saga of Firebase 5" Sidebar on page 45 reprinted with permission from the May 2011 issue of VFW magazine, Richard K. Kolb, Editor in Chief.

New Commandant



1Sgt Gary Willis - New WMA Commandant

Wentworth Military Academy and College President Col. Bill Sellers announced in June that First Sgt. Gary Willis, of Sedalia Missouri, will be the new Commandant at the 131 year-old institution located in Lexington.

A graduate of Smith-Cotton High School, class of 1979, Willis comes to Wentworth after serving 23 years of service in the U.S. Army.

The experience that Willis brings with him as a non-commissioned officer (NCO) will be very valuable as he begins his command of the corps of cadets at Wentworth.

Willis has served on combat tours in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Somalia. He has also served overseas in Germany, Korea, and Africa.

The new commanding officer's military education is vast and is highlighted by Airborne School, Primary Leadership Development, Non-Commissioned Officer course, Equal Opportunity course, Environmental Awareness course. He has experienced what many of the cadets will experience in the future.

The military education that the new commanding officer has been through will benefit the cadets of Wentworth.

"Wentworth is lucky to have First Sgt. Willis as our new Commandant," said Sellers. "He brings a wealth of experience working with young people. As Commandant, he will be responsible for

the safety, health, welfare and leadership training of our Corps of Cadets."

The fourth generation Wentworth President went on to say, "First Sgt. Willis is an inspiring leader who will have an immediate impact on our cadets."

The new Commandant replaces Col. Rick Cottrell, of Lexington, who has served as the Commandant at Wentworth since March of 2010.

When a national search began for a new Commandant in 2010, Cottrell volunteered to fill dual roles as Director of Operations and Commandant until a replacement could be found for the Commandant role.

"Col. Cottrell has continuously stepped into positions of need during his 25 years at Wentworth," Sellers said.

"Through the years, he has taught in both the high school and college, coached, served as high

school principal and essentially has helped out whenever and wherever needed. With the hiring of First Sgt. Willis, Rick will resume his position as Director of Operations and Institutional Research for Wentworth. We are fortunate to have him on our team."



Col Rick Cottrell Returns To Being The Director of Operations and Institutional Research for WMA

Alumni Overseas

Major Justin Bowden, '96

Major John Crews '95 - Iraq

Samuel Kramer '76 - Afghanistan

Charles Luehrman Stempel '05 - Afghanistan

Don Yoakem '98 - Afghanistan

1 Lt Jared Broderick, '04 - Iraq

David Roberson, '01 - Afghanistan

These are the Alumni that we know about. If you know of any others, please let the Alumni Office know.

Ike Skelton Appointed



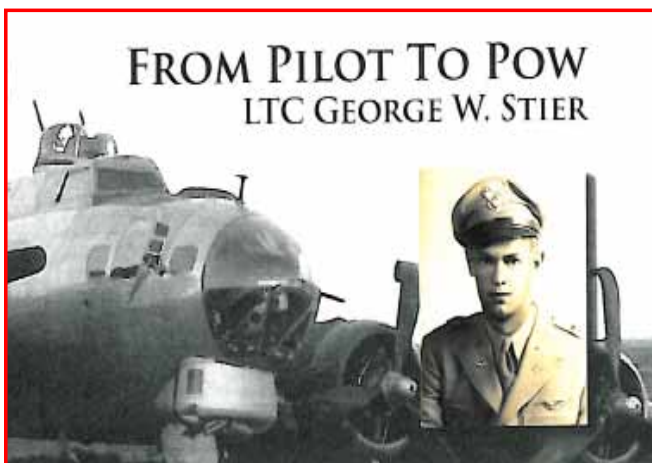
A Reminder

From Pilot to P O W

By Lt. Col. (Ret) George W. Stier

The quartermaster store continues to stock and sell the memoirs of LTC. George Stier about his days of flying a B-17 and his days as a P O W. It's 161 pages of good reading and the son, George Stier is sharing the profits with Wentworth Military Academy in memory of his father. The QM will ship to you at a nominal price and you can talk to the QM at 660-259-2221 , ext. 1332.

I have a personal copy and I do recommend the book. Al McCormick, '67



The EADS North America Board of Directors has confirmed the board appointment of Ike Skelton, who most recently served for 34 years as a U.S. Representative from Missouri. Skelton's Congressional career culminated in the role of chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, in which capacity he served from 2007 to 2011.

"Ike Skelton has a distinguished record of service to our nation, especially in support of the men and women of our military," said Ralph Crosby, Chairman of EADS North America. "His patriotism and leadership will be tremendous assets for EADS North America as we continue seeking to bring innovative, best-value solutions to the U.S. military in support of its missions."

Prior to his seventeen terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, Skelton served for six years as a Missouri state senator, beginning in 1971. Having begun his career in the field of law, he served in private practice and as a prosecuting attorney in Lafayette County, Missouri, followed by three years in the role of Special Assistant to the Missouri Attorney General.

A lifelong native of Lexington, Skelton earned an Associate of Arts degree from Wentworth Military Academy and College in 1951 and went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Missouri in 1953 and 1956, respectively. He is the recipient of 14 honorary master's and doctorate degrees and more than 60 awards and tributes.



Old Boys At Work and Play

Do you have a special hobby or interest that you would like to share with your Old Boy friends?

We want to include pictures and stories about the things that you are doing!

Some suggested areas to focus on are; serving abroad, hobbies, volunteering, collecting, your years at Wentworth, your work, and any theme that you can think of.

Entries should include one or more pictures, your name, years at WMA, a short biography about your self, and a short description of the activity that you are highlighting. Of course, the Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

You can send your entries to the Editor, Jim Wright, '66 at jimwright@kc.rr.com or The Director of Alumni Al McCormick, '67 at amccormick@wma.edu. You can also send your submissions in by mail. Please contact us for addresses.

We can't wait to hear from you!

Who and When is This? Where are they Now?



For the answer, see the Editor's Notes on page 6.



Wentworth graduation pizza party for high school seniors, Falcon cadets, and College Sophomores

Graduation 2011



Graduation 2011 Continued



**In Memoriam
Bradley Justin Gaudet
October 15, 1979 to June 5, 2011
Wentworth Class of 2000**



Chief Warrant Officer 2, Bradley Justin Gaudet, was serving God and country in war-torn Afghanistan when God called him into eternal rest on Sunday, June 5, 2011. CWO2 Gaudet was flying the Army's Kiowa Warrior Scout helicopter, responding to a combat operation.

CWO2 Gaudet is survived by his wife, Ginny Gaudet of Liverpool, N.Y., and their 1-month-old daughter, Addison, "Papa's nugget." He is also survived by his firstborn daughter, Tealie "Tealie-Bealie" Gaudet, age 10, of Gladewater. His parents are Scott and Rhonda Owens of Gladewater and Ronnie Gaudet of Gulfport, Miss. His brother is Daniel Gaudet of Scottsdale, Ariz., and his sister, Trish Todd of Big Sandy. CWO2 Gaudet's stepsiblings are Kristy Owens of Austin, Christopher Owens, Army recruiter of Terre Haute, Ind., Anne Owens Harris of Tyler and Clay Owens of Kilgore. Beloved and proud grandparents are Billy and Shirley Stephens of Lufkin, and aunt, Ginger McCasland. Uncle Brad also has nieces and nephews to carry the legacy he leaves behind for them.

CWO2 Gaudet is a son, brother, grandson, daddy, husband, and loyal friend to many he met growing up and around the world. That enthusiastic smile and ready words of encouragement are in the hearts of all you touched.

Services were held on the morning of Monday June 20, 2011 at the Gladewater First Baptist Church. Burial was in the Gladewater Memorial Park. The family received friends from 5 to 7 pm on Sunday, June 19, 2011 at Croley Funeral Home in Gladewater.

To view online or to sign the guestbook, go to www.croleyfh.net.

WENTWORTH MILITARY ACADEMY HIRES REP. AULL AS VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Colonel William W. Sellers, President of Wentworth Military Academy and College, announced on June 8, 2011 that Wentworth has named Lexington native and State Representative Joe Aull as Vice President of Academic Affairs and High School Principal.

In making the announcement, Sellers said, "With Joe Aull's leadership, our academic programs will take a huge step forward. Joe has been an educational leader in the state of Missouri for over forty years as teacher, coach, principal, school superintendent, and legislator. For the last seven years, he has diligently fought for education issues in the Missouri House, and we look forward to supporting him as he serves out his final term in Jefferson City. Joe will start full time at Wentworth for our Camp Lead summer school program, so he will have a good head start as we prepare to open the 2011-12 school year. I am thrilled to have him as a key part of our team."

Representative Aull has served in the State House, representing Lafayette and Saline Counties, since his initial election in 2004. Term limits bar him from seeking re-election in 2012. He currently serves as the ranking minority party member of the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and the House-Senate Joint Education Committee, among others.

In accepting the position, Aull stated, "Wentworth and Lexington have always been a part of my life, and I am so proud to serve as Wentworth's Vice President of Academic Affairs and High School Principal. I have spent a lot of time talking with Col. Sellers, Col. Lierman and others over the past few weeks and am very impressed with the vision that the administration and board have for Wentworth. We have a number of opportunities to improve the quality of our academic program."

Aull went on to say, "I look forward to working with our students and teachers to raise the bar in the classroom and improve the educational opportunities for all our students, whether in the military high school and college or in the traditional college for area residents. I will do my best to help maintain the many successful traditions and programs at Wentworth and look forward to playing a major role in helping the school grow and meet new challenges."

Aull brings an enormous amount of educational, community service and legislative experience to Wentworth. He completed his B.A. Degree at Westminster College, and earned his Master's and Ed. D. degrees from Central Missouri State University. From 1975 to 2004, he served first as a Principal and then as School Superintendent in the Lexington, Fulton and Marshall school districts. Among his many honors and leadership positions are the Pearce Award as the Outstanding School Superintendent in the state of Missouri, serving as president of the Missouri State High School Activities Association Board of Directors, as president of the West Central Administrators Association, and being selected as "Legislator of the Year" by the Missouri Association of School Professional Development. Aull's father, Bill Aull, was a 1935 graduate of Wentworth and served on the school's Board of Trustees for many years.

Col. Mike Lierman, Wentworth Superintendent, is very pleased with the addition of Aull to the Wentworth team. "I am so proud to have Joe Aull join the Wentworth Staff. Joe comes to Wentworth with a multitude of experience and he will bring a great deal of professionalism to our academic program," said Lierman. "Joe has spent most of his professional career as a true leader in the education field and we are very fortunate to have Joe join our TEAM."

Representative Aull will continue to serve and complete his term as State Representative of District 26, Saline and Lafayette Counties.

"Serving the people of Lafayette and Saline Counties in Jefferson City has meant a great deal to me, and I plan finish my term as State Representative and continue serving the people of my district to the very best of my ability, through the end of my term," said Aull. "I am thankful to Wentworth for allowing me to begin this new challenge in my life while also allowing me to finish my term as State Representative. I look forward to working with Wentworth's students to allow them the best opportunities possible."



The Dragons Den and Gift store recently purchased new Alumni and Dragon apparel. The offerings includes hooded sweatshirts with logo, long sleeve Dragon shirt, long sleeve Alumni shirt, and short sleeve Dragon shirts. Contact the QM for pricing on shirts and shipping costs. Other items are available on a sale rack. Any item on the sale rack is priced at \$10.00 each. The QM can be reached at 660-259-2221, Ext. 1332.

EXTRA!!!

EXTRA!!!

Read all about it!

Announcing a **new benefit** for members of the WMA Alumni Association.
We are offering free advertising in **The Red Dragon**.

Members of the Alumni Association can advertise for free in our Alumni newsletter. The advertisements will be limited in size to 1 inch height and 7 inches across the page. The advertisements should include the name of your company, what you are selling (service or product), your name and class year, contact information, and what ever else you want, but it must stay within the size limitation. You can also include a small logo or picture if you wish (we can re-size it). Of course, the Editor has the last and final say on what is published. Maybe your company will even pay your Association membership fee for this service. Please send all submissions to the Editor, Jim Wright.

Alumni Association Members

The following is a list of current members of the Wentworth Military Academy Alumni Association. If you think that there is an error in the list, please contact Al McCormick. Please note that recent graduates automatically become members of the Alumni Association, free of charge, for two years after graduation

Life Members:

Ralph Bowles, '84
 Stephen DeLorenzi, '76
 Ed Devinger, '60
 John Francis, '83
 Frank D. Garrett, '66
 Scott Hefner, '92
 David L. Johnson, '63
 Jay Johnson, '77
 Charles W. McCracken, '42
 George Reece, '57
 Tom Vale, '77

Regular Members:

David Adams, '60
 Richard Amos, '52
 Garold Butdorf, '72
 Christie Butler, '71
 Tom Butler, '64
 Richard Burgess, '49
 Wendall Cobleigh, '50
 John Colon, '70
 Jack Easton, '60
 Renz (J.R.) Edwards, '44
 Edson "Perk" Foster, '67
 C.J. Hardnock, '05
 Guy Harkness, '63
 Dawson Heathman, '56
 Mark Hedrick, '64
 Donald Holbert, '57
 Richard "Dick" Hudson, '56
 Michael Katskee, '64
 David Kolinofsky, '04
 David Lawrenz, '64
 Michael Lierman, '73
 Al McCormick, '67
 John (Mike) McKinney, '59
 Ben Millar, '47
 Richard "Moose" Miller, '54
 Leon Moore, '75
 William (Sam) Ratcliffe, '65
 John Ratcliffe, '96

David Ratcliffe, '98
 Joseph Roper, '74
 Bill Sellers, '86
 Bob Sellers, '89
 Tom Slover, '67
 Dale Slunicko, '59
 Steve Smith, '83
 Mary Stempel, '92
 Carl Stempel, '72
 Charles Stempel, 2005
 Michael Warne, '71
 Brown Whitaker, '45
 Matt Wiseman, '83
 Marvin Wrisinger, '80
 Jim Wright, '66
 Taylor Wright, '49
 Marvin Wrisinger, '80

Recent Graduate Members (Class of 2010):

Armando Aguilar
 Siosiana Akoteu
 Ahmed Al-Shanfari
 Alia Al-Yahya
 Ashley Allen
 Matthew Ashmore
 Nicole Baker
 Nicholas Barkley
 Andres Bautista
 Christian Bawden
 Peyton Beasley
 Kenan Bell
 Nicholas Briant
 Ryan Brugioni
 James Buckingham
 Alexander Bush
 Jentri Casaberry
 Katherine Clinesmith
 Virginia Collier
 Charles Cornett
 Tyler Dalton
 Timothy Darang

Vandrea Davis
 Evan Davis
 Christopher Doak
 John Dulaney
 Christopher Duncan
 Kylie Esco
 Christopher Evans
 Esaias Fa'aita
 Herman Flowers
 Taylor Gabbert
 Robert Gay
 Nigel Goff
 Anthony Grosso
 Marina Grumberg
 Jamison Gust
 Rhett Herian
 Aaron Hooker
 Andrew Howells
 David Hyatt
 Silivelio Iosefo
 Kenneth Johnson
 Jaron Jones
 Esther Kim
 Eunjeong Koh
 Jessica LaJaunie
 So-Young Lee
 Kenneth Leech
 Yoon-Jin Lim
 Alfred Liusamoa
 Jacinta Liva
 Hunter Livingston
 Kailen Lust Kailen
 Jaden MacKey
 Keith Mallory
 Rodrigo Martinez
 Tulifau Mauga
 Talishabeth McMoore
 Ralph Miller
 Michael Money
 Taylor Nash
 Aaron Olsen
 Ryan Parr

Diego Pelfini
 Patrick Pendergrass
 Vincent Peralta
 John Pierce
 Agnes Powell
 Dustin Rae
 Timophey Razumovsky
 Genevieve Read
 Claire Rewerts
 Alex Ruppel
 Spencer Rutter
 Sonny Saleutogi
 Christopher Sanft
 Joseph Schumacher
 Tommy Sellers
 Adam Shalz
 Robert Sherman
 Bradley Simms
 Masela So'oalo
 Steven Sottile
 John Sullivan
 Rex Teachenor
 Cole Thompson
 Nikita Thornton
 Andrew Tiapula
 Lucilla Tofilau
 Jason Togi
 Benjamin Tuitasi
 Devon Turnbaugh
 Sasagi Vaimauga
 Agaleiei Vili
 Erick Wainer
 Andrew Wainscott
 Alexander Waldrop
 Jackson Welliver
 Mose Wilson
 George Woodward
 Miller Yost

(Continued on next page)

2011 Mid-Year Graduate Members

Erick Wainer
Enrique Hilst
Alexander (A.J.) Waldrop
Andres Rodriguez
John Johndahl

2011 High School Graduates

Alex Albaugh
Spenser Barr
Joseph Bequette
Gustavo Bernardelli
Shane Bjarnason
Ryan Crawford
Samuel Dawson
Sean Donnelly
Roy Dowson
Sydney Finfer
Caleb Hill
Qyang Huynh
Hunter Livingston
Yuan Liao
Stephan Nigro
Kido Orona
Kelby Packwood
Alex Rodriguez
Nathan Sparkman

2011 Junior College Graduates

Guillermo Caliz
Jordan Chipley
Brandon Drennan
Matalaloifi Elisara
Bradleyv Fairchild
Jeremy Fuentes
Randy Graf, Jr.
Elizabeth Handley
James Hovey
Namir Jones
Corey Juarez
Brandon Kilthau
Anito'a Laumoli
Herbes Lopez
Christina Macomber
Meaole Meaole
Asomaliu Pei
Emily Posala
Desara Selesitino
Priscilla Uhlrich
Manuel Vandermolen
Michael Waldron
Samuelu Wells
David Whiteley

2011 Falcon Scholars

Lonnie Armstrong
Taylor Ham
Ryan Novack
Daniel James Thomas
Jake Werner

2011 Class Representatives

Class representatives are the sparkplug to encourage classmates to remain in touch and to attend alumni events.

Nathan Sparkman
Kido Orona
Dan Carrier
Sydney Finfer
Yuan Liao
Sam Dawson



WMA Honor Guard, 2003



**Wentworth Military Academy
Alumni Association
Membership Application**



(Former Cadets Only)

Instructions:

Complete the following form as completely as possible and send it along with your payment information to:

WMA Alumni Association
P.O. Box 102
Lexington, MO 64067

Applicant's Information:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Maiden Name (if applicable): _____ Cadet Years at WMA: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Employer: _____ Occupation/Title: _____

Work Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Work phone: _____

Work E-mail: _____

Spouse's Information:

Name: _____ Is Spouse also an Alumnus ☐ yes ☐ no

Membership Dues:

☐ Annual one year (\$50) ☐ Annual three year (\$ 140)

☐ Lifetime Donor Dues one time payment (\$1000)

☐ Lifetime Donor Dues semi-annual, two payments in single year (\$510) \$1,020

☐ Lifetime Donor Dues quarterly payments in single year (\$258) \$1,032

☐ Recent Alumni 1st year (Free) ☐ Recent Alumni 2nd or 3rd year (\$25)

☐ Senior 65 Annual one year (\$35) ☐ Senior 65 Annual three year (\$95)

☐ Senior 65 Lifetime Donor Dues one time payment (\$500)

To pay by American Express, Discover, Or Visa, contact the Alumni Office 660-259-6014