Gordon College

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

volume 6, number 1

fall 2008

A Military Memorial for Gordon

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A Fondness for Books
A Journey to Master Smith
Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing
A Weekend to Remember
Alumni News

Dear Fellow Alumni,

I remember years ago sitting outside in the family's country garden with my grandfather Lt. Col. John M. Howard. He was an 1898 graduate of Gordon Institute, and in a moment of reminiscence, he recited an old saying: "The years are short; only the days seem long." How seemingly true for me today when I think back 44 years since my graduation from Gordon Military College in 1964. Thus, many pleasant memories have come back into focus. I would hope that perhaps you share the same sentiments in memory.

My purpose in this letter is to present a planned opportunity for each of us to honor and recognize those faculty, staff and students of Gordon Military College/Gordon College who served our nation in armed conflict subsequently giving their lives in that service.

One such person who had much influence in helping to shape my character and life choices is Major (then Captain) Roy Ellsworth Congleton. Suffice it to say that Roy Congleton was, in my experience, the "beau ideal" of what an armed forces officer should be in both his professional and personal life. You can read an account about Roy and others in this issue of the *President's Report*. The development office will need our help in identifying all of those individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice for their nation. Share any information that you may have with them.

Last year a group of alumni and Gordon College staff began thinking and planning ways to honor our Gordon "heroes." A meeting with an architect quickly followed to consider thoughts and ideas on a proposed Memorial Plaza to be located at a strategic campus site. Many who attended the April 2008 Alumni Weekend were able to see the proposed Plaza drawings expressing acceptance of the purpose, design and location. A lot of alumni and friends really got exercised in their enthusiasm for this project and so it proceeds.

All of this, of course, will require resources, volunteers, and time. We will need to fund the project, and a good start was realized with several substantial donations totaling more than $15,000 during the April 2008 alumni weekend. However, everyone's participation will be needed to help us to make this a reality. We would like to have volunteers for each class/year group to lead their group effort in communicating the need. Should your group need more information contact the development office of Gordon College. Needless to say donations made out to Gordon College Foundation, Inc. ("For the Military Memorial") will drive the success of our endeavor.

About 13,000 alumni in the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico receive the *President's Report*. To put this in perspective, assuming every recipient would give $50, we could construct two Memorial Plazas. As an aside, if you are employed by an enterprise that will match your donation, please let the development office know so that the college can apply for matching funds. Lastly, we welcome your helpful suggestions in making this happen.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Hahn

How you can help

If you would like to make a contribution to help build the Gordon Memorial Plaza, contact the development office at 678. 359. 5222.
You may also give online at www.gdn.edu/alumni/givetogordon.asp

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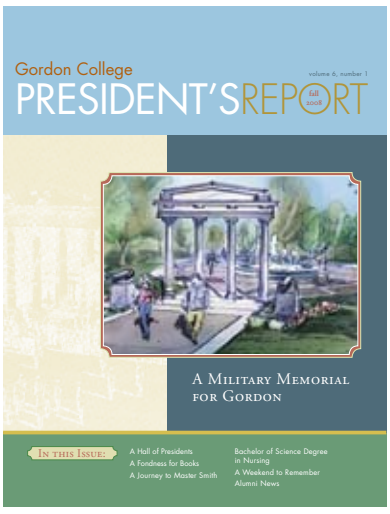

on the cover

Located at the main entrance of Alumni Hall and the future student center and athletic building, the Memorial Plaza will be at the center of student activity on the campus. The Military Memorial will be located on the west side of the Plaza and feature a reflective marble structure, engraved with the names of Gordon College alumni, faculty, and staff who have fallen in the line of duty.

Gordon College President: Lawrence V. Weill, Ph.D.
Publisher: Rhonda Toon, VP, Institutional Advancement
Editor: Peter Boltz
Writers: Peter Boltz, Tamara Boatwright & Rhonda Toon
Design: Tonya Beach Creative Services & Shannon Felsot
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dedication

In this, our sixth issue of the *President's Report,* we are going to veer from our tradition of dedicating the magazine to a single person. We dedicate this issue to those who served in the military – those who have died *and those who are still among us* – and to their families.

In the course of this past year we have heard the stories of many who have given to our country through military service. Some of those people were faculty and staff who contributed greatly to the lives of Gordon cadets; some of them have been Gordon students trained here at Gordon Military High School and College; some have come from fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan to complete their studies. Most of them returned. Some of them did not. The stories go back to the earliest days of the College, and they continue to the present day.

Students no longer march in formation on our fields, but the tradition of military service spans both the military years of Gordon and its days as a unit in the University System of Georgia. This tradition is the focus of this year's magazine.

We will mark 2008 as the year we were finally able to transform the idea of a military memorial from a topic of conversation into a plan. May this magazine spark in each of us a desire to see a permanent marker to the military contribution of Gordon College. It is long overdue, and it is something that will take all of us together to accomplish. May we dedicate more than a magazine to those who have served; may we also honor them with brick and mortar.

Dear Editor,
May 15, 2008

Concerning the picture of my son Tom Torbert. The year this picture was made was 1967 – I have no record of the exact date.

He was a company commander (and also the band commander at one time). Every special occasion the entire battalion would parade through town. It was quite an event. This picture was taken in front of what is now the United Bank.

My son took his commission and went into the Army as a second lieutenant. He served 22 years and retired as a lieutenant colonel.

He is now the deputy director of the ROTC department of the Atlanta city school system – still in the military, still doing what he loves and still putting into practice what he learned at Gordon.

Gordon has been a wonderful thing for my family and holds a special place in my heart.

Thank you,

Dorothy Hardage

Dear Editor,
June 11, 2008

I have many, many great memories of my seven years, 1961-1968, at Gordon Military College. The many parades, football games, band trips and becoming the band commander are certainly among them. But the memory I treasure the most is my last year at Gordon when I had the privilege of commanding Charlie Company (Powell Hall) and the best 125 cadets Gordon had at the time.

My educational and career development experience at Gordon Military College prepared me well for my life's work. Gordon not only taught me leadership, responsibility, self-discipline, and a sense of service to country and to my fellow man, things that would benefit anyone in any chosen profession, but it especially prepared me to be an Army officer. Before I graduated from high school in 1966, I had decided that I wanted a military career. I have never regretted my choice of profession and will always be grateful to Gordon and the extraordinary teachers and instructors for their role in preparing me and leading me down this path in life.

Lt. Col. T. E. Torbert (U.S. Army, Ret.)
Deputy Director of Army Instruction
Atlanta Public Schools

Dear Friends,

There is a character by the name of Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge in a book by the same name written by author Mem Fox. In that book little Wilfrid has an elderly friend who has lost her memory, and he wants to give it back to her. He asks a number of neighbors to help him better understand what a memory is, and they tell him many different things: a memory is something warm, something that makes you laugh, something from long ago, something that makes you cry, and something as precious as gold….

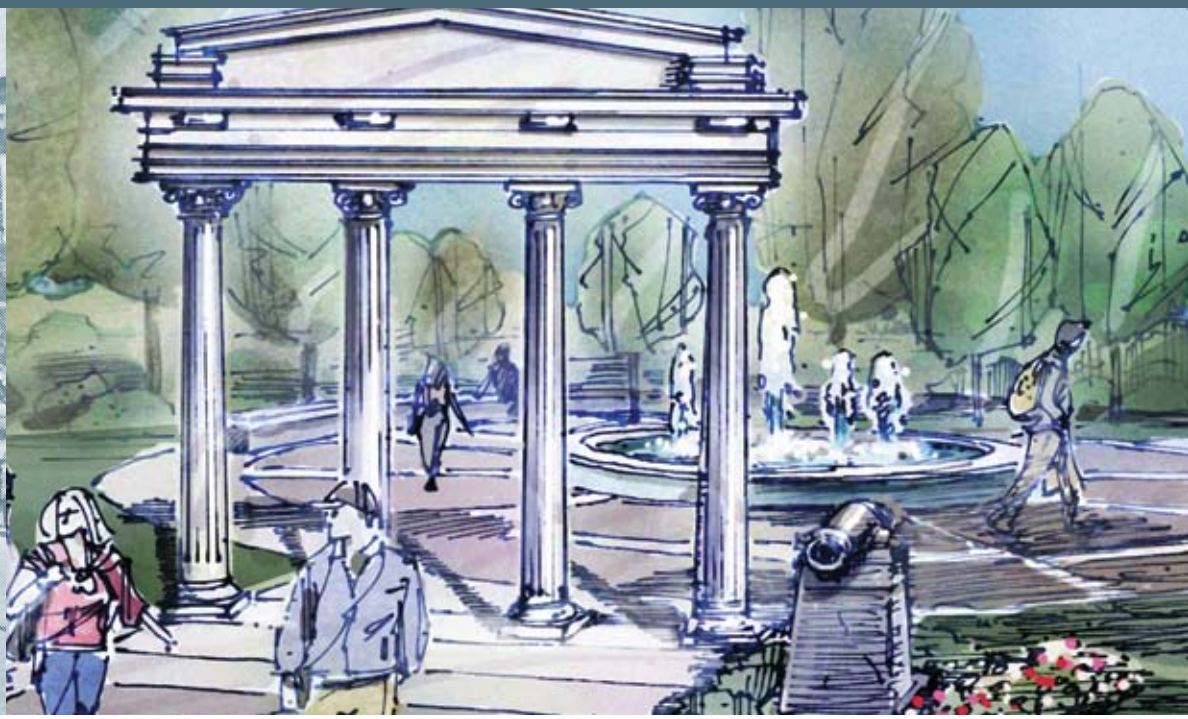
For the past six years in this magazine we have attempted to return Gordon's memories to their rightful place. Editor Peter Boltz has asked questions and has listened to your recollections of this great institution. In addition to the stories in this magazine, there are photographs of tangible objects that cause us to reflect – objects like the gold-tipped cane and silver desk set recently donated to the College by the Pound family and the painting created by alumnus Jack Freeman.

Little Wilfrid used tangible objects in his quest to spark memory in his friend and often it is a tangible object that causes us to stop and think about something from our past. The cover story in this year's magazine is about a large tangible object – a memorial meant to spark memories. Our student Dan Ruy tells us that if we are successful in constructing this memorial it will be a place of reflection. I would like to think that those who come after us will not only think about the people we are honoring through this memorial, but they will also learn something about what we value.

Certainly anyone can see the tangible results that Gordon College has on Barnesville, Lamar County and this region. Less visible are the many lives impacted by this institution. This memorial is one tangible way to honor those who have given much. I hope you will make a contribution and challenge your classmates to do the same thing so we can see this memorial become more than an artist's rendering but a reality.

Lawrence V. Weill

President



A Military Memorial for Gordon

by Peter Boltz and Rhonda Toon

For 62 of its 156 years, Gordon was a military school, teaching young men in high school and junior college not just the three R's but training them to be officers. During his first term as Gordon's president, Jere M. Pound hired J.C. Woodward in 1890 to organize a military department. In 1972, the military department was dissolved when the College became part of the University System of Georgia.

But Gordon's military traditions did not come to an abrupt halt in 1972, nor did memories of the College's military past dim. Anyone who has visited a reunion of one of Gordon's military classes can tell you that.

And yet, even during its military days, Gordon did not have a memorial to those of its students, faculty and staff who served and died.

Over the years a number of alumni voiced their desires to see such a memorial erected, but the idea never seemed to become more than that. All of that changed in the Fall of 2007 when three individual alumni from three different states contacted the College expressing an interest in erecting a memorial. President Larry Weill said he would secure funds to hire an architect.

Bob Smith, landscape architect with Smith Associates in Watkinsville, Georgia, met with a group of alumni on the Gordon campus in November. Rick Hahn, Class of '64, drove from Indiana to attend the meeting. Danks Seel, Class of '64, was unable to attend but he and Oliver Halle, Class of '65, discussed their ideas and sent them to the group. Seel also mailed a package of photographs of memorials found on other college campuses. Then alumni advisory board president Kike Seda, Class of '59, joined the group. Bob Smith listened while the group talked and slightly more than a month later he submitted his plans.

The outcome of this planning group is tentatively known as Memorial Plaza and was presented at Alumni Weekend on April 11-13, 2008. The proposed design has a fountain to anchor the east end of the plaza and the military memorial of reflective marble to anchor the west end. Visitors to the memorial will be able to see their own faces as they read the names of members of the Gordon family who have fallen in the line of duty.

The jets of the fountain represent Gordon College's past with the central arching jet representing its future. Plans call for quotes to be engraved in pavers inset into the walkway – these quotes are from heroes of Gordon's past. But chief among the features of the plaza is the replica of the portico that once graced the front of Lambdin Hall. Students crossing campus will walk between the columns and under the portico much as they did for a large part of the College's past.

There are many reasons why it is time for such a memorial. One of them is Maj. Roy E. Congleton who was a professor of military science at Gordon from 1961 to 1963.

Cadets referred to Congleton as "22-5 Congleton," meaning he lived his professional life according to the Army's Drill and Ceremonies Field Manual 22-5. Hahn said that he knew other officers from his days in the Army who he described as having "rough edges" and "personal baggage" that affected their professional lives. Not so with Congleton. Hahn described Congleton as the perfect Army officer who taught "character life lessons" and was "professional to the Nth degree."

"He impressed upon us what a real officer should be," Hahn said. "He set the model for us."

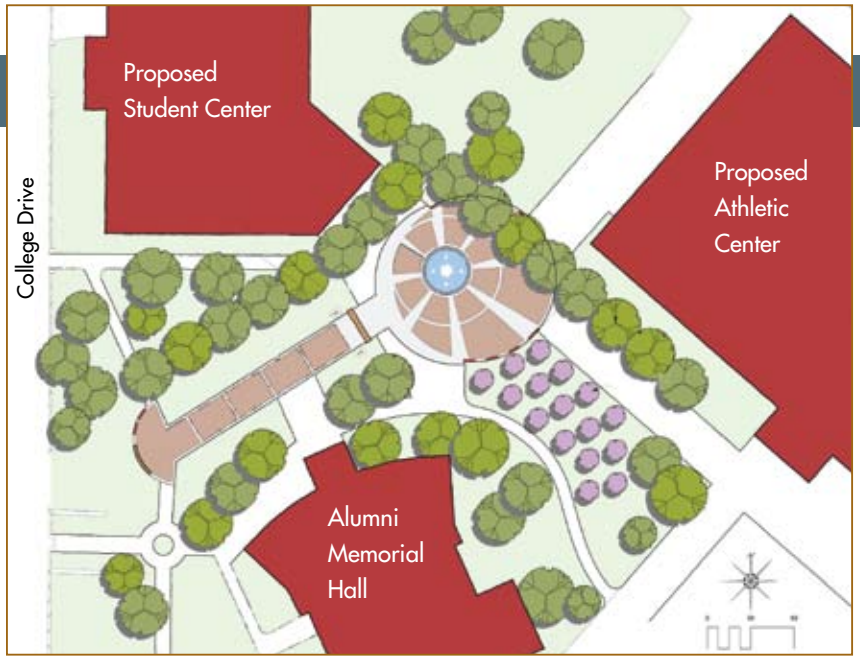
Despite his FM 22-5 bearing in his professional life, Congleton was quite personable in his social and religious life. Hahn remembers he and other cadets felt like part of the family when Congleton invited them to his home. At Methodist Youth Fellowship and other social gatherings, Congleton cultivated his approachability by starting up conversations with cadets who were nervous around him.

Hahn said he saw Congleton as "a great officer who emulated the ideal of my concept of an armed forces officer who gave his life as a faithful patriot. In other words, a hero."

Congleton was killed in action in Vietnam on December 21, 1964, leaving behind a wife and three daughters, ages 8, 6 and 6 months.

Another reason is Capt. Bill Branch. While researching his story which appears in the following pages, his daughter Jennifer Branch Denard sent the following in an e-mail. It helps explain the importance of a military memorial.

"You should know, my mama did not talk about my father much or his death for almost 20 years. I



The Site Plan for Memorial Plaza

couldn't ask about him without her crying a lot. She couldn't help it, and I couldn't help but feel guilty asking. So we were both just real quiet about him. Mom threw herself into teaching, fund-raising, nonprofit work, anything that would keep her from dealing with the memory that was dad."

"But then, one day, I realized, I was half grown, and I didn't know a lot about my father. That just wasn't right, and I was kind of sore about it. At that time, I was fortunate to attend North Georgia College in Dahlonega, on a scholarship in dad's name. There, each year, during Parents Alumni Weekend, I was invited to place a wreath at the memorial there, along with someone who knew my dad. It was an honor for me to be able to touch his name and hear others talk about him. And it changed me. I began to really learn who my father was and who I would be as his daughter."

Just as the memorial at North Georgia College had a part in changing Jennifer, another alumnus wrote to us about an experience he had on a hill in California.

"One evening I decided to walk up a trail leading to a serviceman's memorial park. Along the way were a good number of plaques from all the wars and conflicts Santa Barbara's native sons had died in.

"Some were from WW I, many more from WW II, a few from Korea, and a few from Vietnam. It was on the last plaque that I found a name that gave me a chill and a flood of memories. The name of a young warrant officer fresh from flight school and newly assigned to my unit in Vietnam. Less than a week 'in country,' and he was flying as my co-pilot.

"While flying a not-so-dangerous mission that day, we suddenly received a good bit of ground fire from an area thought to be friendly. A number of rounds hit our helicopter, one to my co-pilot's head. He died almost instantly. My crew chief managed to release his seat back and attempted first aid, but to no avail.

"The point here is that I hardly knew this pilot, only his name. No idea where he was from or much about him at all. There was no time. But because there was this plaque, I was able to make a connection with where he was from and remember his face and the brief time he served with us."

There are more stories about those who served in the following pages, but as much as these stories serve as memorials, they will not endure unless they are told again and again. Memorials give us a place to do this, and when the paper stories are gone, the memorial stories will endure.

The College has started the work of creating a memorial at the request of many of its alumni. Now it's time for alumni to answer the request of the College for volunteers to lead the effort. ■

MAJOR GERALD WYNN

by Peter Boltz

MAJ. GERALD WYNN used to tell Gordon cadet Oliver Halle, "Halle, you've got to be a realist, not an idealist," whenever Halle thought things were not as they should be.

The irony is that this former Gordon assistant professor of military science who encouraged his students to be realists is today himself an ideal, having given his life in Vietnam for the ideal of American freedom.

"He is one of America's fighting men who volunteered to go, and he gave it all," Halle said.

Wynn died November 14, 1967, a date as certain in Halle's mind as his own birthday, although Halle cannot remember where he was when he learned of Wynn's death, nor how the news reached him, nor how Wynn died. And as quickly as he can recall the date of Wynn's death, he can just as quickly remember his feelings of being "profoundly, deeply saddened and shocked."

As a Vietnam veteran himself, Halle says he knows a lot of people who died in the war, but Wynn stands out as a special memory. Perhaps it's because Halle, a New Yorker, was able to find common ground with Wynn, a New Jerseyan, on a campus full of rebels ready to remind him he was a Yankee in enemy territory.

Wynn was killed when his helicopter was shot down by North Vietnamese Army troops in Quang Nam Province. He was the battalion operations officer for the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry of the 4th Infantry Division. American troops quickly rushed to the scene of the crash, but there were no survivors among the eight men aboard.

When asked why it is important to have a memorial, Halle said, "First of all, it is for the family and friends to think back on. It serves as a cenotaph. Second, a memorial is for those who never knew the deceased or even about the war. A memorial lets them know about the long tradition of Americans like Wynn who volunteer to fight America's battles."

"Because of Wynn who said, 'I'll go,'" Halle said, "other Americans didn't have to." ■

CAPTAIN BILL BRANCH

by Peter Boltz

CAPT. BILL BRANCH — "I went to the wall (the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C.) for the first time in 1995," Judy McConoughey said. "I cried and cried and cried, but I couldn't get the crying out."

This was 25 years after her husband Capt. Bill Branch was killed in Vietnam when his helicopter was shot down over the Michelin rubber plantation near Dau Tieng… just 10 days before he was to return to the United States.

Today, Judy still misses the man she calls her childhood sweetheart and credits her daughter Jennifer for helping her through her sorrow. She remembers one thing in particular about her visit to "the wall." Her daughter found men who served with her father and invited them to visit and talk with her mother. This helped her progress through the grieving process, which she admits was more difficult than she thought, but today she can speak of her husband and remember him with a smile on her face.

Bill and Judy Branch moved to Barnesville in 1966 when he joined Gordon as an assistant professor of military science. During their time in Barnesville, he went to Vietnam in 1966-1967 and then again in 1969-1970. Before he left on his second tour, he told his father-in-law that he had an "uncomfortable feeling" about it. He told Judy that if anything were to happen to him that she should remember that he had lived a very full life.

"I didn't pay attention to what he said at the time," she said.

In the 1967-1968 academic year, while he served as Gordon's assistant professor of military science, she taught high school English at Gordon. She remembers that cadets would salute her when they came into her class.

"They dressed perfectly with their shiny shoes," she said. "They were trying to impress me so I'd say something to Bill, but I told them I wouldn't."

"He had a real following," she said. He'd often come home to tell her he had invited cadets over for a home-cooked meal or go running with the cadets even though he suffered from asthma. When one of their Pekinese, Remus (the other was named Romulus), had gone blind,

students would come by the house to see how he was doing.

It was a former student of Judy's who started the research on this story when he phoned Rhonda Toon, Gordon's vice president of advancement. Porter Caughman said he wanted to find his former teacher to thank her. Toon, in turn, called Gordon College Alumni Advisory Board President Don Neuner because he was a contemporary of Caughman's. Neuner suggested a Web site, where Toon discovered information on Capt. Branch and learned she could write the Webmaster. In turn, the Webmaster contacted the author of the information on Branch, his daughter Jennifer Branch Denard who introduced her mother.

Judy Branch in 1968.

Caughman, who lives in Chapin, S.C., finally got in touch with his former English teacher, first by mail and then by phone.

In the card he sent, he thanked her. "The moral support I received from you enabled me to grow in self-confidence," he wrote.

Perhaps remembering his time in her classroom, he ended his note with, "I don't expect this letter returned with corrections."

Judy chuckled about this final line, because Caughman had spelled Moncks Corner as Monks Corner, and when the two of them talked on the phone, Judy couldn't help but correct him.

She said she hasn't been back to Barnesville since she left it about a year and a half after her husband's death. "I was glad to get out of Barnesville because of Bill," she said. "If I went, I'd be running into him. Barnesville is where we started our life together."

But, she said, when she thinks of Gordon and Barnesville, she remembers kindness and sweet people ready to help. She remembers the kindness of Martha Ann Peavy, who took over her duties for the Jaycettes. She remembers John Cavender who served as an assistant professor of military science with her husband. She remembers Marvin Mitchiner whom she asked to make sure it was Bill in the closed casket. She remembers Mary Beth Whatley: "Wasn't she a prize. If not for her, I'd've never made it through." She remembers Helen Hardy and her daughters Gay and Jody who lived next door to her and Bill on Cherokee Drive. And she remembers Floyd and Twila Moye. It was Floyd who led the funeral procession from Barnesville to Fort Benning.

Today, when she thinks of Bill Branch, she remembers how fun he was, how he "loved every minute of his time at Gordon," how his skin was fair, how handsome he was in his dress blues, how smart he was, and how he was always drawing and sketching.

"He had the most beautiful hands," she said wistfully, and then she smiled.

Perhaps now she can come back to Barnesville. ■

CAPTAIN GEORGE LATON "DAN" DANIEL

by Peter Boltz

CAPT. LATON DANIEL — Frances Parker Daniel still remembers asking her son Laton, "Do you think this is a bad omen?"

They were on their way to an interview with Gordon Military College President Col. C.T.B. Harris the day after Daniel graduated from high school in Ninety Six, S.C. Shortly before they arrived in Barnesville, the two stopped to eat lunch, and Frances, unaware of the wet ground, stepped from her car into mud that came up over her ankle. She lost her high heel.

"Do you think this is a bad omen about your going to Gordon?" she asked her son. "No," he said. "I just got to go to Gordon."

Frances remembers that strangers from the restaurant probed the mud with sticks and found her shoe. The restaurant owner helped her wash her shoe and stocking, and then put them out in the sun to dry while she and her son ate lunch. By the time they were back on the road, Frances had laughed off any idea of a bad omen.

George Laton "Dan" Daniel, known to his family as Laton, could have gone to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, according to his sister Jackie, but he didn't want to be that far from home. Furthermore, he wanted to go somewhere that he already had friends like John Welborn, Wallace Reynolds and James "Coot" Henderson.

According to his sister Jackie, when he and his mother were received by Col. Harris, the president said, "Mrs. Daniel, by the time we get through with your son he will be a gentleman and disciplined. Mother said, 'Col. Harris, let me tell you something. My son is already a gentleman, and he's already disciplined. He wants the military.' Col. Harris said, 'Yes, ma'am.'"

When Harris congratulated Frances for choosing Gordon Military College for her son, she corrected him on the spot. "Colonel, my son made the choice." Curious, he asked the young man what his plans were after Gordon. "The University of Georgia," he said, adding that he had his life mapped out.

"Harris was hard as nails," Frances said, "but he turned out to be really good," and the times she and her husband Pete visited the campus, they were much impressed with Gordon.

"The next time I visited Laton was six weeks later. Gordon had a rule that parents couldn't visit any sooner," she said. She remembered that her son didn't have any complaints; he loved Gordon and the military experience.

"And then we went to the fall dance," she said. "I was so proud, seeing Laton so tall, slim and handsome in his uniform. A cadet came up to us and said, 'Col. Harris would like you and your husband to come join him in his box.' I looked over to the box and there he was, waving us to come over."

Laton Daniel during his 1968-1969 tour in Vietnam.

One of Frances' favorite memories of her son's days at Gordon was his 1964 graduation.

"When the cadets threw their hats up into the air, I said, 'How beautiful,' and then I realized that a hat had fallen in my lap. I said let me see whose it is and I'll return it, and to my surprise, it was Laton's. My husband put it on and wore it the rest of the day. I told him to take it off, but he wouldn't. 'I'll not take it off,' he said, 'I paid dearly for it.'"

"I felt the same way. I didn't begrudge a single dime I paid Gordon. I was so proud. I love Gordon."

Military service came quicker for Daniel than he expected. In the first quarter of his senior year at the University of Georgia, the Army took him out of school, commissioned him and, as his sister Jackie put it, "shipped him out." He was told that if he survived his tour, the Army would pay for the rest of his schooling.

By the time he finished his tour from 1968 to 1969, he was a captain in the Special Forces (also known as the Green Berets) with a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. He also had been exposed to Agent Orange, an herbicide that denuded the enemy's jungle hiding places and made him sick. Daniel survived two brain tumors caused by the chemical, but he succumbed to the third on February 25, 2008, in the company of his sister Jackie.

"He passed so beautifully," she said. "He just sat up and looked at me. I said, 'Do you know I love you more than life itself?' He looked at me in acknowledgement and then the light went out of his eyes." ■

CORPORAL DANIEL RUY

by Peter Boltz

CPL. DANIEL RUY — "Before I left the Marines," Daniel Ruy wrote in his scholarship application, "I knew that as soon as I returned home, I needed to remain proactive. I returned in July 2006 and put myself into college the following month."

In May 2008, he graduated summa cum laude with an associate's degree in chemistry. In August 2008, he entered the chemical/biomedical engineering program at Georgia Tech, which he said satisfies all the prerequisites for medical school. He hasn't decided if he will become a physician like his father, but being "proactive," there's no telling what heights he might achieve in an already remarkable college career.

It's even more remarkable when one considers his three combat tours in Iraq.

"When I think about my potential, my future," he said, "if my life were to be cut short, I'd like people to know about me, to know my story."

And that is why he agreed to be interviewed. Not for himself to be remembered, but others. Referring to the men memorialized in this year's issue of the *President's Report*, he said, "I'm sure all these men would want everyone to know their stories, all that they wanted to do with their lives."

Ruy signed up for eight years with the United States Marine Corps – four years and two months on active duty, the remaining time on inactive duty. "There's a thing called involuntary recall," he said, "which means if they need me, I go back into active service." He said he has friends who have been involuntarily recalled.

He was raised in a military family. His dad is a retired Army colonel; one brother is in the Air Force, and another brother is in the National Guard. In all, he has seven brothers and two sisters, and all were adopted except for one sister.

"From my earliest years, I was taught to serve," he said. " The idea of service is the focus of my family life. My mother and father have been around the world adopting children as part of their commitment to serve. I was adopted in Costa Rica.

"My dad always said the military would act as a guide in my life, that it would put it into perspective."

When asked if he found his father's words to be true, Ruy used his academic history as an example.

"I wasn't a very good high school student," he said. "I failed chemistry, and I had to go into

a special program to get my degree before I could go into the Marines. I left without seeing my high school grades – I didn't want to see them."

When Ruy compares his high school career to his Gordon College career, he cannot help but see that it was his military experience that made the difference, that put his life into perspective "in the extreme."

He remembers that toward the end of his last tour in Iraq, his unit was assigned a "brand new lieutenant who had just finished college. He sat me down and asked me if I had thought about going to college after my tour."

"I told him I was planning on becoming a Marine security guard for an embassy," Ruy said.

"He must've seen something in me, some potential I didn't see in myself, because he told me he really thought I should go to school, and he told me what it had done for him. He told me I had to remain proactive and not be satisfied with a mediocre job."

For Ruy, a memorial means honoring "the character of a man willing to pay the ultimate price so those to his left and right can live one other day."

He sees the honoring as twofold: "We honor and remember those who sacrifice for a purpose greater than themselves and at the same time honor those whose lives were saved because of that sacrifice."

Ruy said he's never visited any of the many large memorials in Washington, D.C., but he's been to "lots of small ones in Iraq, usually temporary memorials, since our commanders knew there was not enough time to mourn."

And maybe that is what a memorial is all about, a place where we have enough time to meditate on those who have served, that their sacrifices and their stories can be known.

"We owe them that time," Ruy said. ■

Memorial Plaza's First Benefactors

Fundraising for Memorial Plaza got off to a great start during Alumni Weekend, April 11-13, 2008, with donations that amounted to more than $15,000. The largest contribution came from The Survivors. Pete Reems, one of the founders of the nonprofit alumni group, donated The Survivors' entire treasury of $10,040.49. Checks were also made by David Black, Kike Seda, Jimmy Matthews, Kathy Matthews and Dan Rainey.

David Black (leftmost), Larry Weill, Kike Seda, Pete Reems, Jimmy Matthews, Kathy Matthews and Dan Rainey.

Back row, from left to right: Ida Elizabeth Pound (second Pound daughter); Merritt Bloodworth Pound (son); Marjorie Caroll Pound (Merritt's wife); Dr. Jere Madison Pound; Ada Murphey Pound (his wife); Wille Mills Murphey (Ada's sister-in-law, wife of M.M. Murphey); Edwin Aldine Pound II (son); Willie Green Pound Edwards (oldest Pound child, pregnant with Ada Russell Sweat); and Mickleberry Merritt Murphey (Mrs. Jere Pound's brother).

Middle row: Lucy Floyd Pound Huggins (third Pound daughter); Capt. E.J. Murphey ("Big Daddy" – Mrs. Jere Pound's father); and Merritt Murphey Green (M.M. Murphey's daughter).

Front row: William Stokeley Pound (youngest Pound son); Ralph (Mrs. Jere Pound's sister's adopted child); William Mills Murphey (M.M. Murphey's son); and Maude Brown Edwards Green (eldest daughter of Willie Green Pound Edwards).

A Hall *of* Presidents

Dr. Jere Madison Pound's Collection

by Peter Boltz

As an educator, Jere Madison Pound must have known the value of visual aids to help students understand ideas that were new to them. From what his descendants say about him today, Dr. Pound saw the value for himself, since he was quite the collector of just about everything including Native American artifacts, minerals, bird sightings, golf clubs, canes, tools, pipes, books, razor blades, his own speeches, scrapbooks, fishing rods and rifles.

Detail of the cane given to Dr. Pound by Gordon's Class of 1911.

Over the course of fall 2007 and spring 2008, Gordon College has met more members of the Pound family who have generously donated many items and historical documents from their grandfather's rich collection that help show the story of Gordon College in Barnesville, Georgia. It was here that he served as president not once but three times: from 1888 to 1896, from 1897 to 1901, and from 1910 to 1912. A further testament of the significance of Gordon for the Pound family is that Dr. Pound and his wife Ada Murphey Pound are buried in Barnesville.

In meeting and speaking with grandchildren of Dr. Pound, which include the Huggins and Edwards families, it was clear they also had collections of their own to share with the College, collections of stories and artifacts.

The oldest living Pound grandchild, Ada Edwards Sweat of Brunswick, Georgia, has written a history about her family, and in one chapter she details her memories of spending summers with her grandfather and grandmother Pound in Athens, Georgia, when he was president of the State Normal College (Georgia State Teacher's College) from 1912 to 1932.

"Grandfather was a wonderful grandfather for little girls," she wrote. "My grandfather Edwards died before I was born, so he was the only grandfather I ever had. When he came home from his office in the afternoon, he would take us (she and her younger sister Pat) both by the hand, and we would walk over the campus, finding bird nests and baby birds and each flower that bloomed since the day before."

She and Pat would get into the bottom drawers of her grandfather's bookcase to examine mineral samples he had collected, playing with the typewriter at his roll top desk and hearing him tell stories of Uncle Remus and the Cyclops of Greek mythology. She said she can still picture in her mind her grandfather sitting in a rocking chair, smoking his pipe and reading in the middle of the room under a single light bulb. "We could be playing and making all kinds of noise, but he'd not be disturbed. He read a book a night."

She said that she spent Thanksgiving with

her grandparents after he had become president of Valdosta Women's College, but by then he had fallen terminally ill and was in the hospital. When she visited him there, she remembers he sat up in bed and "looked at us like we were the most marvelous things in the world. Here he was, a man dying of cancer, and we felt so welcomed and cherished by this man. It was the last time I saw him."

On March 6, 2008, Merritt Pound, Russell Edwards and Tryon Huggins had more stories to tell about their grandfather's collections at the home of Merritt and Evlyn Pound in Athens, Georgia. Russell, the eldest cousin, is Ada Edwards Sweat's brother and their mother was the first child of Jere and Ada Pound, Willie Green Pound Edwards. Tryon is the son of Jere and Ada's third daughter, Lucy Floyd Pound Huggins. And Merritt is the son of Merritt Bloodworth Pound, the third son of Jere and Ada.

Russell recalled his most significant memories of his grandfather were his voice – deep, resonant, authoritative – and story time. His memories of story time were very much like Ada's except that Russell remembered that when they came into the room where he was reading under the single bare bulb, he would put his reading down and ask his grandchildren what they wanted him to read. "This is where we learned Greek mythology," Russell said.

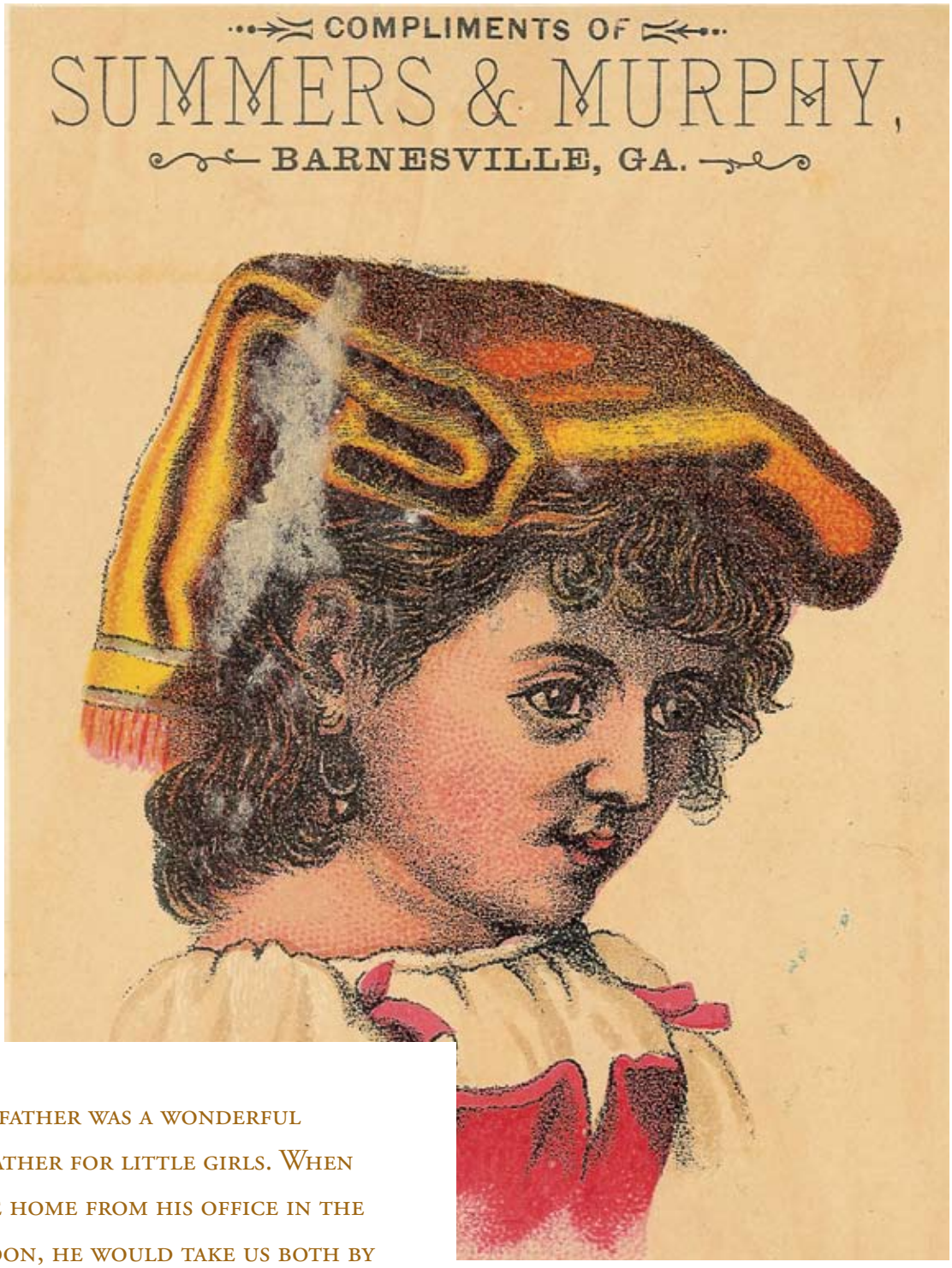
Tryon recalled his grandfather's "wide ranging library."

"When I was 9 or 10, on rainy days, I'd rummage through it, finding books on the devil and religious texts," he said. "I don't think he ever owned a house, but he was a big collector. I remember he had a hat box filled with pipes. He used to smoke Granger tobacco, but my brothers and I used them to smoke rabbit tobacco. We probably tore those pipes up."

"I still have 20 to 25 straight razors of his," Tryon said, "and these are probably only a quarter of what he had; we broke them whittling. Merritt had a wooden barrel stuffed with golf clubs. I just gave my brother Bill some deep sea fishing rods; grandfather had a tremendous collection."

Merritt also inherited part of his grandfather's collection including a matched pair of lever action rifles (one a .25-20 and the other a .38) including original boxes of ammunition, many of his grandfather's books (some so rare they've been stored in safety deposit boxes), and an interest in Indian lore that goes beyond the many arrowheads he's collected himself and those he's inherited.

Detail of a wooden box carved by Dr. Pound.



"Grandfather was a wonderful grandfather for little girls. When he came home from his office in the afternoon, he would take us both by the hand, and we would walk over the campus, finding bird nests and baby birds and each flower that bloomed since the day before."

The Summers and Murphey Buggy Company was owned by George L. Summers and Dr. Pound's father-in-law, Erastus Jabez Murphey. This handbill was found in one of Dr. Pound's many scrapbooks.

There is no doubt Merritt's interest in Indian lore came from his father, Merritt Bloodworth Pound, who took him on arrowhead hunts. But this was an interest that ultimately came from grandfather Pound as evidenced by a book written by the senior Merritt, *Benjamin Harris – Indian Agent.* In the book's preface, he wrote: "My father [Jere M. Pound], a serious student of the Southern Indian, collected a sizeable library of Indian history and lore. Though he never found time for writing during a busy life as a school and college administrator, his interest in Hawkins whetted mine and his many notes aided me materially in my early research."

Two other Pound grandchildren also have helped enrich Gordon's understanding of its only three-time president. One is Jere Pound III, the son of Dr. Pound's first son Murphy, and the other is Ida Pound Page, the daughter of Edwin Aldine Pound.

Jere contributed an engraved silver desk set (scissors, letter opener and tray) and a letter from grandfather Pound to Jere's father Murphey. In the letter, Dr. Pound responds to his son's poor report card from Georgia Tech, which gives wonderful insight into the elder Pound.

"If you are not doing your best already," he wrote, "buckle down to it and remove these deficiencies. If you are doing your best, it cannot be helped. But remember this, that none of your breed, so far as I know, ever fell down that way in school."

"The world is not going to ask who you are nor where you were educated, but it is going to ask what you can do. …I am not angry. I am disappointed. Pull yourself together now for a fine effort." And he signed it, "Affectionately, Papa."

Ida's gift to the College was a walking cane with a gold head with "Gordon Class of 1911" engraved on it, a present for President Pound in his third term. Ida remembered that "we always had grandfather's walking cane in the front hall closet. I never really knew anything about it except that it had been his. Upon my father's death in 1995, I inherited the walking cane."

"I have notified my brother and our Pound/Huggins/Edwards cousins of my intention [to donate the cane to Gordon]," she said. "I think all will be happy to know the gift from Gordon has been returned to Gordon."

With so many gifts given from the family, Gordon's Advancement Office has initiated plans to create a "hall of presidents" on the third floor of Lambdin Hall. One donation from the Huggins family already hangs in the hall. It is a signed letter from John B. Gordon, the College's namesake, to the faculty and students of Gordon Institute in 1897, a year that Dr. Pound served as president. In the future, the cane, the silver desk set, and handwritten manuscripts of Dr. Pound's will be on display. ■

Dr. Pound's desk set.

A FONDNESS *for* BOOKS

Hightower's Head Librarian Nancy Anderson

by Tamara Boatwright

NANCY ANDERSON LAUGHS when asked about the Louisa May Alcott quote, "She is too fond of books and it has addled her brain."

"So now I have an excuse for my behavior," she laughs. "My fondness for books."

Anderson is very fond of books, but those who know her may dispute the "addled" part. As head librarian at Gordon College for nearly 21 years, Anderson has been the driving force behind the Hightower Library growing into one that's high tech, online and user-friendly.

But a card catalog cabinet – the one that contains hundreds of book listings on small cards that were manually created – is still around.

"Oh no, I didn't throw the card catalog away," she said. "We haven't put anything new in it since 1995, but it's still here. And it will be here as long as I am. There was so much work that went into it."

She and her staff also work hard to make sure the students, faculty and staff who use the library are comfortable and receive any assistance they need.

"We staff four stations throughout the library," she explained. "I don't believe in waiting until the students come to the circulation desk to ask questions; our staff is proactive and seeks them out when they look puzzled. I want to make their visit to the library a learning experience. I don't want to just put information in their hands and hope they get it. My primary goal is to make the students comfortable using a library, any library."

The students seem to sense the staff's willingness to help and that, she says, translates into the students having and showing respect for the library, its contents and its environment.

"We don't have problems that some other libraries experience with graffiti and destruction of the furniture," she explained. "The only real problem we have is with an occasional bottle of water that some students can't seem to live without."

Anderson spent her first 20 or so years as most women did in the late '50s and early '60s – finishing high school and attending some college before getting married and starting a family. But a divorce after nearly 20 years of marriage changed things.

"I realized that I needed to get back to school, so I did," she said. "I earned two degrees after the age of 40."

She earned a degree in middle grades education at Brenau University and several years later a master of education in educational media from the University of Georgia.

She was a librarian and assistant professor of humanities at Brenau when she decided to make a move, a really big move, and ended up at Gordon College. That was 1987.

"My children were on their own, I was on my own, and I just decided to go for it," she said. "I moved from the Gainesville area, from my friends, my family, my church, my comfort zone and came to Barnesville to be the director of the library here at Gordon."

The move was hastened due to a recent personnel change that had occurred at Gordon and the fact that school was about to start.

"I hadn't even found a place to live yet," she explained with a bit of a laugh. "So I lived in a dorm room for almost a month. It was summer so there weren't any students. I laugh when I think about it."

Her three children later helped her find a home a stone's throw from the campus. Her home is a quaint and cozy place that allows her to indulge in two of her many favorite things, reading and gardening.

She describes herself as a "voracious reader," reading up to 120 books a year and keeping track of them with a book journal. "I read a lot of different authors, but I'd have to say that mysteries are my favorite."

When she needs a break from turning pages, she putters in her garden and with the plants in her sunroom, does some local volunteer work and takes an occasional trip. She recently returned from a trip to Venice, Italy, with her daughter Laurie.

She is close with all three of her children, Wendy, Laurie and Dave, and her five grandchildren are a joy.

"I attend all my grandchildren's Grandparents Days both in Macon and in Gainesville," she said. "My car automatically turns to north Georgia before a month goes by to see my youngest grandchild, Zoe, who is 6. My granddaughter Amanda, 22, is currently majoring in psychology at Kennesaw; she wants to be a counselor. My other three grandchildren, all boys, Bryan, 15, Miles, 11, and Finn, 10, have taught me a lot about computer games. I am Grannan to all of them, and I love them all dearly."

"I realized that I needed to get back to school, so I did," she said. "I earned two degrees after the age of 40."

After nearly 21 years at Gordon, Anderson remembers how the problem used to be that there wasn't enough information in the library for students. Now the problem is a superabundance of information that students need help finding and evaluating.

"Librarians are needed more than ever," she said. "I began my library career late in life and am not nearly ready to finish it." ■

A Journey *to* Master Smith

by Peter Boltz

Not many of us think of knives in our everyday activities, not even when we're using, or abusing them. Their ubiquity seems to make them invisible, and that they are mass produced in cookie cutter fashion doesn't help them to stand out from all our other possessions. The knife is a common object.

But what if there were only one knife, a one-of-a-kind knife made to your desire by a craftsman who puts his spirit into it?

Well then, you might just have a knife made by Danks Seel.

Seel, Class of '62, '64, has been making knives since 1998. In the last 10 years he's made 30 knives and 10 tomahawks, and business is so good he's behind three knives and two tomahawks.

Tomahawks?

That's right, tomahawks, those fearsome weapons of early America, and Seel creates them with an authenticity he has studied since he was a boy of seven growing up with the Everglades for a backyard. His interest in stories about Davy Crockett, Daniel Boone and Chief Osceola went hand in hand with his interest in hunting and fishing, and these interests led him to read more about America's pioneer trappers and mountain men. Spend a little time with Seel in his shop in Waxhaw, N.C., and you'll get this uncanny sense of connection with 18th century America. To heft one of his war tomahawks or to handle one of his knives is to reach back in time and touch pioneer America.

But Danks is not just about knives and tomahawks. Anything that will further his craft is the scope of his work. He uses antler, deer jawbones and exotic woods for the handles of his knives. He's made pocket knives. He works with leather. Anything that satisfies his journey to master smith, he either learns or considers learning.

One of his particular deviations from knives and tomahawks was a machete he made starting with a simple bar of carbon steel. He still remembers vividly the heat of the day, 98 degrees, and then the heat of the forge, 2,000 degrees.

"It took me an hour to forge on an anvil," he said. "When I was done, my clothes were soaked in sweat including my socks. From there, I ground it into shape, put a convex edge on it and fitted it with a ram's horn handle." (Seel favors the convex edge over the wedge edge because of its sharpness and durability.)

Making the machete also involved tempering the blade in oil and then testing it. In tempering, Seel heated the machete until a magnet would not stick to it, then immersed it in oil. This heating, then cooling of the steel makes it harder. Seel tested the tempered edge, after grinding it to final shape and sharpening it, by leveling 10 square yards of cornstalk. He ended up soaking wet again.

Then he took the machete and cut through a two-by-four and returned to the cornfield to level more cornstalks with the same ease as the first time. Well-pleased that the razor edge was still there and once more soaking wet, he knew his tempering held.

Before he delivered the machete into the hands of his customer, he made a handsome leather scabbard, which can be worn at the side or on a shoulder harness that fits diagonally across the back, similar to a military Sam Brown belt.

"Each piece is an individual creation," Seel said. "The money is nice, but the thrill comes when a customer says wow, and I know I've exceeded his expectations."

Seel said he plans to work on becoming a master smith recognized by the American Bladesmiths Society once he retires from his work in the hardware industry. The ABS is like a medieval guild in that its masters certify whether or not knife makers should be recognized as journeymen and master smiths when they achieve a certain level of expertise. To become a master smith, Seel will have to have held the rank of journey smith for two years and to present five finished knives at the Society's annual show

and meeting where a panel of master smiths will judge his work.

The journeyman's test entails many things, but testing the sharpness and strength of a hand-forged blade are the key features of the test.

First, an applicant has to sever a loose hanging rope, one inch in diameter, in a single stroke. With the same knife, he will then have to chop through a two-by-four, twice. If the master smith overseeing the test finds any deformation in the edge, the applicant will fail the test. But if he passes the second test, he must then shave hair "using the section of the blade that was most frequently used in the cutting and chopping portions of the test."

The Society doesn't specify who or what gets shaved, just that an applicant has to "demonstrate that the edge remains keen and shaving sharp."

Seel "wet formed" the sheath for this knife, meaning that he wetted the leather and then pressed around the knife for a tight custom fit. He then used a saddle stitch to join the sheath.

Once an applicant proves he knows how to put an edge on a knife, he has to destroy his knife in the final step of the test in order to prove he is able "to heat treat a knife with a soft back and hard edge." That is, does the applicant know how to temper a blade as Seel tempered his machete to resist dulling on a two-by-four and a stand of corn?

To answer this question, the master smith has the applicant secure the tip of his knife in a vise and then bend the knife 90 degrees. If it breaks, all the work the applicant has put into his knife is for naught. And even if the knife does not snap, the master smith can rule a failure for lesser deformations such as chipping or cracking.

Even though he is not even a journeyman yet, Seel's work has drawn the attention of enough people that he hasn't been without work since he started making knives. Word of mouth seems to be his best advertising, but he will also put his knives and tomahawks in a fly-fishing store in Charlotte. This is an infrequent occurrence since customers commission him, but when it does happen, the knife or tomahawk does not stay on the shelf long.

At the advice of the late master knife maker George Herron, Seel does not accept any money for a commission until he has finished it, because as Herron told him, "They'll keep hounding you."

Seel added, "It's best to say you'll take no money and that the commission might take six months or two years. If after that time they don't still want the knife, someone else will.

"I'm behind three knives and two tomahawks, but even so I haven't lost any business. I'll sell it on consignment."

He did just that recently with a replica of an 1812 tomahawk. The customer backed out, so he put it on consignment and it sold within a week.

But consigning a knife or tomahawk is very rare for Seel, since his customers respect his work and will wait for it – like the woman who wanted a Seel-made knife for her father for a Christmas present. When the holiday had come and gone, she thought she'd have it for her father's birthday. When this date had come and gone, she set her hopes on Father's Day. It ended up that Seel finished the knife almost a year later in July of the following year.

He keeps a war tomahawk instead of putting it on consignment so he can show more than just a photograph of his work. It is called a war tomahawk as opposed to a pipe tomahawk, or pipehawk, because it has a skull spike opposite the cutting edge instead of a tobacco bowl. It is amazingly light with its handle of cocobolo, a wood, Seel said, so rich in oil that you can buff it to a nice shine without using wax. A brass "hunter" star is set into the cocobolo, just below the tomahawk head.

"Each piece is an individual creation," Seel said. "The money is nice, but the thrill comes when a customer says wow, and I know I've exceeded his expectations."

The head itself has a crescent moon etched into the side of the cutting edge, and a brass turtle caps the head. Despite the terribleness of the tomahawk's purpose, it is beautiful.

Seel explained that in order to get the turtle etched out from the brass he used a process involving beeswax and a mixture of hydrochloric and sulphuric acids. The metal is first covered in beeswax, which is resistant to the acid mixture. Next he draws an image into the wax, exposing the metal below it. It is then immersed in the acid mixture for a time, removed and rinsed, and cleaned of the wax. Everywhere there wasn't wax, the acid has eaten into the metal. Protective clothing and a respirator are a must.

The tomahawk head has something called a rust brown finish, which not only colors the surface of the carbon steel but textures it with thousands of small pits. Seel says it cannot scratch, and if rust develops, a little rubbing with fine steel wool gets rid of it. If the rust causes pitting, no matter. What's one more pit?

The tomahawk head was originally a carbon steel ax head that can be bought in any hardware store. Seel shapes his ax heads on a knife maker's belt grinder by "removing anything that does not resemble the tomahawk head I am creating." This is referred to as "stock removal" in the knife maker's world. This also requires protective clothing, like a heavy leather apron, respirator, gloves and goggles, since sparks of little pieces of metal can fly back at him. The buffer which he uses for polishing steel is his most dangerous tool. It can wrench an ax head or knife from his hands and throw it back at him. After 10 years of knife making, Seel has seen and heard enough about accidents to have developed an acute safety consciousness.

A 7-inch camp knife with a carbon steel hand-forged blade, elk antler guard, and tiger maple handle.

One day, Seel would like to make a war tomahawk with a vine/leaf design of brass wire inlay in a handle of tiger maple. It would have a brass head which he would give an old look using an aging technique.

Asked if this would be his ultimate creation, Seel said, "An ultimate creation needs an ultimate buyer, so I stay away from that idea." ■

2010

Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing

by Tamara Boatwright

Starting in 2010 Gordon College will begin offering a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing.

"Approval of this degree program will allow Gordon College to help meet the needs of local students who can't pursue a baccalaureate degree in nursing without facing a daunting commute or having to live near or on a campus that offers such a program," said Gordon College President Lawrence Weill. "It is estimated that by the year 2020 there will be more than 32,000 unfilled nursing jobs in the state. Adding this program will help us, and will help our students, fill that need and therefore serve our community."

Members of Gordon College's nursing faculty and staff celebrate the new BSN program with a toast of sparkling grape juice. From left to right: Profs. Anne Purvis, Kathy Davis, Joan Cranford, Annette Jackson, Margie Wright, Ms. Darlene O'Baner, Ms. Belinda Shaw and Ms. Lisa Baker.

In May, Gordon College graduated its largest nursing class ever with 89 women and men participating in the traditional pinning ceremony.

Gordon College has offered an associate's degree in nursing since 1972 and has graduated more than 1,600 students. While graduates with an associate's degree are qualified to take exams to become registered nurses, the curriculum required to earn a BSN reaches farther and mandates an additional two years of courses involving research, community health nursing and management and leadership.

"We are just thrilled that we will now be able to take our program to the next level," said Joan Cranford, chair of the division of nursing and health sciences. "Many of our students who desired a higher degree would have preferred to continue their education here, but had to move on to other schools. Nursing students will soon be able to fulfill all of their academic requirements here at Gordon College."

The first class in the BSN program is expected to begin in the fall of 2010.

The BSN is the second bachelor's degree offered by the College. A bachelor's degree in education with a major in early childhood education was approved in May 2006. The first group of students in that program is expected to graduate in May 2009. ■

Nurses to Get **NEW BUILDING**

by Tamara Boatwright

Gordon College is in the design and planning stages for a Nursing and Allied Health Building to meet the needs of its growing nursing program. The same program will, in 2010, welcome its first class of students seeking a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

The $14.4 million in construction funds and $2 million in design funds were approved during the 2008 session of the Georgia General Assembly.

"We are very pleased to be able to go forward with expansion of our program and appreciate the University System of Georgia and the General Assembly's support," said Gordon College President Lawrence Weill. "We recently graduated 89 students, our largest class in the history of the program. That number will only grow as the space we have available to educate these students grows."

Classes are currently held in Smith Hall which was built in 1939 during President Franklin Roosevelt's administration. While it holds a significant historic place on the Gordon campus, it is woefully inadequate to house the space and technology necessary for a state-of-the-art nursing education program.

The new building will include: 50,000 square feet; two nursing labs with 150 nursing stations; two clinical simulation labs; seven classrooms; one psychology lab; one computer lab; four testing labs; one medical technology classroom; and administrative and faculty offices.

The building will be constructed where Watson Hall, a 1960s-era dorm, now stands. ■

A weekend to Remember

by Peter Boltz

From the left: A reunion from days gone by. • Dr. Alberto Oben, Class of '52 and '54, and his wife Milagros made use of the shuttle.• Don Summers, Class of '54, and his wife Joy dance in Alumni Memorial Hall. • Winifred Pippin-Calloway (left), Ann Sullivan Van Houten, Robert Melvin and Mary Ann Greene Wilson Class of '58 Golden Reunion. • Gayle Colquitt White, Class of '68, Tina Chatfield Davies, Class of '68, and Archie Ray, Class of '66 and '68, take a look at a yearbook. • Breakfast in the Atrium. • Dr. Neil Boumpani and the Gordon Jazz Ensemble entertained.

It was a defining moment for the Gordon College Alumni Association when it held its first ever all-alumni reunion, and it came at the right time. Since the early '90s, a group of alumni known as the Gordon Survivors held these large gatherings, but this work came to an end in September 2006 when the Survivors put on their last reunion.

Barbecue was on the menu for lunch on Saturday.

The first occasion of the reunion was the 60th Reunion Luncheon held in Gordon College's Foundation Room.

After more than a year of research and planning, the Gordon Alumni Association, in conjunction with the College's Office of Advancement, held Alumni Weekend, which included 24 events over the course of three days, about 300 participants, and 40 volunteers. The Gordon campus was a very busy place the weekend of April 11-13, 2008.

One of the most significant moments of the reunion happened the morning of April 12 when Pete Reems, Class of '66, presented Gordon College President Larry Weill with a check for $10,040. Reems was one of the founders of the Survivors, and the money was the remaining balance of the nonprofit corporation at its dissolution. The money, he said, was to go toward a military memorial on campus.

Among the many events were the faculty/staff reception, Starlight Classic Movie Night, and the Saturday night alumni reception.

The faculty/staff reception was held Friday afternoon on the fourth floor of the Instructional Complex. It was a time for alumni and current faculty and staff to socialize with faculty and staff from Gordon's past like former Gordon President Joe Bray, former dean of students and professor of biology Caywood Chapman, former professor of history Hutch Johnson and former biology professor John Roberts. The Gordon Jazz Ensemble played and light refreshments were served.

One of the most significant moments of the reunion happened the morning of April 12 when Pete Reems, Class of '66, presented Gordon College President Larry Weill with a check for $10,040.

Starlight Classic Movie Night featured *Rock around the Clock* which starred not only Bill Haley and the Comets, but also the Platters, Freddie Bell and the Bellboys, and Alan Freed.

The Saturday night reception at Alumni Hall included hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, DJ and dancing.

The Wednesday after the reunion, the Alumni Advisory Board and the Advancement Office sent out a survey asking participants for their criticisms.

One alumnus wrote: "It's Monday morning and I'm sitting on my sun porch wearing my Gordon sweatshirt, drinking coffee out of my Gordon mug and writing with my Gordon pen. I've been writing this letter in my head since the Monday after the wonderful Gordon … reunion. Words fail me when I try to express what an outstanding job you did."

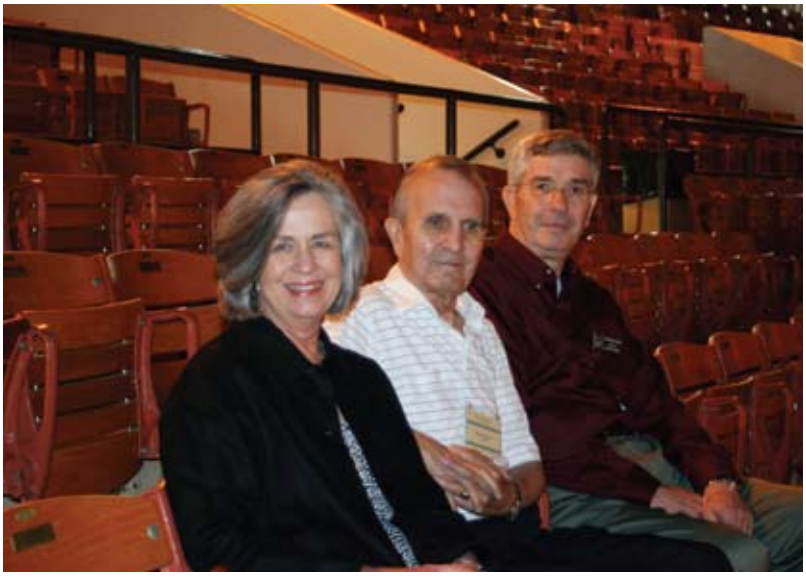
Another wrote: "To Miracle Workers: We decided you could hardly do better. It was fun, the food excellent, A+. If you just do exactly as you did [for the next reunion], all of us will be glad."

Of the 39 surveys that were sent in, only two had nothing positive to say about the reunion. The remaining 37 (95%) used words like terrific, excellent, well-planned, delicious, enjoyable, great, wonderful, loved, tremendous, and marvelous.

This does not mean there is no room for improvement. The survey revealed that more attention should be paid to dietary restrictions in the future and that a hospitality room be provided. Some alumni were disappointed that more people didn't attend, especially the "town" students. Others suggested we acknowledge alumni for things like greatest distance traveled and earliest graduating class; some suggested door prizes.

The reunion planners were also told they needed to plan for those alumni with limited mobility by providing easier access to activities and to make it easier for classmates to meet up.

If you have any suggestions, whether or not you attended Alumni Weekend 2008, please make them in time for Alumni Weekend 2009, April 17-19! You can send them to Lynn Yates, Advancement Office, Gordon College, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, GA 30204, or e-mail her at lynny@gdn.edu. You may also fax your views to 678-359-5738. ■



Marcia Knight, Duane Eilola and Charles Covin were the winners of the gym seat shuffle held in Alumni Hall on April 12. Their names were inscribed on brass plates and put on three of the gymnasium's seats.

Tara MOYE

Gordon's Outstanding Scholar

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Robert Vaughan, congratulates Tara Moye on being selected as a USG Outstanding Scholar.

GORDON STUDENT TARA MOYE was recently honored as a University System of Georgia Outstanding Scholar.

Moye, 19, is the daughter of Fred and Jan Moye of Lamar County, and was homeschooled before entering Gordon as a joint-enrolled student. Joint-enrolled students take college-level classes during their senior year and are able to get a head start in their college studies.

She has been accepted at Sewanee University of the South in Tennessee and will enter as "a sophomore and a half" in the fall.

"I'm not sure what I want to study," she said. "I'll decide a little later."

Moye was one of 35 students – one to represent each University System of Georgia institution – recognized during Academic Recognition Day. Students who represent excellence in academic achievement and personal development have been recognized during the General Assembly's annual session since 1987.

"Tara is a clear-thinking, mentally-sharp person with a definite sense of purpose in life," said Richard Baskin, chair of the humanities department. Baskin nominated Moye for the honor.

Tara is a Gordon legacy student in that her paternal grandfather is Floyd Moye, Gordon Military High School Class of '53; her maternal grandfather is Jimmy Stocks, Gordon Military High School of '56; her mother graduated from Gordon College in '80 and her father Fred Moye took classes at Gordon as a joint-enrolled high school senior in '81. ■

FOUNDATION
Has Its Best Year

The Gordon College Foundation received more than $1.5 million in donations in 2007, making it the best fundraising year in the foundation's 36-year history.

"When President Lawrence Weill arrived at Gordon in 2002, there were fewer than 200 donors listed in the foundation records," said Rhonda Toon, vice president of advancement and executive director of the Gordon College Foundation. "Not all of those 200 donors were living, but that figure represented every donor of record who had contributed to the foundation since its beginning. Five years later the donor base has more than doubled and participation from employees is 10 times greater than what it was in 2002."

Despite 2007 being such a great year for donations, the foundation corpus, valued at just under $7 million, is on the lower end of foundation endowments in the state.

"In comparison with other public colleges, especially those designated as state colleges, our corpus value and our annual giving rate are on the low side," said Toon. "But for Gordon, 2007 represents a tremendous year for us when one considers where we were just five years ago."

One hundred twelve donors gave $84,680 to the foundation in 2002. Of those 112 donors, 17 of them were employees of the College. In 2005, total giving to the foundation grew to $116,664.28 and the number of donors – 246 – doubled. In 2007, there were 427 donors supporting the foundation with 177 of them employees of the College.

And while the number of supporters grows each year, the largest single gift to the foundation in 2007 was one of real estate.

"Many donors find that the tax advantages of giving appreciated property or stock make those donations very attractive. Last year we had a number of such gifts," Toon said.

Many of the gifts to the foundation are restricted to specific projects, with approximately $300,000 given to support equipping the simulation labs for the proposed allied health and nursing building. Other gifts were directed to the Cy Neuner Faculty and Staff Enrichment Fund, the Jones-Story Emergency Loan Fund and to named scholarship endowments.

"With the addition of four-year programs, Gordon will need more scholarship endowments. Many of our scholarships were established to support a student for only one year or for a maximum of two years," Toon said. "A gift of $25,000 can establish a perpetual scholarship at Gordon with the interest earnings providing the award. Giving to scholarships was a large percentage of our 2007 donations."

But all foundations depend on nonrestricted gifts to provide needed operating expenses.

The Gordon College Foundation does not receive any public money for its operations and is totally dependent on donations. Gifts to the foundation that are not directed to a specific purpose allow the foundation not only to pay for postage and office supplies, but to be able to act when a need is presented that can not be met through any other means.

"Many people don't understand the distinction between the Gordon College Foundation, which is a separate 501(c)3 organization and the College itself," Toon said.

"The foundation exists solely to support the College, but it has a separate governance structure and is not funded by tax dollars. There are a number of restrictions on how funds can be used because the College receives taxpayer support. The College also receives revenue from tuition dollars and other auxiliary sources, but for many purposes the College is very dependent on the foundation and its ability to raise funds. There are many goals Gordon College would be unable to meet without financial support from its alumni and friends."

"We are very grateful for the support of the donors to the Gordon Foundation," said President Larry Weill. "We are only able to grow Gordon due to the loyalty of our supporters because they understand the value of what we do. This institution has a great 156-year history. I think it is poised to do even more in the years ahead of us." ■

Highlander Trail **Treasure Hunt**

Gordon's Highlander Trail (formerly the Wolf Walk) winds through a woods that has treasure in it, and whoever hid it has left maps. One is N 33° 02.794 W 084° 08.024, and the other is N 33° 03.013 W 084° 09.042.9.

Not what you expected for a treasure map? That's because this treasure hunt is better known as geocaching.

According to www.geocache.com, "Geocaching is an entertaining adventure game for GPS users." The word comes from joining geo (for geography) with caching (the act of hiding something). GPS stands for a global positioning system. If you have a car that gives you driving directions, you have a GPS.

Recently a couple of siblings went to find the Highlander Trail treasures equipped with a GPS. They first entered the map coordinates given by the geocache Web site, then they pushed a couple of buttons to show a map that had a pointer and something that looked like a push pin. When the two walked in the right direction, the arrow pointed at the push pin and drew closer to it. When they didn't, the arrow pointed elsewhere and grew further away from the pin.

Sound easy?

They never did find either of the geocaches, but Gordon's little forest offers so many other treasures – like a mating pair of red tail hawks, butterflies, ripe blackberries and fresh air – that it didn't matter.

Geocachers will have a new treasure to find on the trail starting in fall 2008 – N33°02.991 W84° 09.040. The cache will have coupons redeemable for adorable Highlander mascot dolls. ■

GCSGA Gives Back

Story Time
Gordon College SGA member Chad Walker reads to one of the young students at the Lamar County Activity Center

The Gordon College Student Government Association had one goal as it looked for a group project last year – to give back to the community.

The group decided to volunteer at the Lamar County Activity Center, a not-for-profit agency that provides programs and services for at-risk youth and families in need.

"We wanted to do something for the community where we go to college," said Amber Sharkey, vice president of the SGA. "It was important that our project would do some good and maybe make a difference."

SGA members helped out with a variety of tasks at the Center, including assisting with the after-school program.

Chad Walker read books to the younger students while Tamika Rowe helped middle school-aged students with homework. The children hovered around their visitors like bees.

"The kids are great," Walker said. "They love for you to read to them and talk about what is going on in the illustrations. It's fun." ■

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The Hall That Does It All

Alumni Memorial Hall Celebrates Its 45th Year

Every fall since 2004 Gordon College's incoming freshmen class has gathered in Alumni Memorial Hall for convocation. This assembly is the only time the entering class is seated together as a group and the students almost fill the approximately 1,000 available seats. For those few participants among the staff who may have also been firsthand participants in Gordon's military years, the event is reminiscent of chapel.

The president and faculty parade in their academic regalia and take their places in chairs placed on the basketball court. First the dean, then the president address the students reminding them that college is very different from high school and that they must work hard to persevere.

Many of those students will take classes and attend events in Alumni Hall during their time at Gordon. They may exercise in the adjoining weight room area or play on one of the game tables housed in the recreation area. It would be unusual to enroll at Gordon and never attend a function in this building.

Since it was constructed in 1963, Alumni Memorial Hall and its gymnasium have remained the single largest gathering place on the Gordon campus. It has hosted basketball games, concerts, classes, graduations, academic competitions, pinning ceremonies, and lectures.

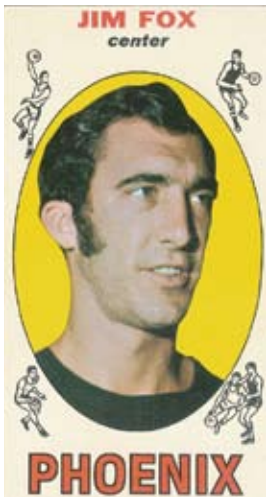
The structure was built to replace the 1934 gymnasium that was initially named Memorial Hall located at the corner of Stafford Avenue and College Drive. That building remains, but was converted to a residence hall in 1999 and renamed Guillebeau Hall.

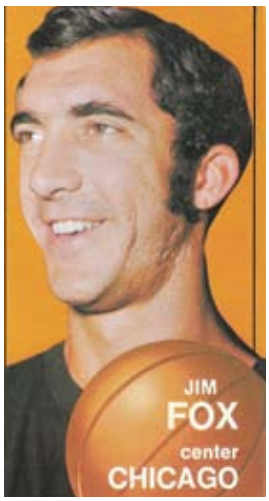
Designed by architect John Cohen of Atlanta, Alumni Memorial Hall has been deemed "architecturally significant" by historic preservationist, Glen Bennett. A 2007 review of campus structures by Bennett of OJP/Architect, Inc., noted the striking features of the exterior face of the structure.

According to *The News-Gazette*, when the building was dedicated on May 26, 1963,

Name	Class of
Augusta Beauregard Riviere Lambdin	1877
Annie Lambdin Hammond	1889
Jackson E. Bush	1889
Janie Bush	1893
Roberta Mitchell Midlebrooks	1895
W.R. Turner	1900
Annie Howard Dunn	1902
Grace & Ed Howard	1904
Grace Porch Keith	1904
Nancy Kitchings Weathers	1904
C.R. Faulk c/o 1905	1905
Sallielu Roberts Johnson	1905
B.W. Middlebrook	1908
Bessie Cannafax Milner	1908
C. Bradley Hogg	1908
David W. Davis	1908
Dora Howard Tyus	1908
Farris Hall	1908
H. Terrell Andrews	1908
L.O. Gay	1908
Lillian Reeve Smith	1908
Robert Powell Cotter	1908
Robert Redmond Forrester	1908
W.L. Hanson	1908
William Faulk	1908
Beatrice Lambdin O'Keeffe	1909
Ben B. Lawrence	1909
James R. Mineham Sr.	1910
Henrietta Kemp Lambdin Turner	1911
Martin A. Chapman	1911
Mary Anderson Ponder	1911
A.I. Cunningham	1912
Bessie Maddox Bland	1912
George Peter Donaldson	1912
Jessie Cannafax Tudor	1912
John C. "Todie" Butts	1912
L.W. Cunningham	1912
Rebecca Rogers Smith	1912
W.W. Steed	1912
COW. Carmichael	1913
D.B. Lounius	1913
George C. Bell	1913
Howard M. McWhorter	1913
Mattie Sue Berry Walker	1913
Mr.& Mrs. Waldo Henderson	1913
Robert J. Marshburn	1913
Thomas A. Thrash	1913
Wilburn Everett Bankston	1913
Elizabeth Ruth Lambdin Schaeffer	1914
Jane Maxwell Teasley	1914
Kathryn Lambdin Sheridan	1914
Charles Gillican	1915
Dr. Rufus C. Harris	1915
Faith Porch	1915
Jacob S. Eberhardt	1915
Mose W. Gordon	1915
Richard B. Russell	1915
W. Fred Phillips	1915
Florence Bankston Fleming	1916
Erle Cannafax Davis	1918
Jewell Maddox Prout	1918
Charles E. Lambdin	1919
Jeanne Lambdin Groves	1919
Lottie Mitchell	1919
Mantilu Bankston Cooper	1919
B. Lloyd Woodall	1920
Rosaland Leseuer Wilson	1920
Samuel Gay Maddox Sr.	1920
Maybelle F. Moore	1921
Elizabeth Hardy	1922
Hershel E. Smith	1922
Lucie Mae Milner Walker	1922
Robert E. Mitchell	1922
Rufus Lee Smith	1922
Eddie Wade	1923
Prentice Miller	1923
Erwin Blitch	1924
Louise King Thrash	1925
William M. Mitchell Jr.	1925
Morris W. Bush	1926
Clyd Neville Eldride	1927
Doris Matthews Johnson	1927
J. Lewis Crowder	1927
Nanelle Miller Armistead	1927
Ruby Adams Traylor	1927
H. Clay Smith	1928
Jeanelle Hardy Hart	1928
John R. Cook	1928
Mary Middlebrooks Kinney	1928
William W. Keate	1928
Dorothy Tyus Johnson	1929
Ernestine Miller King	1929
John T. Middlebrooks Jr.	1929
Thornton A. Burns	1929
Mary Quinn Arnold	1930
Estelle Stocks Peavy	1931
Lowis A. Collier	1931

M. Reynolds Bush	1931
W.T. Burrette	1931
Albert Matthew Eldrige	1932
John Summons Bell	1932
Lt. Col. George W. Torbert USMC retired	1932
Louie H. Hearn	1934
Sarah V.A. Sims Woodlee	1934
Captain Roland C. Andrews USMCR	1938
Edwin Lawrence Jr.	1938
Elizabeth Bush Sellers	1938
John B. Hewitt	1938
Manuel San Juan Jr.	1938
Rebecca Tyus Newsom	1938
Robert K. McCord	1938
William Reid Moore	1938
Cyrus Neuner	1939
Peggy Tyus O'Dell	1939
Ellen Sims Wideman	1940
Hoyt T. Williams	1940
Jacalyn Bush Perrone	1940
Jacqueline Bowman Carter	1940
Joanne Prout Hewitt	1940
John L. Lester Jr.	1940
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Wisebram	1940
Oscar Jacob Staines Jr.	1941
Carlos M. Ruiz	1943
Dr. Milton F. Byant Jr.	1943
Ophelia Prout Sellers	1944
Marcellus R. Benson	1945
Emmett L. Coleman	1946
James C. Register Jr.	1946
Ralph G. Jordan	1946
William B. Akins	1946
Berlyn Gregory Akins	1947
Wilson E. Mitcham Jr.	1948
Florence A. Taylor	1950
Mary Frances Traylor Berryman	1950
John Cashin Mitcham	1951
Leila Banks Morgan	1953
Lloyd Woodall II	1954
Mollie Walker Prescott	1954
Captain Milton D. Glass	1955
Karen King Usher	1955
Sylvia Louise Prout	1955
Barbara Mitchell English	1956
Charles Milner Walker	1956
Donald Darden Cain	1956
Russell Usery	1956
Stell Blake Traylor Jr.	1957
Barbara Ann Woodall Flourndy	1958
Janne Butler Banks "Miss Gordon"	1958
Linda Armistead Miller	1958
Peter Louis Banks	1958
Irwin F. Goodman	1959
Judith Ernestine King	1959
Robert Powell Cotter II	1959
Alice Armistead Parker	1960
Clyde Lester Eldrige President	1960
George Walter Lowe	1961
Joe Jacks Moore	1961
Martha Elizabeth Woodall	1961
William H. Mitchell III	1961
Arturo Diaz	1963
Arturo Juan Figuerosa	1963
Betty Gayle Lyles	1963
Charles Edward Newcomer	1963
Craig Richard Goodman	1963
Daniel Frank Smoak II	1963
Deming Bishop Fawbush Jr.	1963
Earl Shagart	1963
Edwin Foshee Jr.	1963
Franklin Edward Patrick Jr.	1963
Glen Mitchell	1963
Gloria Matilda Roquemore	1963
Harry Daniel Waller	1963
James Carl Waller Jr.	1963
James Virgil Herndon	1963
Jerome Talmadge Ragsdale Jr.	1963
John David Luke III	1963
John Robert Dibble	1963
John Thomas Callahan	1963
Joseph Sims Thrailkill	1963
Juan Bautista Cordero	1963
June Littleton Russell	1963
Kenneth Robert Livingston	1963
Kerrell Jordan Smith Jr.	1963
Larry Collins	1963
Larry David Waller	1963
Lilla Jane Green	1963
Michael Jay O'Donnell	1963
Patrick Myles O'Donnell	1963
Richard Scott Freeman	1963
Robert Frederick Hester	1963
Ronald Alan Gibson	1963
Sally West Cook	1963
Stephen Gary Eastman	1963
Terrence Francis Smith	1963
Thomas Eugene Price Jr.	1963
William Bower Bailey	1963
William Neal Johnson	1963
William Thomas King	1963
David Nathaniel Smith	1964
Howard Eubanks Yancey Jr.	1964
James F. Ross	1964
James Henry Smith	1964
James Marvin Jimmerson	1964
Jerry Douglas Jones	1964
John Dow McGarity	1964
John Mark Schmelzer	1964
Kent W. Vail	1964
Lester Carroll Stoudenmire	1964
Michael George Mixon	1964
Ramon Luis Rivera Olivieri	1964





Jim Fox, class of '63, '65, is a reminder that Gordon has produced top-notch athletes.

"two thousand or more" visitors came from "distant cities and states." Sen. Richard B. Russell, Class of 1915, was the guest speaker who was joined on stage by fellow classmates. Two members of the Class of 1913 were also part of the ceremony. R.J. Marshburn of Homer, GA, introduced the senator, and Marion Bush, head of Gordon's English department and dean of women, gave the dedication.

Russell said that as a Gordon student he vividly remembered being sharply corrected by then President Jere M. Pound. "Get those shoulders back," the "strict commandant" ordered him. But it wasn't all discipline. In appreciation of the classmates and schoolmates who joined him on stage, he said, "The bonds of friendships at Gordon are not weakened by the passing years."

According to *The News-Gazette*, "He said each visit to the campus brings back the happy days across the parade ground of memory."

Basketball was a popular sport at Gordon during most of its years as a military school, and a number of athletes at Gordon went on to realize professional careers in the sport. Among them was Jim Fox, known as "Big" Jim, who later played for several teams in the NBA including Seattle. Fans there voted his record of a game with 30 rebounds and 25 points as the No. 3 record in franchise history.

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Basketball continued after the College became part of the university system until the program was ended in the 1980s. Over the years since then Gordon has had intramural and club teams, but in 2007 the College decided to bring basketball back

Coach Israel "Izzy" Ingle with the '07/'08 Highlander team.

as a competitive sport and announced this year that it will join the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Israel Ingle, also known as Izzy, is the College's basketball coach. He is the son of Tony Ingle who coached at Gordon before the program was disbanded. Izzy and his siblings were often seen on the courts during half-time entertaining the crowds during his father's years as coach. Since the younger Ingle's arrival, the popularity of the club team has grown with more than 1,000 people attending the game against Middle Georgia College last year.

These plates were sold as a fund-raiser 45 years ago to help pay for the $350,000 construction cost of the building. Reading the plates is like reading a "Who's Who" of Gordon alumni and the Barnesville community.

Spectators who visit the gym today for a ballgame, convocation, or any of the many events held there, may sit in seats bearing small brass nameplates. These plates were sold as a fund-raiser 45 years ago to help pay for the $350,000 construction cost of the building. Reading the plates is like reading a "Who's Who" of Gordon alumni and the Barnesville community. Many former faculty and students purchased brass plates, as did people who never attended Gordon, but who valued its contribution to the region. Some of the names on the plates were placed there in honor or in memory by family members or grateful students.

Funds are needed to support and grow the new basketball program at Gordon. Support for athletics at the College comes from student activity fees and those fees must be spread among all of the various sports available to students. Only a portion of the seats in the gym are currently named so the College has decided to once again give students, faculty, staff, alumni, and

Stephen Augustave Rominsky Jr. 1964
Thomas H. Hightower 1964
William Bailey Henderson Jr. 1964
William C. Nolan Jr. 1964
William Milton Devers 1964
Arthur J. Tuggle 1965
Charles H. Davis III 1965
E. M. Shipp Jr. 1965
G. B. Saunders Jr. 1965
George Usery 1965
James F. Davis 1965
John W. Shooter Jr. 1965
Josiah A. Stanley III 1965
Robert D. Hall 1965
Sandra Ruth Cain 1965
Terry T. Turner 1965
William Lamar Hearn 1965
Daniel P. Foshee 1966
Mary Ann Meeks 1966
Nancy Elizabeth Armistead 1966
John Winfield 1967
William Stather Hewitt 1968
Glean Holmes Hewitt 1970
Farah Dawn Usher 1979
B.T. Woodall Board of Trustees
Beverly Grace Banks
Bonnie Elizabeth Banks
C.L. Smith
Calvin Z. Bush Family
Charles E. Walker Board of Trustees
Charles Morgan Jr. Faculty 1952-1955
Charlie Hurt Harris Lambdin
Clyde Howard Eldridge Board of Trustees
Donald M. Telford Lt. Col Chemical Corps. USA . Ret. Faculty '63
Donna Sue Akins
Dr. & Mrs. Jack Tuttle
Dr. R. Davis Mohler Faculty 1945
Dr. S.B. Traylor Board of Trustees
Elijah Wisebram Board of Trustees
Ellis Parker Mosley Faculty 1917-22, 1935-49
Ernest Lamar Sarra Jr.1963
Eunice F. Tindall
Evelyn Bankston Sappington
Frank Douglass McKenney
George Albert Lowe Captain of the US Army
Gordon Beta Club 1962-1963
Helen Giles Howard Staff 1925-1956
Howard M. Collier c/o 1915
Mattie Barrett Collier Faculty 1918-1920
In Appreciation Amos W. Brown
In Appreciation Aristocrat Ice Cream Co.
In Appreciation Atlanta Gas Light Company
In Appreciation Bob Maddox
In Appreciation Burns Brick Company
In Appreciation Capitol Fish Company
In Appreciation Charles W. Young
In Appreciation Edward Don & Company
In Appreciation Georgia Southern Construction Company
In Appreciation Hanover Shirt & Uniform Company
In Appreciation Industrial Wholesales Inc. of Griffin, GA
In Appreciation Institutional Wholesales Inc.
In Appreciation J.W. Bayly & Son INC.
In Appreciation Jersild Knitting Corporation
In Appreciation John F. Revell INC.
In Appreciation L.E. Schwartz & Son INC.
In Appreciation Macon Linen Service INC.
In Appreciation Mathis-Askins Concrete Block Company INC. Macon, GA
In Appreciation Milton Beckham
In Appreciation Miss Georgia Dairies INC.
In Appreciation N.S. Meyer-Raeburn Foundation INC.
In Appreciation Oscar Jacob Staines III
In Appreciation Reeder & Mo Gaughey, INC.
In Appreciation Robert S. Faulker Jr.
In Appreciation Schloss & Khan Inc.
In Appreciation Sidney B. Mc Nair
In Appreciation the Clifton Shirt Company.
In Appreciation The Hanson Company
In Appreciation Truman W. Clifton
In Appreciation Wilburm M. Sappington
In Appreciation William J. Dickey Faculty 1962-63
In Appreciation Willingham Sash & Door Company
In Memory Charles Preston Stephens c/o 1904
In Memory of Aldine B. Combs Musician 1912-1914
In Memory of Alexandria Morrill Lambdin Faculty 1868-70,1905-07
In Memory of Alice May Lambdin Williamson class of 1888
In Memory of Alice Wooten Hunt First Gordon Graduate
In Memory of Andrew H. Owens class of 1928
In Memory of Annie S. Lambdin
In Memory of Benjamin A. Hardy Jr. c/o 1924
In Memory of Benjamin H. Butts c/o 1911
In Memory of Benjamin H. Hardy 1867-1943
In Memory of Byron S. Haie c/o 1901
In Memory of Callie Maxie Dunn c/o 1908
In Memory of Charles Henry Gregory
In Memory of Charles I. Zachary
In Memory of Charles Lambdin Hammond class of 1936
In Memory of Charlotte T. Middlebrooks c/o 1867
In Memory of Cora Bankston Moore c/o 1908
In Memory of Cyrus M. Smith class of 1919
In Memory of Dr. E. Nash Broyles
In Memory of Dr. George M. Mitchell c/o 1901
In Memory of Dr. John A. Corry Board of Trustees
In Memory of Elizabeth Milner Mitchell 1849-1932
In Memory of Ester Sloane McHugh Faculty 1953-1956

In Memory of Fred P. Smith class of 1920
In Memory of George F. McCranie Jr. c/o 1912
In Memory of George I. Teasley class of 1916
In Memory of George Walter Barrington class of 1959
In Memory of Grace Aiken Mitchell 1870-1957
In Memory of Hal Lambdin class of 1905
In Memory of J. G. Thurman
In Memory of Jack Trammell Moore class of 1933
In Memory of James Alfred Wellmaker c/o 1890
In Memory of John Asbury Lambdin class of 1896
In Memory of John H. Blackburn
In Memory of John T. Middlebrooks c/o 1891
In Memory of Judge E.L. Butler
In Memory of Julian Ward Tindall class of 1913
In Memory of Julius Yarbrough class of 1925
In Memory of L. Silas Moore class of 1920
In Memory of Lucile Mitchell c/o 1901
In Memory of Lucille Goss Faculty 1956-1962
In Memory of Lucy Stroud Bowman c/o 1908
In Memory of M. Wallace Smith Jr. c/o 1919
In Memory of Marion Turner Bryson c/o 1909
In Memory of Mary Annie Brandon Moore c/o 1883
In Memory of Milton Wallace Smith Sr. c/o 1887
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Tom Maxwell
In Memory of Mr. Mrs. T. J. Berry
In Memory of Mr.& Mrs. B.M. Turner c/o 1890
In Memory of Mrs. A.O. Burrette Sr.
In Memory of Mrs. Nora R. Wisebram
In Memory of Nancy Ann Chandler class of 1946
In Memory of Phillip B. Shuttleworth Faculty 1955-1956
In Memory of Pierce Hammond Jr. class of 1932
In Memory of Pierce Hammond Sr. class of 1899
In Memory of R.B. Wright Sr. c/o 1908
In Memory of Robert L. McWhorter Outstanding Gordon Athlete
In Memory of Robert Mitchell 1846-1914
In Memory of Ruben Alvis Stafford c/o 1880
In Memory of Ruby Stafford Rosser c/o 1909
In Memory of Ruth Lambdin Lowther class of 1907
In Memory of Sallie Marshburn
In Memory of Thomas Elvis Gilpin class of 1927
In Memory of Thomas H. Pepper class of 1963 & 1961
In Memory of W.B. Smith Sr. Board of Trustees
In Memory of William D. Williams Jr. class of 1935
In Memory of William H. Dorsey class of 1946
In Memory of William H. Mitchell
In Memory of William Thomas Summers Jr. class of 1942
In Memory of Winfield Adams Prout class of 1908
In Memory of Fannie Whitaker Smith c/o 1890
In Memory of Felix L. Jenkins c/o 1909
In Memory of George B. Connell Vice President 1929-1946
James M. Lambdin
James W. Butler Board of Trustees
Katherine Ruan Morgan
Lenna Sudduth Wellmaker
Lewis Calhoun Tyus Board of Trustees
Louis J. Brooks Jr. Faculty 1910-1911
Louise & Holland Jackson Jr.
Major Roy W. Slayden Staff 1926-1951
Margaret M. Yarbrough
Marguerite Martinea Staff 1957
Marion Bush Staff 1929-
Merrit Zorn
Mike & John Arnold
Mr. & Mrs. D.C. Collier
Mr. &Mrs. Fred Bush
Mr.& Mrs. Rex Askin
Mrs. B. Lloyd Woodall
Mrs. Daniel L. Rainey Faculty 1960-
Mrs. Derrill M. Daniel
Mrs. Garrett W. Quillian
Mrs. Roy W. Slayden Staff 1926-1943
Mrs. Woodrow Light.
President B. F. Pickett 1906-1907
President C.T.B. Harris 1953-1962
President Derrill M. Daniel 1963-1964
President E. Albert Smith 1904-1905
President E.G. Branson 1846-1897
President G. Frank Oliphant 1901-1904
President Jere M. Pound 1888-96, 1899-1901, 1910-12
President Joseph D. Smith 1907-1910
President Joseph E. Guillebeau 1929-1953
President Larkin D. Watson Jr. 1923-1929
President Robert E. Brooks 1888
President Woodrow Light 1964-
Quentin E. "Johnny" Cain
Ruth D. Cain Staff 1962-
Sammie R. Neuner Board of Trustee
Sgt. Troy F. Turner Staff 1953
Shirley Wisebram Aronin
Thomas A. & C. Vance Perkins
V Edward T. Holmes 1912-1923
Wilber L. Stanley Faculty 1958-1962
William Wayne Akins
Marcia Knight – HS 1964
Charles F. Covin – HS 1961 JC 1963
Duane Eilola 1950-52 HS-52 Detroit, Mighigan
William H. Mitchell Graduate 1925

the community the opportunity to place a name on a seat and become part of the history that is demonstrated there. Seats can be named to honor a teacher, a fellow alumnus or a friend. Due to the generosity of a Barnesville community member, the cost of the plaque itself will be covered, so 100 percent of any gift will go towards the athletic program.

If you are interested in purchasing a plaque and would like more information you may call Lana Wingerson, development specialist, at 678-359-5222. Plaques are $250 each and checks should be made to the Gordon College Foundation. They may be mailed to the foundation at 419 College Drive, Barnesville, GA 30204. Please include your name and address and a phone number where you may be reached and include the name that you would like placed on the seat.

In 45 years when Alumni Memorial Hall celebrates its 90th birthday someone may walk among the seats like alumni walked among the current seats at the April 2008 reunion. Perhaps then, like they did in April, someone will say they are looking for their teacher's or their grandfather's name. Be a part of bringing basketball back by leaving more than footprints on the Gordon campus! ■

Only a portion of the seats in the gym are currently named so the College has decided to once again give students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the community the opportunity to place a name on a seat and become part of the history that is demonstrated there.

Gordon College Fuels Regional Economy

Gordon College pumped nearly $132 million into the regional economy during fiscal year 2007, up nearly $47 million from the $85 million the state college contributed in the 2006 fiscal year, according to a report released in June by the University System of Georgia.

The annual report was conducted by the Selig Center for Economic Growth at the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business on behalf of the USG.

The study revealed that Gordon College provided the regional economy with: $92 million in sales plus an additional $40 million related to capital outlay (campus construction); $56 million in gross regional products; $36 million in income; 847 full- and part-time jobs; and 339 additional jobs related to campus construction projects.

Of the nearly $92 million that flowed into the regional economy in nonconstruction related sales, the lion's share of that, $52 million, was generated by the school's 3,700 students, according to the study.

"Our students are not only receiving a quality education but, according to this study, are also contributing greatly to the region's economy," said Gordon College President Lawrence Weill.

The study also found that, on average, for every dollar of initial spending in a community by a University System institution, an additional 52 cents was generated for the local economy hosting a college or university.

"All 35 of the University System's institutions are economic engines in their communities and the state," said study author Jeffrey M. Humphreys, director of economic forecasting for the Selig Center. "The benefits they provide permeate both the private and public sectors of the communities that host the campuses. For each job created on a campus, there are 1.4 off-campus jobs that exist because of spending related to the college or university. These economic impacts demonstrate that continued emphasis on colleges and universities as a pillar of the state's economy translates into jobs, higher incomes and greater production of goods and services for local households and businesses."

Of the nearly $92 million that flowed into the regional economy in nonconstruction related sales, the lion's share of that, $52 million, was generated by the school's 3,700 students, according to the study.

The full study is available at www.usg.edu/news/2008/060508.phtml. ■

Harold Matthews
Missed the Belt Line

by Peter Boltz

Left: Mr. Matthews in 2008; right: Mr. Matthews in 1940

"First, there was the expensive uniform, and second, there was the belt line, which I never wanted to go through." The belt line was something of an initiation where new students were made to race down the middle of two lines of cadets who struck at them with belts.

The history of Gordon College is intertwined with the history of the Sixth District Agricultural and Mechanical School because of their proximity, because Gordon took over the A&M's buildings and grounds in 1933, and because of people like Harold Matthews, who started his high school education as an A&M student and ended it as a Georgia Industrial College student of 1932.

Mr. Matthews, 94, can trace his Gordon lineage through his wife Louise Porch, whose aunt was Faith Porch, one of the great figures in the history of Gordon. His great-grandfather was Gideon Barnes, without whom there would be no Gordon because there would be no Barnesville.

But, he said, "I never wanted to be a cadet."

"First, there was the expensive uniform, and second, there was the belt line, which I never wanted to go through." The belt line was something of an initiation where new students were made to race down the middle of two lines of cadets who struck at them with belts. Living in Barnesville, Mr. Matthews probably heard about the belt line through the grapevine because it certainly didn't show up in Gordon Institute's promotional material.

Mr. Matthews, 94, can trace his Gordon lineage through his wife Louise Porch, whose aunt was Faith Porch, one of the great figures in the history of Gordon.

Mr. Matthews remembers that when he started there, it was called the A&M high school, but in 1929 the A&M became a junior college and its name was changed to the Georgia Industrial College. The A&M covered the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th grades, but most children ended their education in this time of the Great Depression with the 7th grade. The girls wore a uniform of a white blouse, a skirt and black scarf, while the boys wore white shirts ("If they could get one," Mr. Matthews said.) and overalls. He recalls that his class of '32 had 15 boys and 10 girls.

As a male student, Mr. Matthews studied practical skills like carpentry and blacksmithing and other basics to prepare a young man for farming and dairying. The school itself was a working farm of 330 acres, and the students learned by doing. By graduation, a student would be able to make a tool if he needed one, repair equipment or build a structure. The female students learned nutrition, cooking, sewing and home economics. Then there were academic courses that both sexes shared such as English, algebra, history and French.

Classes were in the morning, and in the afternoon, the boys would tend to the school's crops. Mr. Matthews still remembers digging up sweet potatoes. He also remembers there used to be chicken coops in the area behind what was once the Barnesville Maternity Clinic and now houses Gordon College's campus security and sports faculty. Hay and grain were grown and stored in a large barn and silo that once stood in the vicinity of today's Academic and Fine Arts buildings. Students who worked their way through the A&M, Mr. Matthews said, were responsible for milking the cows early in the morning. Pigs and chickens also needed tending, and the school also had a pecan grove.

Mr. Matthews doesn't recall much interaction between the A&M and Gordon Institute, not even the normal tensions between competing schools, but he does remember seeing cadets in morning formation and marching down Barnesville's streets.

On June 15, 1933, *The Barnesville News-Gazette* reported that the University System of Georgia Board of Regents dropped the G.I.C. from the state system. On September 7, 1933, *The News-Gazette* reported, "Gordon College's eighty-second scholastic year will begin Tuesday, September 12, in new quarters at the former G.I.C. property." ■

A Story *of* Friendships Through the Years

An alumni association for the decade of the '90s grew out of a bad softball team.

It all started with intramural softball in 1990. When all the teams had filled with players, there were still students who wanted to play, so a new team formed out of the leftovers. That's how Amy Harden Edwards Beatty remembers the birth of an alumni group she shepherds.

"We were horrible," she said, "but we sure had a lot of fun! We lost all of our games, except one by forfeit. We were not an exclusive group by any means," she said, and it "came to include our softball team, dormmates, coworkers, classmates, non-Gordon friends, and I think someone's dog was included, too. Basically, anyone who wanted to be included was immediately adopted."

Since then, Beatty has been busy setting up a Web site for the group and maintaining an online "contact list" that serves as a directory of 131 names at present. She has also been busy organizing reunions.

"We've had some reunions that include a Barnesville Bash in 1995, a meeting of the minds in Athens, a Tybee Island Gala in 1997, assorted weddings, holiday gatherings, a coming out party, and most recently a Birthday BBQ in May 2008. We've got big plans for Buggy Days and a little something for the holidays, but that's top secret," she said.

Reflecting on the phenomenon of this group of alumni, she said, "We've remained friends all these years because we formed these friendships at such a pivotal time in our lives. On our path to self discovery, we grew closer to our new friends. Sure, we drift apart occasionally but always find ourselves coming back together like a part of us is missing until we meet again. We had such a great time back then that it seems silly to let these bonds be forgotten."

Beatty has a message for those who've gone missing: "FUIs, please come home! Your validation is waiting."

You can e-mail Beatty at pierced8x@yahoo.com. ■

Walter Griffin SPECIAL COLLECTION

The poet in 1977

NIGHT SNOW By Walter Griffin

The snow fell till midnight
then stopped as quietly
as it had begun.

The fields lay stretched out
in the moonlight where
it all began and

ended as before,
while this speck that I am
watched in awe the

falling of one last flake
past my breath on glass
disappearing silently as before.

by Peter Boltz

For Walter Griffin, Class of '54, a poet isn't someone who sits down and writes poetry. The writing is certainly part of being a poet, but to be a poet is to "be" a poet and to be self-aware of this state of being.

Besides writing poetry, Griffin has spent his life teaching others about poetry, and on March 27, 2008, he took the step of teaching future generations when he donated the first of his collected works to Gordon's Hightower Library.

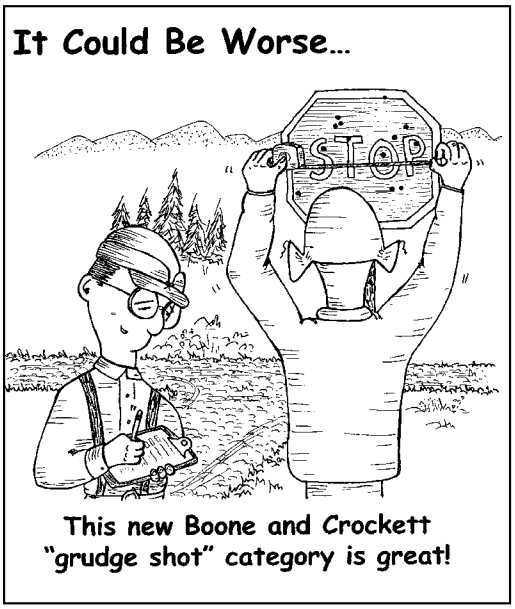
"This is my aesthetic," he said in presenting the collection to Head Librarian Nancy Anderson. In it can be found many of the forces that have guided Griffin's life as a poet.

After thumbing through a couple of reviews, like the *Paris Review,* that have published him, he picked up something that he was just as proud of as he was the reviews – a *Weekly Reader* with a picture of him teaching a class of sixth graders. "That's me when I had a little hair," he joked.

Then he said, "There are skins a poet should shed over the years, like going from a 'novice' poet to playing the part of 'the' poet like I used to do in my turtleneck and corduroy jacket days." Finally even this skin is shed, and then it's a matter of "becoming really serious."

Griffin hinted about one way he would like to see the collection used: to learn about the "whole evolution of not just a poem, but also a poet. It is all here, these things." ■

It Could Be **Worse**



© Steve Edwards, Libby, MT.

"North Dakotans are rather stoic and one of their favorite retorts to a calamity is 'it could be worse.' I figured that would make a good title for the strip." Steve Edwards, www.It-Could-Be-Worse.com.

Steve Edwards says that after his wife became a Presbyterian minister (Sherry Edwards, Nursing Class of '76), they moved to North Dakota in December 2000. Some of Gordon's alumni and faculty might remember Edwards as director of community services from 1972 to 1976, and then director of enrollment services from 1989 to 1998. When he moved to North Dakota, it was to a town of 216 people in the dead of winter, and he was unemployed.

"I would go to the hardware store each morning, and listen to the farmers tell stories," he said. "They were quite funny and I started trying to draw cartoons based on them. In the spring of 2001, the cartoon was picked up by the *Grand Forks Herald*, a regional paper right on the border of Minnesota and North Dakota."

When they moved to Montana in 2007, Edwards kept drawing cartoons for publications in North Dakota, including the *University of North Dakota Alumni Review*, but he also started doing a cartoon for the *Western News* in Montana.

"I had to change the characters slightly to look more like loggers and less like farmers," he said, but he's found that "small town/rural humor seems to be very similar no matter where you happen to live."

To test this theory, he sent the *President's Report* a North Dakota cartoon and a Montana cartoon. Can you tell the difference between the two and with the small town/rural humor of Barnesville? ■

An Rx Alumni Association

In the past 14 years, the Gordon College pre-pharmacy program has graduated more than 100 students, according to Dr. Dan Jackson, the program's director since its beginning. Most of Gordon's pre-pharmacy graduates go to either Mercer University Pharmacy School, UGA Pharmacy School, or South University (Savannah) Pharmacy School.

"When I sent out a general e-mail announcing my retirement," Dr. Jackson said, "I indicated that I was thinking about beginning an alumni association for our pre-pharmacy students. I received several responses indicating there was an interest, so here I am."

Jackson, who retired from Gordon College at the end of the spring 2008 semester, said that he's already building an alumni list by contacting Mercer, UGA and South University. He has asked Gordon's computer services to generate a list of the College's pre-pharmacy graduates.

"More than half of our pre-pharmacy graduates have gone on to become pharmacists," Jackson said. "The rest have gone on to other fields, many in various health care fields. As I envision it, the association will be a social group with goals of being mentors for our current pre-pharmacy students and eventually a fund raising group for scholarships for our pre-pharmacy students."

With Jackson's retirement, Dr. Cris Ennis will be taking over the College's pre-pharmacy program. She said she would encourage advisees to join the new association while they are still students, especially since alumni are interested in mentoring them.

Jackson has asked that graduates and current students who are interested in the pre-pharmacy program alumni association to contact him at daniel_j@gdn.edu and to contact other graduates and current students who may not have heard of the association. ■

OUR PHONE NUMBERS **Have Changed!**

ALL OF GORDON COLLEGE'S PHONE NUMBERS ARE CHANGING, SO THAT WE WILL HAVE A NEW AREA CODE AND PREFIX.

The new area code is 678, and the new prefix is 359. For most of the College, the last four digits will remain the same as they were before the change.

So, for example, Alumni Coordinator Lynn Yates' phone number was 770-358-5073. Now her number is 678-359-5073.

We apologize for the inconvenience, but Gordon has grown so large that we have run out of phone numbers for the old area code and prefix. We have made sure the phone numbers that appear in this year's issue are the new ones, so feel free to try one or two of them out.

The Class of '57 Had Its Dreams

When the Class of '57 couldn't get the Statler Brothers to come to their Golden Reunion in September to sing *The Class of '57 Had Its Dreams,* the class decided it would dedicate a tree with the song title inscribed on a plaque.

Representing the Class of '57 are, from left to right: Alex Grant, Paul Kilpatrick, Betsy Conger Shiver, John Boesch, Ann Coulon Dean and Nancy Jackson Thomas. ■

Come See the New Alumni House

The Gordon College Alumni House was supposed to have its grand opening in April 2008 in time for Alumni Weekend, but when construction was delayed, the plan changed. With construction now on track, the College is inviting all of its alumni to come see the progress made on Alumni House during Buggy Days, September 20-21, 2008.

The Gordon College Alumni Association plans to set up a welcome station on the house's new terrace, and visitors will be welcome to explore the new patios, decks and grounds. Depending on the extent of its completion, visitors may also be able to take limited tours of the interior.

A grand opening of Alumni House is planned for later in fall 2008. ■

Jerry Turner (left) and Richard Vereen look over details of the Alumni House construction.

1930s

Carolyn Andrews Black '31, celebrated her 96th birthday in June 2008. She resides at Thomaston Manor in Thomaston, GA, and plays the piano at The Rock United Methodist Church each Sunday.

1940s

Edward A. (Eddie) Smith '40, retired in 1980. Eddie and his wife Eudine have been married for 66 years and live in New Smyrna Beach, FL, where he continues to play golf twice weekly.They have one daughter, two grandsons, one granddaughter, three great grandsons and one great-granddaughter.

Rev. LeRoy (Pat) Patterson '41, served the U.S. Army as chaplain in Germany and has pastored churches in New Hampshire, Michigan, and Illinois. He retired as chaplain of Wheaton College where he served from 1972 through 1983 and now resides in Media, PA.

Eddie Smith, Class of '40, with his wife Eudine, at Alumni Weekend, April 11-13, 2008.

A Fine Generous Friend

When Edward "Eddie" Smith came to the Alumni Weekend reunion, one of the people he searched for was his old roommate Victor Emanuel San Juan Jr. from Puerto Rico.

Smith, Gordon High School Class of '40, said that before San Juan left after his graduation from Gordon Military College in 1938, he paid all of Smith's bills at school.

"He knew it would be a strain on me to pay them," Smith said, "and I never heard from or saw him again."

San Juan did not make it to Alumni Weekend in April 2008, but David and Virginia Mari of Puerto Rico did. When Eddie told them his story that weekend, they promised they would see if they could locate San Juan. It may be that Eddie will one day again see and hear from his "fine generous friend."

Merrill Brown '45, was elected vice president of Sandhill Telephone Cooperative in May 2008.

John D. Potter '46, graduated from Gordon Military High School then returned to Gordon Military College after serving in the military. After leaving the College, he continued his education at the University of Florida. He resides in Freeport, FL.

Ray Brinkley '48, retired after serving 16 years as a District 3 County Commissioner of Lamar County, GA. He and his wife, Margie, have three daughters, Amanda Buice ('89), Deanna Turner ('79), and Rhonda Toon ('74). He has five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Three of his grandchildren have also attended Gordon and another is entering as a freshman in August 2008.

Joseph (Joe) Higginbotham '49, A former state senator, Joe Higginbotham is about to become a great-grandfather and grandfather in the same month. He and his wife Cecelia maintain a residence in Monticello, GA.

Eston Melton '49, recently returned from Ft. Sill, OK, where he was inducted into the U.S. Army Artillery OCS (Officer Candidate School) Hall of Fame. He graduated from OCS there and was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1954. The recognition is given for "outstanding service to the nation, the military and the community."

1950s

Capt. M.C. Paget '50s, recently won a distinguished service award from the Georgia Accrediting Commission for his achievement in leadership and service to Georgia's schools.

Robert (Bobby) Goss '52, resides in Eustis, FL, but still maintains property in Puerto Rico. The original movie *Swiss Family Robinson* was filmed on his property in Puerto Rico.

Don Summers, '53, '54, retired from the Kroger Company where he spent many years as senior director of labor relations. He and his wife of 49 years now live at Big Canoe, GA, where he divides his time between golf, bridge and gin rummy.

Dolores Freeman Presley '54 and her husband William Reginald Presley have been married 54 years and reside in Albany, GA.

Henry Clark '56, retired from the airline industry, and is a successful inventor. He and his wife of 46 years reside in Jacksonville, FL.They have two daughters and four grandchildren.

Steve Bibb '57, retired from Exxon. He and his wife Donna reside in Emerald Isle, NC.

Charlotte Courtois '58, graduated from Piedmont School of Nursing in 1961. She spent the next 29 years at Dekalb Medical Center in Decatur, GA, where she served as assistant director of nurses in emergency medical care. Charlotte received her BS in 1981 and her MS degree in 1983 from St. Francis of Juliette. She retired in 1995 and lives in Forsyth, GA, with her husband Charles. They share three children and six grandchildren.Charlotte enjoys volunteering for various organizations.

Charles Henson '59, joined the Gordon College Alumni Advisory Board, February 2008. Charles was awarded Rotary Club Citizen of the Year in 2007. He also serves the following organizations: Foundation Board of Haywood Community College, Haywood Rotary Club, Rotary Club Planning Board, Haywood County Schools Foundation Board, First Citizens Bank Board of Directors, and Finance Committee, Usher and Trustee at Spring Hill Baptist Church. Charles and his wife Janice reside in NC.

Kike Seda '59, and wife Dale reside in Columbus, GA.They enjoy traveling and attending the games of the Columbus Lions Indoor Football Team. Kike, his son Skip, and friends own the Columbus-based team. Along with friends, Kike started the Columbus Community Bank in October 2006. He is actively involved in the Columbus community.

1960s

Brenda Hunter Kliss '61, has called West Palm Beach, FL, Atlanta, GA, Los Angeles, CA, Houston, TX, and Stockton, CA, home over the years and is currently living in California. For much of that time she worked as an executive secretary/administrative assistant. For many years she was employed by Occidental Petroleum Corporation where she worked for Dr. Armand Hammer and Marvin Watson (who had been an adviser to President Johnson and was former Postmaster General of the United States). She is married and has two daughters.

Randy Wayne Hill '63, left Gordon Military to pursue a career in the U.S. Air Force. He is now owner of Hill Resources, exporter of grains and fertilizers. He resides in Sharpsburg, GA.

Vernon Stell Gray '64,'66, graduated in '68 from West Georgia College. He then graduated from the National Graduate Trust School at Northwestern University and the graduate

Jack Freeman '57

is an artist who has been living in San Francisco since the '60s. His painting style is influenced by impressionism, expressionism and English realism. He earned his BFA in 1966 and his MFA in 1969 from the San Francisco Art Institute. One of his paintings, "Monticello," was recently donated to the College by Paul Kilpatrick, Class of '57.

school of banking at Louisiana State. He was an instructor at LSU for 18 years. He also received a JD from Woodrow Wilson College of Law. He eventually moved back to Alabama to the family farm and became a financial advisor and worked in real estate. He and his wife Laura have one son, Brian, and a granddaughter.

Jim Wharton '66, graduated in 1972 from Georgia Southern with a BS and earned a masters degree in 1975. He is a retired prison warden and was married to Vicki Garrett of Barnesville for 37 years before she passed away in 2004. They had one daughter. He currently owns Jim's Corvettes and Cobras in Milledgeville, GA. He collects, buys and sells vintage cars, specializing in vintage Corvettes and Cobra replica cars.

Franklin (Frankie) Cowan '67, is a retired coach and teacher and he resides in Adel, GA.

Raymond (Ray) Griffin '67, serves as vice president of sales and marketing of Lonesome Oak Trading Company in Chatsworth, GA.

Elizabeth (Betty) Knight '67, continued her education at Kennesaw State College. She is currently employed by Macon State College in Macon, GA. Betty is an avid gardener, both vegetable and ornamental. She resides in Juliette, GA.

Eddie Smith '67, is an English teacher and football coach at St. Pius X Catholic High School in Atlanta, GA.

Ronnie Cowan '68, resides in Fitzgerald, GA. He is the owner of The Beverage Center.

James (Jimmy) Mobley '68, is president of Planter's First Bank and a farmer in Ocilla, GA.

Charles C. ("C.C." or Chuck) Olson '68, is the general counsel for the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia and lives in Atlanta with his wife, Ann. They have three children. He retired from the Georgia Army National Guard in 1995 after 24 years of service.

Dianne Foster Perry '68, and husband Mike reside in Suwannee, GA. They are owners of Home Spaces Remodeling and they won Atlanta Contractor of the Year (COTY) and a regional COTY award through the National Assoc. of the Remodeling Industry in 2007.

1970s

Gary Bell '75, returned to Barnesville after 20 years of teaching and coaching at Hiawassee Comprehensive High School. He is currently a social science teacher at Lamar County Middle School.

1980s

Bruce Hopkins '80, is an air traffic controller in Hampton, GA. He is married and has two daughters, Whitney and Kip, and a son, Harrison (07).

Dawn Hopkins Byous '83, works as student affairs coordinator in the office of the vice president of student affairs at Gordon College. She and her husband Allen ('82) have two children: Brett, a rising senior at Upson/Lee High School and Amber who will be a sophomore at Upson/Lee.

Britt Lifsey '83 and Ginger Turner Lifsey '86, live in Barnesville GA. They have two children, Katie, 17, and Sammy, 15. Britt works in computer services at Gordon College and Ginger is an operating room nurse at Spalding Regional Hospital in Griffin, GA.

Jane Patten Mitchell '85, is a 2007 Georgia Master Teacher. She returned "home" last school year to the Lamar County School System where she teaches high school English and serves as the English department chair. She and her husband reside in The Rock, GA.

Phillip Mitchem '89, lives in Atlanta, GA. He earned a master's degree in computer science and works as a technology manager for the Experience Design Group at Georgia State University. He is married to Galina Eganova and has a 6-year-old daughter, Eliza.

1990s

Stephanie Lee Stasolla '90, is enrolled at Savannah Tech to complete a degree in management and supervisory development. She has been employed at Savannah Tech as a commercial driving instructor for the past ten years and previously drove a truck for four years. She graduated from the same school where she now teaches in 1995. She and her husband, Anthony, recently celebrated their 11th wedding anniversary and they have two children, Frannie and Nic. She also has a stepson, Anthony, Jr.

Dr. Van Whaley '90, recently celebrated the release of his first book, *The GRATE Plan*. The book includes a set of stretches and activities and more information can be found at www.grateplan.com. Van and his wife Andrea live in Las Vegas, NV, and have a 4-year-old daughter named Ivy Love Whaley.

Mark Hopkins '91, lives in Atlanta, GA, and is assistant principal at Mt. Vernon Presbyterian School. He is married and has a son and a daughter.

Glenn Lee (Flounder) Moody '91, is a litigation specialist for Esurance Insurance Company in Alpharetta and is working on a master's degree from Georgia College.

Alan Rogers '91, is living in Anchorage, AK. He received an MFA in Technical Theater from

The Boarding Boys of 1967

When the Class of '67 held its 40th reunion at Gordon College during the weekend of October 12-14, 2007, Jack Winover took this shot of the class's boarding cadets. They are, left to right, Mack McMahan, Chuck Green, John Boatwright, Bill Barnett, Jimmy Bodiford, Jack Winover, Pete Petree and Skip Williams.

Alaska Pacific University in 1994 and an MS in Broadcast Technology from University of Alaska Anchorage in 1999. He works as a broadcast engineer for Discovery Networks and has served as a voice-over artist for various radio and TV stations across the country. He currently serves as host of *Static Lounge Online*! He has worked the last four Olympic World Cups and the Pan Am Games.

Ed Saye '91, earned his BFA in graphic design at the University of Georgia in 1997. He is currently working for an advertising agency in Buckhead as a graphic designer and photo retoucher.

Scott Whatley '91, earned a BS degree from the University of Georgia and a master's degree in education from Georgia College. He currently teaches in Houston County, GA. He continues to be active in community theater, having played Renfeild in *Dracula* amd Salieri in *Amadeus* with Theatre Macon. He also revived his Gordon role in Greater Tuna for a recent production.

T. J. Romine '92, received a BS in education from Georgia Southern University and currently works as an electrician with his father. He and his wife, Kelly, recently celebrated their ninth wedding anniversary and they have three children, Trey, Conner, and Haley.

Valerie Maddox Williams '92, has a daughter, Glenn Ashleigh, and works part time in a veterinarian's office. She also works in the after-school program at her daughter's school. She is the president of one saddle club and the vice-president of another and has served as the secretary for her horse show association for 15 years.

Patricia (Patty) Smith Banks '93, is a music teacher and choral director at Crabapple Lane Elementary School in Peachtree City, GA. She was the recipient of the Teacher of the Year award. She received her master's degree in music at Georgia State University. She completed the EDS in curriculum and instruction at Nova Southeastern University in March 2008. She resides in Brooks, GA

Amy Harden Edwards Beatty '93, spent part of her summer traveling across the country with her family visiting Shiner, TX, Colorado Springs, CO, Salt Lake City , UT, Las Vegas, NV, Lake Tahoe, CA, and the Napa Valley. Along the way she attended a wedding and her high school reunion. Amy is married with a son, Toby, who is 16 and a 1-year-old daughter, Dana. She is a stay-at-home mom who spends her spare time quilting, making jewelry, and organizing class reunions. You can visit her reunion Web site: GordonCollegeFUIs.com.

Denise Hardee-Gossett '93, graduated in speech and theater and is now a financial consultant living in Hixson, TN, with her husband and three children.

Julian McClellan '93, earned a diploma in electronics technology from Chattahoochee Technical Institute and attended Middle Tennessee State University. He is currently employed by UPS and works in the plant engineering department of the corporate office. He assists in the design of conveyer systems used for sorting packages. Julian spends most of his free time recording, rehearsing, and occasionally performing acoustic guitar, as well as occasional jobs as an event photographer.

Dana Cheshire '94, is living in Augusta and has received a performing arts degree from the University of West Georgia and a history degree from Augusta State University. She earned a teachers certification and works at Butler High School as a U.S. history and drama teacher. She also teaches drama at the Jessy Norman School of the Arts. She enjoys performing in indie films and can be seen in *Basketweave*. She recently completed a movie called *Vampatheatre*. She describes the film as a low budget B horror film, but says the experience was a lot of fun.

Abi Whitehead Turner '94, received a BS degree in organizational communications from Kennesaw State University. She has two children.

Shay Taylor English '95, married James Richard (Ricky) English Jr., 95. Both graduated from UGA. Shay graduated in 1997 with a BBA in risk management/ insurance and Ricky graduated in 1998 with a BS in health/physical education. Ricky is a teacher at Cowan Road Middle School in Griffin, GA, and Shay is an auto claims representative with State Farm Insurance Company in Macon, GA. They have two children, a son and a daughter.

Shannon Wagner, RN '95, was recently promoted to Patient Care Coordinator (PCC) for the medical observation unit at the Medical Center of Central Georgia.

Wes Leachman '96, works as a security officer at the Wackenhut Corporation and will soon celebrate his tenth wedding anniversary. He is married and has three children.

Sharon Crow, RN '97, started her career in Griffin, GA, at Spalding Regional Medical Center in ICU. She transferred in 2001 to patient recovery, but later returned to ICU and serves as the night over house supervisor. She is planning a wedding for her youngest daughter, Mindy Crow '04. Her future son-in-law is also an alumnus.

Sam Mitchell '97, married Regina Sarmiento on September 8, 2007. He works as a graphic designer for SOLINET, the Southeastern Library Network. SOLINET is a membership supported library consortia.

Stephen Ross '97, is now teaching music at Drew Charter Middle School in East Lake, GA.

Courtney Toon McDaniel '98, has returned to Barnesville from Phoenix, AZ, with her husband Adam and 1-year-old son. She continues to work for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, now as the Eastern Regional Supervisor.

2000s

Ashley Elizabeth Calhoun '02, was married to Troy Michael Stout on Nov. 3, 2007. They currently reside in Griffin, GA, where Ashley works as a recruiter for Griffin Technical College.

Jillian N. Slate '03, graduated from Medical College of Georgia in 2007. She went into sales and marketing but current plans are to continue her education in early childhood.

Daniell Wesley Clark '04, transferred to Georgia Southern where he graduated in 2006 with a BA in History.

Melinda (Mindy) B. Crow '04, left Gordon with a soccer scholarship to Georgia College State University in Milledgeville. She graduated in 2006 with a BA in history. She is employed by Snider-Killingsworth Insurance Agency.

Joseph Wilson '04, graduated from Valdosta State University with BS in Athletic training. He is attending Georgia College and State University.

Megan Marano '05, graduated from Kennesaw State University in 2007 with an associate's degree in teacher education.

Rachael Watkins-Davidson '06, graduated with a BS in early childhood education from Macon State College. She plans to teach at Crescent Elementary in Griffin, GA.

Sharon (Sherry) Holcombe '06, is celebrating her third year at the Medical Center of Central Georgia where she is involved in nursing research. She serves on the hospital's quality council. Sherry was recognized at the PACE award for completing the clinical ladder. Sherry and her husband Tony just celebrated their 17th wedding anniversary.

Jackie Bottoms Lovejoy '08, is employed by Gordon College in the business office. She and her husband Clay have a daughter, Jillian '05.

Beverly Dyche, Class of '08

Beverly Dyche said she still tears up when she thinks about the meaning of the diploma she received at graduation on May 10, 2008. For four years she diligently worked toward her associate's degree in psychology while she worked a full-time job at Gordon College in its community education department. She realized that the College's employee tuition assistance benefit and working at a college made for an opportunity to earn the degree she had always wanted.

"I'd been an honor student in high school, a National Merit scholar, and graduated near the top of my class," she said. "But all that scholarly talent seemed far removed from the day-to-day reality of living my life."

When she finally committed to the degree in the summer of 2004 at age 42, she said she was petrified.

"But I discovered many things during my studies at Gordon and not all of them were in textbooks and classrooms. First and foremost, I found a caring and supportive learning atmosphere. I was not just a student number but a member of the Gordon family. The professors were encouraging and always willing to offer extra help when needed. My fellow students were friendly and supportive of each other."

She said the greatest lesson she learned from her experience is that she is never too old to dream and change her life for the better.

She graduated summa cum laude, "with highest distinction."

Beverly Foster Dyche with her mother, Sandy Foster, and father, Jim Foster.

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New Scholarship Honors Dewaine Bell

An endowment fund for the Dewaine T. Bell Scholarship for Music or Education was established at Gordon College last March.

Once endowed, according to the wishes of Bell's widow Brenda, and his daughter Christal, the scholarship will be awarded to a graduate of the Lamar County School System who plans to major in music or education.

"Dewaine was my friend," said Gordon College President Lawrence Weill. "He was also a friend to Gordon College. He personally spoke to almost every parent who came to the campus for new student orientation. He enjoyed welcoming students and their families to Barnesville, and he never missed an opportunity to promote the College. It pleases me to know that his name will be permanently connected to this place. Long after we are gone, this scholarship will do what Dewaine did so well – make a difference in the life of a student."

For more information on the Bell scholarship or other ways to donate, contact Rhonda Toon, vice president of advancement at 678-359-5124 or rhondat@gdn.edu.

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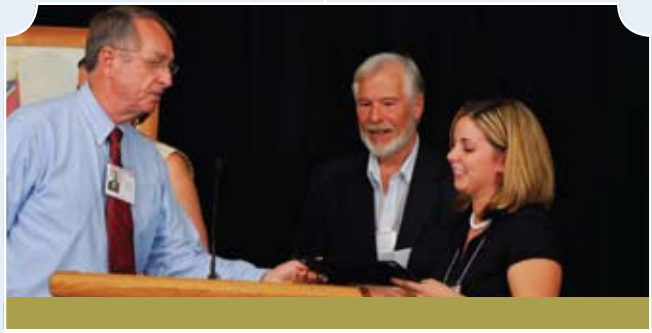

Class of '57 Scholarship

Peyton Keaton, left, and Bud Tillery award Chrissy Sweeting the first Class of '57 Scholarship on September 15, 2007, during the class's golden reunion. The nonrenewable award is made to students who are U.S. citizens, participate in extracurricular activities and have financial need.

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Luis and Marta Guinot Scholarship

Former U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica and member of the Gordon Military College class of '51, Luis Guinot, recently visited the college with his wife Marta to attend a meeting of the Gordon College Foundation Board of Trustees. While here, the Guinots also presented the final gift to the Luis and Marta Guinot Scholarship they established in 2005. The endowed scholarship is awarded annually to a female Gordon student of Hispanic descent who speaks and writes fluent Spanish. Here, they sign paperwork as Gordon College President Lawrence Weill looks on.

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Class of '58 Golden Reunion

First row (left to right): Jan A. Greene, Glen Mohler, Ann Van Houten, Mary Anne Wilson, Rosemund Watson. Second row: Jimmy Burnette, Winifred Calloway, Claudine White, Martha Wright. Third row: Homer White, Robert Melvin, Roger Hollandsworth, Denny McKoy, Perry Prescott.

Gifts made In Memory Of and In Honor Of the following people from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

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Thank you.

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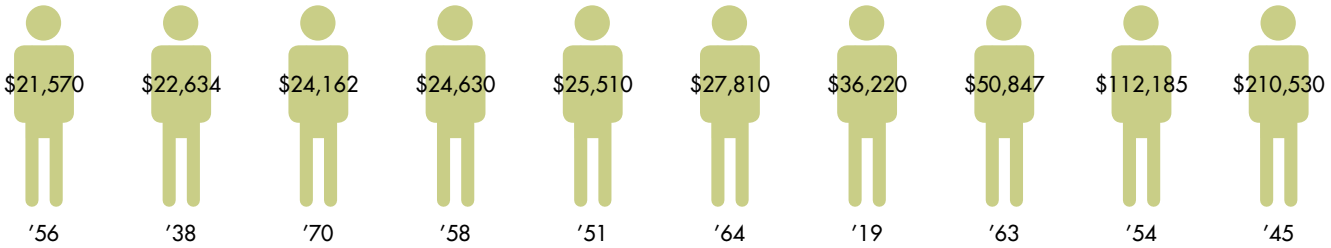

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Tell us what's new about yourself

We would like to stay informed about what's new in your personal and professional activities so we can share your news with other alumni and friends in our Class Notes section in next year's magazine. Please send your items to Lynn Yates, Advancement Office, Gordon College, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, GA, 30204, or email her at lynny@gdn.edu. You may also fax them to 678-359-5738. We want to know your news!

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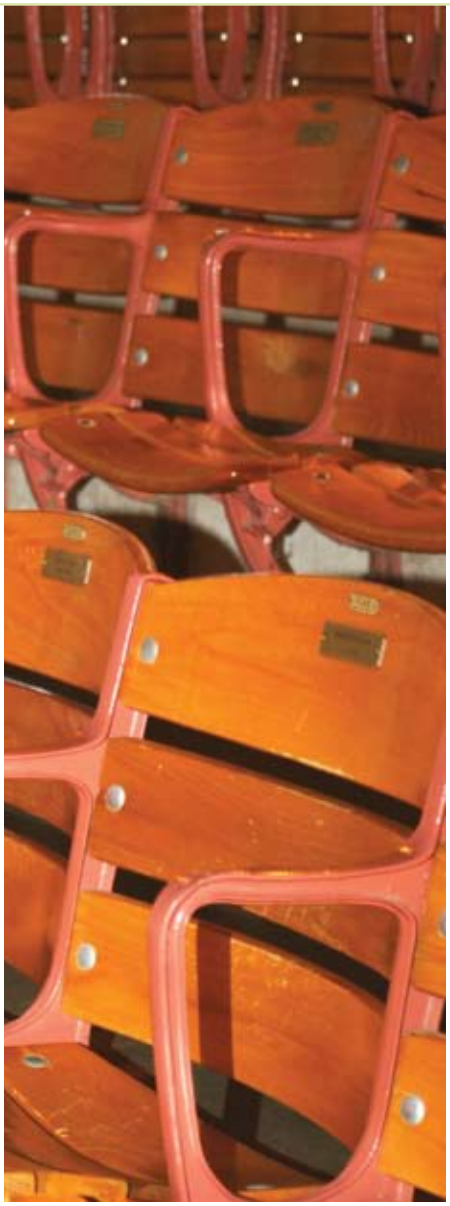

When Alumni Memorial Hall was built in 1963, engraved brass nameplates were sold as a fundraiser. The names, which are on the back of about 400 of the gym's 900-plus seats, are a roll call of patrons who supported construction of the building.

Once again you are being offered an opportunity to purchase a nameplate and have your name or the name of someone you would like to honor or memorialize engraved and placed on a seat. All proceeds from the purchase of a nameplate will support the Athletic Endowment Fund and the newly re-formed men's basketball program.

Nameplates are $250 apiece. Anyone interested in making a tax deductable donation to the Gordon College Athletic Endowment Fund may contact the College's Advancement Department at 678. 359. 5739.

GORDON

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Class of 1957

From left to right, first row: Sid Eagles, Bob Rooke, Mike Allen, Gail Bunn Arnold, Betsy Conger Shiver, Bill Brown, Peyton Keaton and Ed Chapman.

Second row: Blake Traylor, John Boesch, Dot Stephens Johnson, David Camner, Hugh Ramsey, Rosell Willis Edward, Faye McIntosh, Mary Katherine Matthews Duckett, Bob Sharp, Bud Tillery and Russell Jacks.

Third row: Paul Kilpatrick, Daniel Zellner, Tommy Ogletree, Tally Walker, Allen Waters, Joanne Walters Hayes, Lynette Wilson, Nancy Willis Joiner, Bill Callahan, Nancy Jackson Thomas, Carrie Nelle Moye, John Blanton and Larry Pritchard.

Fourth row: Bear Smith, Charlotte Buras Adams, Alex Grant, Bob Bass, Art Chapman, Ed Miller, Lee Otis Butler, Scott Davis, Wyatt Benny Ogletree and Early Sammons.

Is someone not receiving the *President's Report*?

If you know of someone who went to Gordon College and is not receiving the *President's Report*, please let us know by contacting the Advancement Office. Write to Lynn Yates, Advancement Office, Gordon College, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, GA 30204, or e-mail her at lynny@gdn.edu. You may also call 678-359-5073 or fax your information to 678-359-5738. Please help us to reach all our alumni.

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