

Cordon College

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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Mrs. Quillian, born Rosalie Beacham on Aug. 6, 1888, was Gordon College's nurse from 1939 to 1969. Cadets from decades past still remember her as their second mother, and she remembered them as her boys.



Joe Bray, October 1963.

Dedication

The story of Gordon College's transition from a private to a University System of Georgia (USG) institution is a story in the making. Even now, 37 years after the state of Georgia took possession of Gordon Military College, the story is still being written.

So it is with a sense of respect that this year's *President's Report* is dedicated to Joe Bray, a main character in the story of Gordon with a leadership style that favored low visibility over self-promotion. He is also one of the main authors of the story, or as his friend and colleague Robert Simmons put it, Bray was "the man for the times."

He was the man for the times when the chairman of the board of trustees, Henry Wisebram, nominated him to become president after the sudden loss of Bob Rue.

He was the man for the times when the College needed to persuade the Georgia Legislature and the Board of Regents to bring it into the USG.

He was the man for the times when junior faculty needed a calm and unruffled manner to help them through a difficult transition that was happening not just to them but also to the College.

Scott Douglass, who came to Gordon in 1981 to teach English, was one such junior faculty whom Bray helped with his personal transition. Douglass came to Gordon ABD, or "all but dissertation."

At one point, Douglass needed to go up to the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., to do research. Bray helped Douglass cut the cost of this trip by helping him find inexpensive lodging at Appalachian House, which was owned by Bray's alma mater, Appalachian State University.

Hutch Johnson remembers a "very, very kind and friendly man who was helpful to new faculty. Just a fine, fine fellow, the salt of the earth." Johnson, a new hire to teach history in 1981, had come to Gordon from Auburn, where his wife Gael remained. "I lived in the dorm Monday through Friday," he said, "and then when the weekend came I went to Auburn. When I was staying in the dorm, he'd take or join me for dinner, or sit with me at lunch."

"I considered him a good friend, and I think he thought the same of me," Hutch said.

After Gordon became part of the USG, Bray became dean of students and continued teaching. He also helped new faculty adjust to their new surroundings at Gordon.

Caywood Chapman, who came to Gordon in 1973 to teach biology, said that Bray would befriend junior faculty who were "disillusioned with the politics of Gordon at the time," and he would tell them to look beyond the negatives and that they should move on. He told them "to remember why they got into teaching to begin with and see Gordon's troubles as what they were, an anomaly."

Douglass told a story to mourners at Bray's funeral on April 5, 2009, about a phone conversation he overheard in Bray's office while Bray was on the phone. Douglass said he didn't know who was on the other end of the phone, but most who have heard or retell the story suggest it was someone higher up. As Douglass put it, Bray was talking "to someone across the way."

"I heard him tell an out-and-out lie, and when he got off the phone I said so."

Bray's response was that he was "always honest, with honest people," and then Douglass said, "Psalm 18: 25-26. That was Joe."

"With the merciful you will show yourself merciful. With the perfect man, you will show yourself perfect.

"With the pure, you will show yourself pure. With the crooked you will show yourself shrewd."

Joe Bray died at age 83 on April 3, 2009. Just one year earlier he returned to Gordon for Alumni Weekend to be around the many people he knew from his days at the College. Although Joe was in frail health his last several years, his heart and spirit were gigantic. His love and loyalty for his family and friends never diminished.

"He kept up with alumni," Chapman said. "He held them in high esteem and they him."

Simmons called him "a rare person. All who worked with him respected him greatly and would do all they could to please him, because whatever he was up to worked in their favor."

"Everything Bray did was superior," Wisebram said. "His character could not be beat, and his dedication to his job couldn't be better. He did what he thought was right, and he stuck to it." 🐼

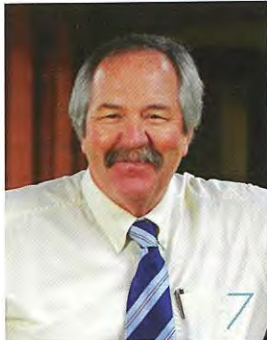


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Mrs. Garnett W. Quillian, Mrs. Rosalie Beacham Quillian, Mrs. Quillian, Mrs. Q. These are all the different names for the nurse who cared for the cadets at Gordon Military College from 1939 to 1969.



"I found out that I love teaching," Butts said when asked what has kept him here so long.



She is a philanthropist who recently endowed a Gordon College scholarship with a single check for \$25,000.



Gen. John K. Waters' visit to Khe Sanh nearly scared Imes to death with news that North Vietnamese troops might soon overrun his position.

Gordon College PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On the Cover: Mrs. Quillian, born Rosalie Beacham on Aug. 6, 1888, was Gordon College's nurse from 1939 to 1969. Cadets from decades past still remember her as their second mother, and she remembered them as her boys.

Gordon College President: Lawrence V. Weill, Ph.D.

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To the editor:

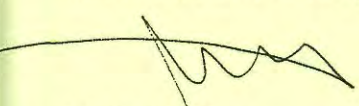
What a delight to see the article about **Judy Branch**! Who would have thought – a young pretty English teacher could take the Bullring King of 1967 and turn him into a stage star for the 1968 senior production of *The Devil and*

Daniel Webster?

There were so many teachers, staff and students who had a positive impact on me. I haven't thought of **Porter** for years. I am always delighted to read about classmates such as **Tommy Torbert**, **Eddie Smith** and **C.C. Olsen**. Since my annuals were lost in a house fire many years ago, I still picture these people as they were in 1968. I'm sure they all still have all their hair and have not gained any weight since then.

I've been to two state fairs, a goat roping and an infant baptism, but I would never trade any of my three years at Gordon for these. T-Street and Pound Hall turned me into what I am today. I still sneak out to the cemetery to drink beer and sleep on top of the sheets so I don't have to make up the bed.

On another note, **Sgt. Maj. Davis**, **Mizz Barbara**, **Kay** and **Karen** live just down the road. I see the Sarge every couple of weeks. In spite of some age-related health issues and a serious auto accident last December, he is just as intimidating as ever. I still shine my shoes and shave closely before I visit. I'm sure he would love to hear from "KayDets." If you want to drop letters and cards care of me, I'll see that he gets them.


Michael Mallory
Class of '68
123 Davidson St.
Quincy, Fla. 32351



To the editor:

Your Fall 2008 *President's Report* came as a delightful surprise to me as I almost felt it was my personal magazine. Of course it was filled with interesting data, but there were three subjects that directly touched me.

Your "Outstanding Scholar,"

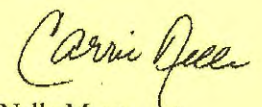
Tara Moye, not only is related to those you listed in the article but she also is my great niece, and is the great niece of **Ruth Keene Moye Gadebusch**, Gordon High School Class of 1948. Furthermore, Tara is the second cousin of **Jim Robertson**, President of the Gordon High School Class of 1966. Indeed, if we listed all the cousins of Tara (blood or just kissin') who attended Gordon, this letter would be many pages.

The same issue had a feature on the outstanding poet, **Walter** (known to us then as "Jay") **Griffin**, class of 1954, but who left prematurely. Anyway, when in the 8th grade, I dated Jay so that led to a fond rekindling of friendship after all these many years.

Lastly, you had a number of items about the class of 1957 (my class), culminating with our group photograph on the back cover.

So . . . this is a *President's Report* I shall cherish, as though it were a yearbook.

With such good memories,


Carrie Nelle Moye
Gordon High School Class of 1957

“



Dear Friends. When I read the stories in this magazine I am reminded of the great investment so many have made in Gordon College.

Nurse Quillian put her heart into caring for young cadets who were often far from home and their families. She gave them care that many say rivaled that of their own mothers. Those who knew her recalled the affection in her voice when she talked about “her boys.” Certainly Nurse Quillian believed in helping students – she believed in Gordon College.

This magazine is dedicated to a man who loved this place, Joe Bray. He had the distinct honor of serving as the last president of Gordon during its military years, and he remained to work for Gordon when it became part of the university system. During difficult times he continued to invest in Gordon College.

In this magazine you will read of faculty who are investing in Gordon College today. Don Butts, the faculty spotlight feature, has given more than 30 years to teaching at Gordon. He, along with many other faculty members, is investing today in Gordon.

When he was here as a student, Anthony McCalla chose to invest in Gordon by working to secure recognition of a historic event held on the campus. The Class of 1956 chose to furnish a room in the Alumni House, investing in the College in such a way that all alumni can benefit from their gift.

Not all of the people who invest in Gordon are faculty, staff or even alumni. Margarette Julian recently chose to invest in Gordon because she liked what she saw here. She wanted to make a difference in the life of a student by endowing an education scholarship. Her gift will not only impact future teachers but all the students that teacher impacts. What an investment she has made!

It seems today that we are surrounded by news of failed investments and stories of people and institutions that have not honored the trust placed in them. It humbles me to sit at the head of this great institution that remains today, more than 150 years after it was first established, a place worthy of your investment. You can do so with your resources, with your time, and with your words.

Use your words to tell others about our College and what it has meant to you and this state. With your help, this venerable school will continue its work of education far into the future.

”

Lawrence V. Weill
President



Mrs. Quillian lived in the infirmary and decorated and furnished it with personal items.

Nurse Quillian

Was Like a Second Mother

by Peter Boltz



*M*rs. Garnett W. Quillian. Mrs. Rosalie Beacham Quillian. Mrs. Quillian. Mrs. Q.

These are all the different names for the nurse who cared for the cadets at Gordon Military College from 1939 to 1969. One of the most frequent promises her young patients made to her was that they would always remember her. And so Mrs. Quillian is the cover story of this year's President's Report as a fulfillment of that promise.

Nurse Quillian's granddaughter, Charlene Johnston Hall, made a significant contribution to this story and to Gordon College when she donated Quillian's "Guest Log" to the College. Anyone coming to the infirmary, sick or healthy, could write their messages, names and addresses in this wooden-bound book, and many did.

Reading through it, certain words stand out because of their frequency. Mother, home, swell, goldbrick and remember are words loaded with

meaning about Quillian and her young patients.

The cadets often referred to her as their second mother, and they were not just resorting to a sentimentality when they wrote this. They experienced her care and knew how it compared to that of their mothers. And if Quillian was like a mother to them, the infirmary was like a home.

Swell is a word long out of use, at least in the sense of the word the cadets meant when describing Quillian. When they wrote she was swell, it



March 29, 43
 Hannanville, Pa.

My Dear "Ma Q" you
 I can not think of for
 your kindness toward the
 year of 1942-1943. You sure
 have been very sweet to me.
 As I have thought of you a
 good ~~and~~ ^{lot} you sure are
 swell. You are the best
 nurse I have ever knew.
 Lots of love to the
swellest woman I
 have ever knew.
 Malton A. Ellis, Jr.

Mrs. Quillian kept a wooden-bound Guest Log for visitors and "guests" to record their names, addresses and thoughts.

Malton Ellis made this log entry at the infirmary on March 29, 1943.

was the closest they dared come to expressing a deep emotional feeling they had for someone who helped them when they were helpless.

Goldbrick is another word like swell, out of use. If a cadet went to the infirmary, sick or not, he was apt to be accused of being a goldbrick, that is, someone seeking to shirk his duties and studies by feigning sickness. From what former cadets say today, Mrs. Q could detect goldbricks with uncanny accuracy. "She was a wizard at spotting gold," Bud Tillery '57 said. "She should have been an assayer."

Ron Ford '54 remembers trying to fool her into thinking he had a fever. "Wanting to not go to school and wanting to goldbrick, I stuck the thermometer down in the gas heater just for a second," he said.

When she came back into the room to check the thermometer, she busted him, telling him what he had done. Then she lectured him on the cost of thermometers and how he could have destroyed hers by putting it near a heater.

Ford was given a choice: be reported or take her punishment.

He chose her punishment, which was castor oil mixed with orange juice. "After swallowing the foul tasting mixture, I said to her that I guess that I would have to go back to class," he said.

"Oh no," she said. "You need to go back to your barracks as soon as possible."

This is how he found out what taking a large dose of castor oil would do to someone, he said. "I did spend the day at the barracks but not in my room."

Sometimes she included an enema as a choice to being reported....

Sic semper goldbricks.

A cadet from the late '50s, Peter Banks, remembered that "she was street smart about boys. You couldn't pull anything on her unless she was kind enough to let you."

Quillian also had occasion to impress Gordon's coeds too. Catherine Cloud '56 worked part time in the commandant's office, and one day Capt. Paget asked her to hand deliver a report to Mrs. Quillian.

"Being a little hesitant to visit the infirmary since its services were not available to female students and was considered off limits to girls, I asked a friend to join me," Cloud said. "We decided that there must be a reception area just inside, so we entered the house without knocking.

"Wrong! We were immediately greeted by Mrs. Q and in no short order realized we should have knocked as though we were visiting a private home. She was quick to let us know that what we had done was the same as entering a boy's bedroom, which of course a lady would never do. This was just one more hard-learned lesson on being a lady and a coed at a military school taught by Mrs. Q."

One more word stands out from the pages of her "Guest Log," and it is so common a word that it is easily missed. Again and again, cadets thanked her for her care.

Sometimes care meant swabbing a sore throat with some unknown red solution; sometimes it was the preparation of a salve of baking soda, Vaseline and iodine for chicken pox; and sometimes it was confining a contagious cadet to a darkened room.

And yet cadets wrote of the pleasures of her care, some even wishing to be sick so they could enjoy her care. A cadet named Graham Perdue '43 wrote, "Mrs. Quillian, as long as I can be under your care, it will always be a pleasure to be sick. You're so sweet," Harold Killbride '45 wrote, "that the boys try and get sick just to be here with you." "As many times as I've been in your home," Pat Murphy '47 wrote, "I have enjoyed it thoroughly." He said she had "the heart and soul of an angel whose only concern was for the betterment and care of her patients."

Quillian and her husband, the prominent physician Garnett Wiley Quillian, had two children: Rose, the eldest, and Carol, the youngest. Rose was married to Sam, and Carol was married to Charlie. Rose had one child, John (Hinton), and Carol had two children, Charlene (Johnston Hall), the eldest, and Charlie (Johnston). Charlene, Charlie and John all



A young Rosalie Quillian with her two daughters, Rose on the left and Carol on the right.

made trips to Barnesville to visit their "gram" as children with their parents. As a toddler, Charlene remembered the cadets who were bedridden as "real big" and prone to tease her into coming closer. She said, "Some I would talk to, some I'd run from." She remembers that her grandmother would take her to the library. "She thought this important," Charlene said.

Charlie and John remembered playing on the tank and around the artillery piece that were part of the campus at the time. John said he would also play behind the infirmary along the creek or on the golf course. On overnight trips, he would stay with his grandmother while his parents stayed in town. Charlie remembers that his grandmother and mother were big gardeners, and when his family would visit, they would spend time digging in the dirt, planting and transplanting.

"Gram had day lilies and irises planted around the infirmary," Charlie said, "and she had a peach tree and wild grapes like scuppernong and muscadine."

Quillian created a home for herself out of the infirmary, decorating it with her own sterling silver and crystal, Charlene said. Almost as often as anyone tried to coax her away for a day trip, she would just as often say, "I have to be here in case my boys need me." Once, her eldest daughter Rose, attempted to get her to move away with her and her husband to Tampa. Mrs. Quillian's response was, "I live in Barnesville."

Banana Bread.
 1/2 cup shortening
 1 " sugar
 2 eggs
 3 bananas (mashed)
 1 tsp soda
 2 cups flour } sift
 nat. ment. peans } together
 mix in order piece
 & bake in well greased
 & floured loaf pan
 for 60 minutes -
 Put in cold oven & bake
 in moderate oven 350°
 or until done.
 I always do like this
 recipe.

Mrs. Quillian's banana bread was
 a favorite of her grandchildren.

Not that she didn't travel, because she did. Charlie
 remembers that she traveled by herself to visit his family in
 the Canal Zone where his Air Force father was stationed
 in the early '60s. She would also visit her cousins at Lake
 Junaluska, N.C., and Sebring, Fla.

Charlene said her gram loved "those boys," but that
 didn't mean they could forget discipline in her infirmary.
 Even if a cadet were sick in the bed, he might just be re-
 minded to shave and bathe. She believed that getting out of
 bed and doing both helped a patient feel better and recover.
 If a cadet was contagious with something like the mumps or
 measles, she would keep him confined. A former cadet, Pat
 Murphy '47, remembered the time he suffered confinement.
 Even today the memory is fresh and prompted him to ask,
 "Can you imagine me being confined to a single room for a
 week or more?"

She was also a good cook, and she made candies and
 cookies for her boys. Not just the ones under her care at the
 time, but those who visited her. Even during World War II,
 when many things were rationed, she would find treats like
 pineapple juice for them. Her banana bread seems to have
 been a signature recipe of hers. John fondly remembered
 that she would send him banana bread when he was away
 at summer camp. Charlene remembers receiving her gram's
 banana bread as well as pound cake, cookies and cocoa
 through the mail when she was in college.

As if to establish her grandmother's bona fides as a cook,
 Charlene likes to show Quillian's copy of Henrietta Stanley
 Dull's 1928 classic, *Southern Cooking*. There on the title
 page is Dull's signature.

After her retirement from Gordon in 1969, she lived
 with her daughters and sons-in-law, sometimes with Carol
 in Smyrna and sometimes with Rose in Charlotte. Her
 grandsons remember that at this time she kept very busy
 with crafts and knitting, ceramics classes, garden clubs and
 socializing, such as luncheons for friends who came up from
 Barnesville. Her grandchildren found it significant that she
 kept her membership in the Barnesville Methodist Church.

"She always had some sort of craft project going," Char-
 lie said, and he remembered that she would give her work to
 his father, also named Charlie, as presents. Once, she gave
 him a toilet plunger decorated with doilies.

Tragically, her retirement quickly became a time for her
 to return to her nursing duties, first with her eldest daughter
 Rose and then with Carol. John said she spent her retirement
 getting her two families back on their feet. Charlie said "she
 did what was needed to help her family thrive and survive."

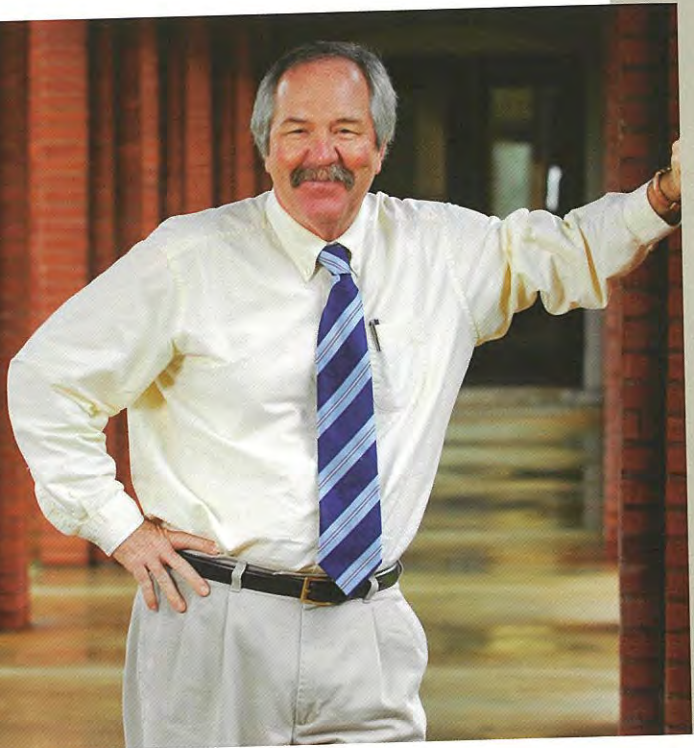
Rose died in 1971 of heart problems, and according
 to her son, John, Quillian became the "lady of the house,"
 taking on the duties of maintaining a household even to
 the extent of walking John's St. Bernard – or rather the dog
 walking her, steadying herself with a cane. Charlie said that
 his grandmother set for herself the goal of getting her son-in-
 law Sam remarried, and just about the time he did remarry,
 tragedy struck again. Her daughter Carol's cancer worsened,
 so Quillian moved to Smyrna to provide hospice care.

Continued on page 45

A 30 Year History

Dr. Don Butts

by Tamara Boatwright



Don Butts' office is scattered with photos and mementos that remind him of loved ones – a photo of his wife, Nancy, and their then-toddler son Evan sitting in a large pumpkin, a beloved Newfoundland dog, a photo of him and his siblings taken just after their father's funeral and a small map with push pins and string pointing to various places – mostly in the South Pacific.

"My dad, who was a sea plane pilot during World War II, never talked much about the war; it was just something he did like so many men of his generation. But one day my son, who was in the fourth grade at the time, was assigned a school project to talk to people who had traveled different places. He and my dad did this map of places dad visited during his time in the service. I never had any idea he had been to some of these places."

Butts' father has since died, and son Evan is now 24 and far away, studying philosophy at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. It's no wonder that Butts said the map is "very special."

He loves to play golf – friends say he is pretty good – and grins as he points to a *Shoe* cartoon on golf that hangs on his wall. The game, he says, "appeals to my masochistic nature and Calvinist upbringing." His taste in music is admittedly stuck in the '70s. He adores the novels *Catch 22* and *The Education of Henry Adams* and thinks the funniest thing ever on television was the WKRP episode with the

Continued on page 45



THE Woman behind the Scholarship

by Peter Boltz

MARGARETTE JULIAN believes in education. Her parents believed in education. Her grandparents, the children of slaves, also believed in education. Were it not for the times, they may well have been educators also, just like their children, just like their granddaughter, Ms. Julian, a Troup County High School teacher for 33 years.

Now retired, she is a world traveler who just recently returned from Japan. She is also a philanthropist who recently endowed a Gordon College scholarship with a single check for \$25,000.

Julian said the endowment served two purposes for her. One was an expression of her admiration for Gordon College, which she described as having a family-like closeness between faculty and students. Another was her affection for Troup County High.

"I absolutely love Troup High School," she said. "I loved the students and teaching, my coworkers and my principals. I can't think of one bad day I had there." With such feelings toward her own experience as a teacher, it is no wonder that Julian wants others to know it. In particular, she said she wanted "more female graduates of Troup to study education at Gordon."

Another connection with Gordon is that her family roots are in Lamar County where the family owns 400 acres and raises cattle.

"My grandfather, George Bush and grandmother, Maude Revere Bush, were from Lamar County, as was my mom, Fannie Bush Julian," she said. "My dad, Charles Julian, and my mother met at Savannah State College and married before they started their master's degrees at Tuskegee."

Once they graduated, they returned to Georgia to teach. Her mother started at a little two-teacher school house in Barksdale, later teaching at Bethel.

Some explanation of these place names is necessary at this point, since neither will show up on a map. Andy Bush, Julian's first cousin, and one of the Gordon College Foundation trustees, explained that schools for African-Americans were given names in an informal manner and that some of these schools no longer exist, so the names have fallen out of use also.

This is the case for Barksdale. The small wood frame building is gone and all that is left is a field about three miles east of the intersection of Forsyth and Fredonia Church Roads. The Bethel school is also gone, but its namesake,



Fannie Bush Julian,
Margarette's mother.

Bethel Baptist Church, is still on Johnstonville Road.

While her mother was teaching near the family home in Barnesville, her father worked as a principal farther away in places like Quitman and Thomaston, always on the

lookout for the right job closer to home. Eventually the day came, Julian said.

"She and my father went together to teach at Chapel, Unionville way. Mom taught grades one through six and dad taught the rest. When the schools consolidated, they taught at Booker High School in Barnesville."

"When mom taught at Bethel, I would sometimes sneak into the car when I should have stayed home with my grandparents. Mother would spank me and then take me home. One time when I did this, she just brought me into the school with her, after tanning my hide. When I saw a boy writing one through 100 on the board, I said, 'That's not the way to do it.' So my mother said, 'Okay you come up here and show us.' And I did, and at three I started going to school regularly."

Having started her formal schooling at 3, she graduated from Booker at 15. She was also her graduating class' valedictorian. From there she went to Talledega College in Alabama for her bachelor's in English, then to Atlanta University for a master's in library and medical media, and then to the University of West Georgia for her master's in English.

Her father was a Fulbright scholar who traveled as far as Russia, and her mother traveled as far as Hong Kong, so it's no wonder Julian also travels the world. She still remembers her mother asking her if she would like to visit Australia and New Zealand, a question she quickly responded to with a yes. She has also been to Lima, Peru, taken more than 18 cruises, "found a haven" in the Dominican Republic, and made several visits to Jamaica.

When she went to the Amazon in the summer of 2007, she decided to go on a "canopy tour" through the boughs of the jungle, 10 stories above the ground.

"This thing kept going up, higher than the Empire State Building. I said, 'Lord, if you let me get down, I'll never do this again.' It scared me to death, but we were too far gone to turn back."

Her most recent trip was at the end of April to Japan where she traveled with one of her former Troup High School students. The former student's son, Terrence Woodyard, plays on a Japanese professional basketball team. Julian said she also went to Japan, "because I want to see all I can and to experience every culture I can." Then she laughed at herself. "I didn't pronounce a single Japanese word correctly."

She said she was impressed with the Japanese for their effort to learn English, which, in conjunction with her use of "charades," made communication possible.

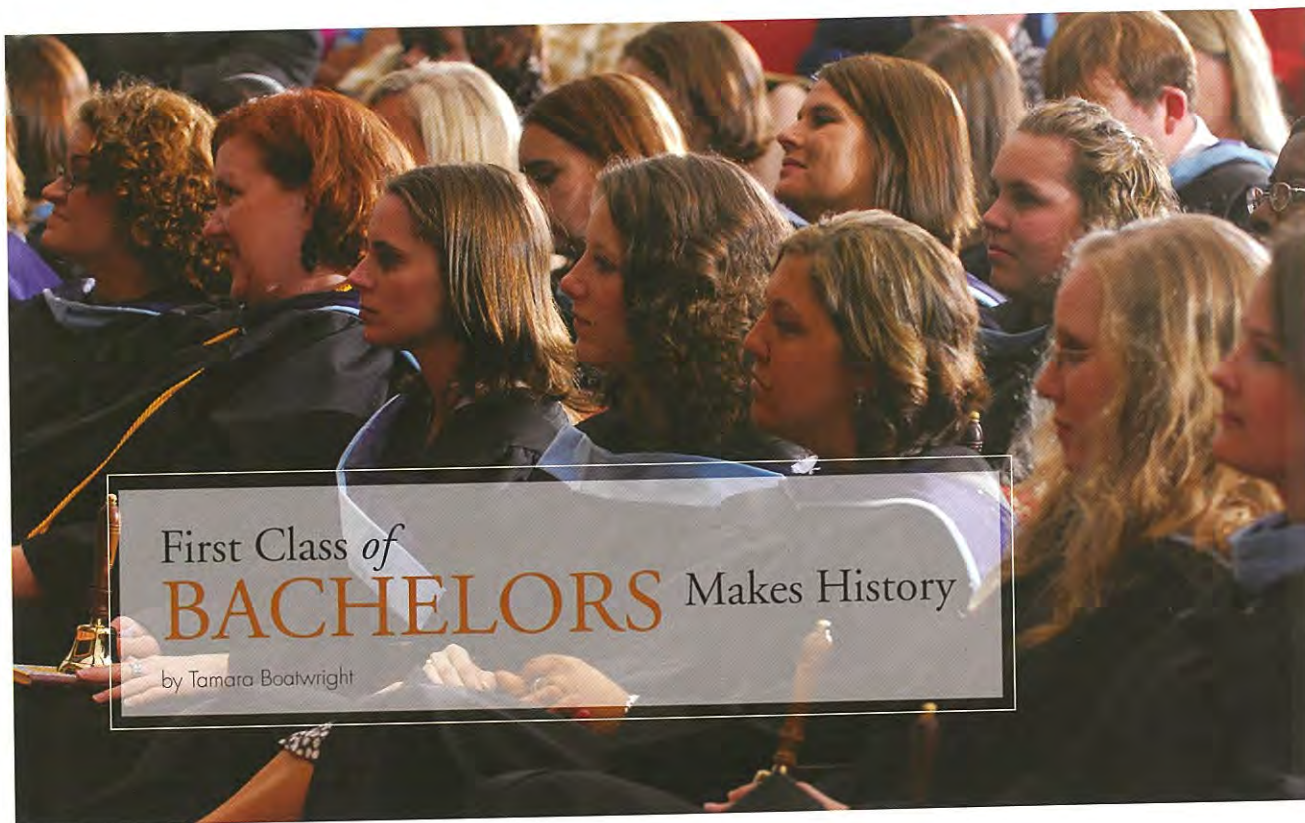
Another thing about the Japanese that impressed her was their honesty. She told a story about a hotel clerk chasing her down the street to make sure he paid her the penny he owed her. When shopping, her traveling companion unknowingly dropped a \$20 bill; when the store clerk discovered the money, she ran down the street to return it.

For some, Julian's travels in her retirement might seem extravagant, but for her, it is all part of being a lifelong learner in a family of lifelong learners and educators. When asked what education has meant for her family, she paused and with a touch of reverence said, "It's all about education. It means everything to my family. It has always been about education."

The Margarette Ann Julian Scholarship is available to Troup High School graduates with grade point averages between 3.0 and 3.5 and who are majoring in education. When Julian was told she had endowed Gordon's first education scholarship, she said, "I hope it encourages others to give."

Asked if she had a personal message for future recipients of her scholarship, she answered, "I would hope you would go on to become the best teacher possible. This means loving your job and loving your kids, because you will face some challenging times and some challenging kids."

"It is easy to say you give up, but you can't give up on 'em." 🍌



First Class of BACHELORS Makes History

by Tamara Boatwright

Their time at Gordon College ended much like it began – with a song, some tears and a good dose of apprehension.

But this time the song was performed with confidence and a few giggles; the tears were tears of joy mixed with a little sadness; and the apprehension wasn't about the next two years as a student – but about the career lying ahead of each of them as a teacher.

It all began in 2006 when Gordon College was approved by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia to expand its undergraduate associate of arts education major and offer a new bachelor of science in early childhood education (ECE).

The move was historic in two ways. It created not only the first four-year degree in the history of the school, but cemented Gordon College's new status as a four-year state college.

Plans called for the first cohort, or class, to graduate in May 2009 with certification in early childhood education and special education general curriculum.

It was a lofty goal. In just a little over two years, the

College was to develop a curriculum, create a division of education, secure the instructors, pick the very best of the student applicants and get the program moving along. And, about midway through all of that, start the selection process for the second cohort which will graduate in 2010.

"We learned as the students learned," said Jerry Stinchcomb, who served as interim chair of the division of education and is overseeing the transition of the new division chair, Sheryl O'Sullivan, for the fall semester. "And we will continue to learn and tweak as we improve the curriculum."

As part of the division's learning process, Stinchcomb asked for help from local educators and administrators and developed the Teacher Education Council. Members of the Council helped with the development of the Gordon curriculum – telling members of the education division exactly what was working in classrooms and what was lacking.

"Getting the ECE program was tremendous for Gordon," said Lamar County Primary School Principal Julie Steele, a member of the Council. "But more so for

the area schools which will be able to hire very qualified teachers from a great program we all had a hand in helping to develop.”

Stinchcomb’s goal, and the goal of the College, was to produce “the best teachers possible in the tradition of those who graduated Tift College, Spelman or Georgia State College for Women.” Schools that, in their day, produced dedicated, polished and well-trained professionals.

“I think we have succeeded with these students,” he said. “I’m proud of each of them, and I know they have the education to be a success and to make a difference in not only their students’ lives but in the communities in which they will serve.”

New teacher Rachel Barr hopes to make a difference in the lives of the Locust Grove Elementary third graders she will face when school starts for the 2009-2010 school year.

“I believe that as an educator, it is essential to inspire students to ask questions,” she said. “I’ve always had a passion for learning, and I always wanted to be in the classroom.”

But getting to that classroom was tough, some members of the first cohort will admit. Many were nontraditional

students returning to the classroom after a several year absence, and many were single parents who depended on friends and family for support both financially and emotionally. And the course load was grueling; four courses

“I believe that as an educator, it is essential to inspire students to ask questions, I’ve always had a passion for learning, and I always wanted to be in the classroom.”

Rachel Barr

ECE Graduate, 2009

plus a minimum of 100 hours of fieldwork were required each semester. The last semester required a 600-hour internship in a classroom.

Stephanie Hill, a single mother of two daughters aged 6 and 7, remembers nights when all three were doing

MAKING It HAPPEN

by Tamara Boatwright



Doris Jackson always knew she wanted to be a teacher; she just didn’t know how to make it happen.

“I was the first person in my family to graduate high school; no one else had been to college,” she said. “I didn’t know how to get to college without money, and we didn’t have much of that.”

So Jackson opted for the military and served six years in the Marines. Motherhood came next, and her dream of becoming a teacher remained just a dream.

Then one day she heard about the new early childhood education degree program at Gordon College. She knew the time had come to fulfill her dream and be a role model for her three young children.

“I just decided that the children and I were going to have to make some sacrifices now so we can live the way we want later on,” she said. “They were excited that we would all be in school at the same time.”

But after being accepted into the program at Gordon – the first baccalaureate

homework at the same time. She brought her girls to school with her the last day of class.

"We're graduating too," said Matisyn, 7. "But we don't get a fancy dress and hat (graduation regalia)."

"In a way they should walk with me when I get my diploma," Hill said. "They were as involved in my success as anyone."

And while the coursework was tough, the academic standing of the class was impressive. More than half graduated with honors and two members of the class, Autumn Schaffer and Kenneth Vaughn, were honored as USG Scholars – Schaffer in '07 and Vaughn in '09. Many others, like Janette Geasley, managed to stay involved in on-campus activities like the Student Government Association.

And while the graduates have developed a special fondness for Stinchcomb, they also heap praise on the other members of the education division: Pam Bell, Rebecca Jones and Mike Borders, as well as their instructors.

"We could not have made it if it had not been for all of them," said Doris Jackson, a nontraditional student who

saw her dream of becoming a teacher finally come true.

"They lifted us all up when we were down and made sure we were successful."

At the Bell and Book Ceremony, a tradition for newly minted teachers dating to the 19th century, the cohort surprised Gordon President Lawrence Weill, a Kentucky native, with a performance of the song, *Kentucky Waltz*. They first performed the song for Weill two years ago as their journey began, and they thought it fitting to sing it to him again for closure.

Weill beamed during the performance.

In closing the Bell and Book Ceremony, Borders gave the graduates some advice.

"Maximize the good and minimize the bad, look on the bright side, be an optimist and always accentuate the positive," he told the group.

With that, they shared hugs, wiped tears, rang their bells and parted ways.

"I have matured over these last two years not only as an educator, but as an individual," said Alisa Helms. "I am ready to teach!" 🌟

degree program in the College's history – Jackson wondered if she would fit in. A single mother of three in her mid-30s doesn't always have the same interests as a 20-year-old "traditional student."

"But we all bonded quickly and tightly," Jackson said of her classmates. "We were all very supportive of each other whether someone needed a pat on the back, a shoulder to cry on or a ride to school. Plus, the instructors were excellent. Never once was I made to feel like I was incapable of

reaching my goal. It's been tough at times, I won't deny that, but I always had support everywhere I turned."

Jerry Stinchcomb, who served as interim chair of the division of education, calls Jackson a "natural teacher."

"She was an inspiration to me and to the other students," Stinchcomb said. "I know she worked hard to get her family life and finances together so she could attend school full time."

There were tears and hugs and more

tears and hugs during graduation in May. The tight-knit group is moving on to the careers they worked so hard for.

"It's hard," Jackson said. "The other members of the cohort and I have spent so much time together; they are really like my second family. But we'll stay close and be there for each other as we begin our careers and continue our education. We've even made a pact that we will all get a master's degree – after a short rest and a few paychecks though!" 🌟



Steele sponsored by Virginia Akin on Easter Sunday, 1948.

A MAN AT PEACE

Maj. Gen. William Steele

by Peter Boltz

If you have ever been around a U.S. Army general touring an Army facility, you would be impressed by the way soldiers suddenly come to a rigid attention when they see him, the snap of their salutes something beautiful.

Who could such a man be?
Well, one such man, retired Maj. Gen. William Steele, is a wonderfully approachable and humble man who quickly puts visitors at ease by inviting them to call him Bill. At one point in his life, he commanded a division of 20,000 combat

When he was asked which Gordon faculty made the greatest impression on him, he thumbed through his '46 and '48 annuals, stopping every now and then to name and remember someone like Master Sgt. Thompson, Lt. R.H. Sudduth and Master Sgt. Jack D. Deupree.

infantry soldiers who all snapped to attention at his appearance. Today he is in his fifteenth year of retirement from his second career with the American Family Life Assurance Company (Aflac) and nearing his 80th birthday. Despite retirement, age and the invitation to call him Bill, he is still a general who excites awe and respect.

His Gordon story begins with his parents' desire that he go to college, but his mother felt the high school in Vienna, Ga., was not preparing him for higher education. So they looked around, and Bill enrolled at Gordon for his senior high school year in September 1945. His girlfriend, Virginia "Ginny" Akin, who was a year older than him, started her first year of college at Milledgeville at the same time. Steele jokes his parents sent him to Gordon Military College in Barnesville instead of Georgia Military College in Milledgeville because they "wanted to keep some distance between us."

"I would hitchhike to see her or take the Saturday morning bus then take another bus back that night, not getting in until 2 a.m. or 3 a.m. on Sunday. I'd get a few hours of sleep and then go to church." He admits to being out past curfew a couple of times, but he was never caught.

Steele describes his relationship with Gordon Military College as "a love." Even as he was saying this, he was handling a couple of his Gordon yearbooks, which he said he referred to and kept more at hand than his University of Georgia yearbooks.

"I was already mature," he said, "but I matured a lot more in my first year at Gordon, living under a routine, always under scrutiny, and never wanting the squad to suffer from something I did."

"Organization and routine were important to me," he said, and he got that at Gordon. He was voted "the neatest"



Gordon Cadet Bill Steele with Virginia Akin in 1945.

cadet, a characteristic which, in the Army, earned him the nickname "Stainless Steele."

"I walked the bullring once, but never again after that," he confesses. "The biggest point it made on me was the embarrassment. People would see you and wonder what you had done wrong."

When he was asked which Gordon faculty made the greatest impression on him, he thumbed through his '46 and '48 annuals, stopping every now and then to name and



Clowning around in front of South Barracks, 1948. Steele is third from the right.

remember someone like Master Sgt. Thompson, Lt. R.H. Sudduth and Master Sgt. Jack D. Deupree.

"He had a lot of war experience," Steele said of Deupree. "He was in the airborne and would explain to us what life in the military was like."

His Gordon role models were not just in the military. He remembers that Ms. Marion Bush taught him about communicating orally and in writing. "She had her principles," he said in a way that conveyed her discipline. "She had rules and you understood them, and because they were good ones you followed them."

He said he spent a "delightful" three days in the infirmary under the care of Mrs. Quillian. "They thought it might be measles," he said, "but it was just a virus." He explained that being away from the routine of military discipline and classes made his stay feel like a vacation despite the virus.

"She cared about us and for us," he said. "You could tell she really did." Like many other cadets, he described her as a second mother.

He also thought highly of another woman on campus, Mrs. Clara Sykes, who ran the kitchen. Steele worked for her, waiting tables the first year he was at Gordon, so he knew her well enough to know she was hardworking, but fair.

After graduating from high school at Gordon, Steele had opportunity to go to the University of Georgia, but "when it came time for me to choose to go to college, I chose to stay at Gordon," he said. "Gordon was like home, like family."

After graduating from Gordon, Steele went on to UGA and married his girlfriend Ginny when she finished college in the summer of 1949.

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had achieved something.

He graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1950, just in time for the North Korean invasion of South Korea. Instead of Korea, however, Steele was ordered to Ft. Benning in Columbus, Ga., where he joined the 4th Infantry Division. In 1951, he had to leave Ginny to go to Germany to be part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

"My first son was born while I was in Germany, and he was 6 months old before I saw him after my wife joined me to live in Germany." Little did Steele realize it at the time, but these separations from his family were going to punctuate the rest of his Army career. Family life was very important to him, and he was at his happiest when his family life and his Army life synched.

After Germany he and his family returned to Columbus where his four-year commitment was coming to an end. "Ginny and I looked at each other, and we said, 'Why not stay in the Army?'" he said. "I saw the Army could be where my professional and family life could be together. I felt comfortable in the job. I liked the challenge, the variety, enjoyed it. I thought that if I could just reach colonel, I could retire and feel I had achieved something."

At Ft. Benning, assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division, he went to advanced officer training and airborne training. After airborne school, he stayed at Benning as an instructor and the father of two sons. "But then it came time to leave again," he said in a way that conveyed sorrow. "I went to Saudi Arabia for a year, a year I spent away from my family."

"Saudi was interesting," he said. "Before going, I took a four week course in D.C. on how to be an ambassador to the kingdom. I advised King Sa'ud's guards (one battalion) on military operations. But the guard did little training, and only in the morning. Our efforts were mostly limited, since we had no leverage."

After a year with the king's guards and away from his

family, Steele returned to the United States to join the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg in Fayetteville, N.C.

"Boy, I was happy then," he said. "Gung ho and happy."

After two years with the 82nd, he helped develop a unit which would use helicopters as troop carriers which were escorted by helicopter gunships, the very kind of unit which would define warfare in Vietnam. From his and others' work came the 11th Air Assault Division.

Next came Newport, R.I., where he and his family enjoyed "a comfortable year, a good-for-the-family year" while he went to Navy Command and Staff School to learn naval operations.

"It was then that I got a master's in international relations at George Washington University graduate school." He also was assigned to the Pentagon with the job of assigning lieutenants to different jobs in the Army.

Now with the rank of major, Steele went to the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., where he studied geopolitics and strategy.

In August 1967, he went to Vietnam for a yearlong tour, fighting in the Mekong Delta. He took what he learned in Vietnam back to Carlisle to teach at the Army War College, and then he was tapped to be Gen. William Westmoreland's senior aide in D.C. At the time, Westmoreland was the chief of staff of the Army, which made him a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Steele was a lieutenant colonel.

After serving Westmoreland for two years, Steele "wanted to get back to troops" and so he asked Westmoreland for Ft. Benning where he taught in the infantry school's leadership department.

"I was then picked to command a separate Mechanized Infantry. It was larger than a normal brigade with 5,000 soldiers and had all the elements of a division but smaller," he said. "This was the beginning of the all volunteer Army," he said, because members of the unit recruited new members.



Second Lt. Bill Steele in 1955.



Maj. Gen. Bill Steele in 1976.

Promoted to brigadier general, he received orders for the U.S. Army Recruiting Command. This command was headed by one major general with two brigadiers under him. One brigadier had territory west and one east of the Mississippi. Steele said he did a great deal of traveling, motivating recruiters, supporting them, reinforcing ideas, explaining, listening, and talking to community leaders. His time traveling was time lost with his family.

After he was picked to be on the list of new major generals, Gen. "Bernie" Rogers asked him what he wanted to do when promoted. "I wanted to take a division," he said, "and got the 5th Mechanized Infantry Division." As division commander, he was responsible for equipping and training 20,000 soldiers, and then moving them to Europe for NATO war games. In other words, he was practicing going to war in the event that the Soviet Union invaded Europe.

Then came a time of reflection.

"I was finished with my two-year tour of the division, and now the Army wanted me to be the major general of Recruiting Command. It was time to rethink," he said. "I had been gone from my family three years. I knew I'd be on the road or in Europe for the next three years if I took the job. My father was dying of leukemia and my mother was overwhelmed."

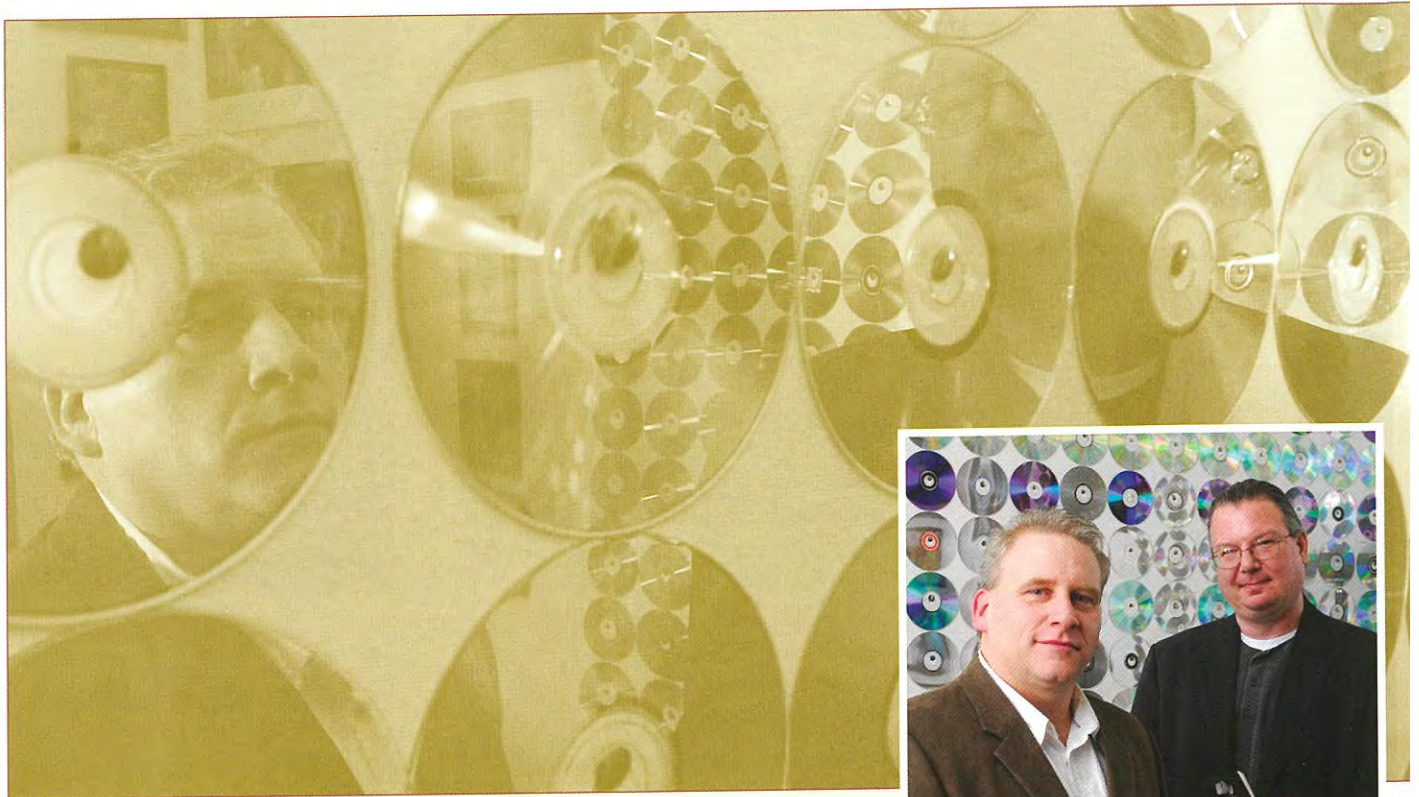
After speaking with his wife, he opted to retire; he had given his 30 years of service.

He and Ginny decided to settle in Columbus because of its proximity to Vienna and because they already thought of it as home. Steele landed a job with Aflac where he worked another 15 years, retiring at age 65 in 1994 as a senior vice president.

After his wife died in 2003, Steele said he mourned for a year, thinking he would spend the rest of his life as a bachelor. Instead, he met Sandy Cross in 2004 and today she is Sandy Cross Steele. "I have been blessed twice in the marital category," Steele said.

Perhaps this is why Steele seems so ungeneral-like in his manner. Blessed in marriage, blessed in career, Maj. Gen. William B. Steele is a man at peace. 🌿

Gen. "Bernie" Rogers asked him what he wanted to do when promoted. "I wanted to take a division," he said, "and got the 5th Mechanized Infantry Division." As division commander, he was responsible for equipping and training 20,000 soldiers, and then moving them to Europe for NATO war games.



THE END HAS A BEAT

by Peter Boltz

Most of us, when we hear the word apocalypse, think of the end of the world, not just the end of life, but a terrible, prolonged death. The word jukebox, on the other hand, names the thing we see in the opening of the TV show *Happy Days*. It plays records. So it may be a little disorienting when we hear the two juxtaposed as “apocalypse jukebox.” Does this mean the four horsemen of the apocalypse come flying out of a jukebox?

As farfetched as this may sound, this is exactly what happens according to a couple of Gordon College English professors.

Drs. David Janssen and Edward Whitelock published *Apocalypse Jukebox* this year, a book they have been working on since 2002. "Ours is an apocalyptic society," they write, "in every sense of that term, perpetually aware of, sometimes welcoming, oftentimes dreading The End." And, they say, this tendency of American culture shows up in our popular music, from hymns to rock and roll. Whatever we may have in our personal "jukeboxes," that is, our list of favorite songs, Janssen and Whitelock say you will find music about the end of the world.

The book, whose full title is *Apocalypse Jukebox: The End of the World in American Popular Music*, is neither evangelical nor depressing. And despite being written by a couple of college professors who "apply literary critical tools to music," it is a book intended for an audience wider than college professors.

For example, the book could offer helpful insight to parents worried about the development of their teenagers. Whitelock, a parent himself, realizes that "popular songs are training 15- and 16-year-olds what it is to be self-actualized. Not that this is necessarily beneficial, but the kids are hearing this music, and it has an effect on what kind of person they become."

And it is helpful for him to remember the influence popular music, notably rock and roll, had on him as a teen. The music awakened in him an awareness that being born into a society meant being born into an almost predetermined life, what he called a "pattern." The songs in his jukebox helped him realize he wanted "to break the pattern or else find a pattern I could fit into and it not weigh down my spirit."

Janssen's teenage experience with rock and roll is also a model of how

popular music trains young people on what kind of person they become. For him, rock and pop music were "a kind of revelation," and he remembers discovering his father's cardboard box full of 45s of Fats Domino and all the "Memphis guys" like Elvis.

"I've been a part-time musician for most of my life, and I tell my students this is why I became an English teacher. Because of my discovery of Dylan and others, I learned to listen carefully, pay attention to the lyrics, and make connections between these musicians and writers of the literary canon."

When Janssen and Whitelock speak of the "writers of the literary canon," they speak of the authors students find in their British and American literature anthologies – the writers who have defined what literature is for their culture.

One of the things which make Janssen and Whitelock congenial authors is their conviction that we can find new members of the literary canon in the ranks of popular musicians. Bob Dylan is a good example. A star of popular music, Dylan is rumored to be a candidate for the Nobel Prize in literature.

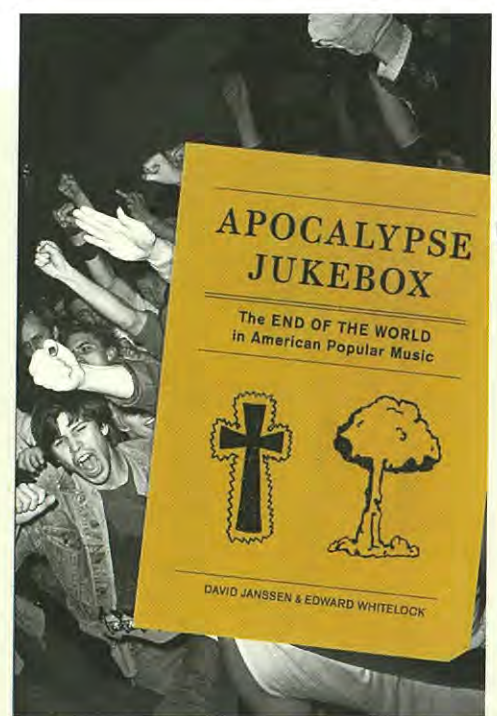
If this is so, who could doubt this folk/rock star's entry into the literary canon of the United States?

And with songs like *Desolation Row* and *A Hard Rain's A Gonna Fall*, who could doubt Dylan has sung about the apocalypse?

The book, besides offering a way to understand young people today, also helps any reader understand him- or herself better... if they do the work involved in following Janssen and Whitelock's analyses using literary criticism.

Here is a brief outline of the book.

Chapter 1 makes a connection between "sacred apocalyptic belief" and "rock and roll apocalypse." Think



The Making of a Collaboration

The punk rocker Patti Smith brought David Janssen and Ed Whitelock together as collaborating authors. It's likely the two of them would have eventually discovered their similar tastes and interests in popular music without her, but Smith cut the timeline.

"Ed came into my office shortly after I started in 2000," Janssen said, "and he saw my Patti Smith postcard. We started talking and both of us realized we were crazy about music."

"I saw someone steeped in punk," Whitelock remembered. "We got into a music conversation, and then we realized we both owned *Data Panic in Year Zero* by Pere Ubu. What were the chances?"

Their friendship has since been sealed with exchanges of CDs, "trawling for music" in Atlanta, going to concerts, and writing a book together.

This latter activity, writing a book together, is a tribute to their friendship. Imagine the opportunity for conflict in such a labor, and you will understand how their friendship has been tested and how well they collaborated.

A particular marker of the success of their partnership is the writing style of the book. It is difficult to distinguish Whitelock's writing style from Janssen's – such a phenomenon could not have come from two writers competing with one another.

"The R.E.M. chapter was the most collaborative chapter," Whitelock said. "Dave wrote the first draft, and I then took it and added and

Charles Manson and David Koresh, and the end of the world.

Chapter 2 “examines the cultural climate and the music of the first 20 years of the atomic age and its promise of nuclear annihilation.” Think the 1950 song *Jesus Hits like an Atom Bomb*.

The next four chapters are grouped under the heading “Part 2: Four Horsemen of Apocalypse.” And the horsemen, each accorded a chapter, are Harry Smith, John Coltrane, Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen. “All four brought an apocalyptic sensibility to their musical explorations, and those explorations have influenced nearly every thread sewn into the tangled tapestry that is American rock and roll and its offshoots.”

Part 3, “Artifacts from the Blast Zone,” is an analysis of the work of Arthur Lee, Devo and R.E.M. Just consider R.E.M.’s *It’s the End of the World as We Know It (and I Feel Fine)*, and you will get a good idea of this section of the book. “The dominant theme,” in the band’s music, write the authors, “resonated with the apocalyptic ambiguities and anxieties of both late adolescence and the Cold War.”

The final three chapters fall under the heading, “Apocalypse after 9/11: The End Is Still Here,” and are dedicated, respectively, to Laurie Anderson, Sleater-Kinney, and Green Day. “From the dawning of the American nation to the falling of the Twin Towers we have looked to the sky for signs, parsed obscure texts, and stared at lyric sheets, all in service to the question: where do we go from here?” write Janssen and Whitelock. “We’re still waiting for the world to end.”

Apocalypse Jukebox is many things. It’s a work of literary criticism, it’s a work of sociology, it’s a work of psychology, it’s a history, it’s a self-help book, and it’s a parenting book. That’s the wonderful thing about it; it can be read profitably in so many different ways. But overshadowing any of the book’s perspectives is the end of the world.

“American popular music – from its earliest hymnals, through its growing commercial presentations via minstrelsy and vaudeville, through the explosion of technology that enabled a market for recorded music – has been shaped by an apocalyptic worldview.”

Rock and roll, in particular, write Janssen and Whitelock, “has been the music of apocalypse, a soundtrack for the end of the world.”

“It’s got a beat, and you can die to it.” 🐜

ONE OF THE THINGS WHICH MAKE JANSSEN AND WHITELOCK CONGENIAL AUTHORS IS THEIR CONVICTION THAT WE CAN FIND NEW MEMBERS OF THE LITERARY CANON IN THE RANKS OF POPULAR MUSICIANS. BOB DYLAN IS A GOOD EXAMPLE. A STAR OF POPULAR MUSIC, DYLAN IS RUMORED TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR THE NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE.

changed things. Today, I can read something and think, ‘I wrote something good there,’ and then think, ‘Wait a minute, did I?’ Then I’ll read another line and say, ‘I was really on fire,’ then think, ‘Wait a minute, that’s not mine.’ We both cannot point to something that we wrote as individuals.”

While it was Patti Smith who helped the two discover their similar interests, it was a trip to Alabama that was the scene for the birth of *Apocalypse Jukebox*.

“It was on that ride to Enterprise, Alabama, in 2002, careening on the back roads in the rain,” Whitelock said.

“It was a long drive,” Janssen said, “and we got to look at each other’s essays which we had written for a convention. When I looked at Ed’s, I told him he could write a book on it.”

The paper of Janssen’s that Whitelock read in the backseat of a van was entitled “Textbook Rock,” a title he also uses for his colloquium. Whitelock’s paper was called “Apocalypse Jukebox.” By the following fall, they went to work on the book in earnest.

They did, of course, have their conflicts.

One of those “points of contention,” as Janssen put it, was writing the R.E.M. chapter. Janssen said he was skeptical of the chapter, but now he appreciates it as the most controversial of the book, the one getting the most criticism.

Another conflict was about the intended audience of the book.

“Ed had to convince me to go the popular route,” Janssen said. They had first seen other academics as their audience, so they were pushing the book to be published by the University of Georgia Press. But, Janssen said, the book started to “sound like a dissertation.”

Whitelock said he wanted, “early on, to write a book that could appeal to a popular audience and also be a smart academic work. There are a lot more music fans out there than fans of literary criticism, so I figured going the popular route would mean more people would read the book.”

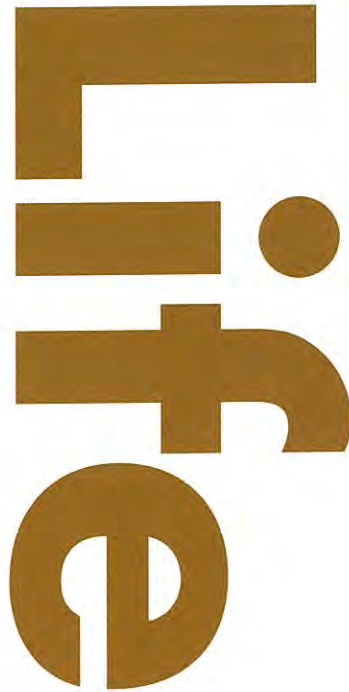
So what’s next for the two? Possibly rock and roll fame of their own. Janssen said he and Whitelock have formed a band along with fellow Gordon College professor Neil Boumpani and Gordon staff member Harold Woodard.

Janssen said the band hasn’t chosen a name yet, but he said he will be pushing for a play on the word stability. He wants to name the band The Stable Boys.



In his second Vietnam tour in 1964, Imes led a unit of 12 Americans, three Austrians and about 500 indigenous troops of Vietnamese and Montagnards.

A Simple



Lesson

by Peter Boltz

It's a story Allan Imes, Gordon Military College '53-'56, has used countless times as a teaching example to help young people learn the value of self-control. It is a lesson he learned as a young cadet at Gordon, not realizing its value until years later and thousands of miles away from Barnesville.

At the beginning of his first year at Gordon, Imes attended an assembly of all of the cadets, coeds and faculty, to hear Gordon's president, Col. C.T.B. (Bud) Harris.

"There must have been something in the air, because there was a lot of coughing and sneezing," Imes said. "Col. Harris was trying to speak amid all the noise when suddenly, out of the clear blue, he stopped when he saw Maj. Morris Goodwin get up from the rear and move towards the front of the auditorium. We all watched as the major, ramrod straight, joined Harris on stage."

Goodwin was the college's professor of military science who had been severely wounded in World War II and had a splendid combat record. With the president's permission, he took the podium and looked out at the sea of cadets.

"Knock off that coughing," he barked. "Learn to discipline yourselves. The inability to discipline yourself and stifle a cough could cost you your lives some day."

With that, the coughing and sneezing subsided, and Harris resumed his address.

Imes, who described himself as "a smart-assed kid," punched the guy next to him and said, "That's the dumbest thing I ever heard anybody say. How can you not cough when you need to?"

John K. Waters' visit to Khe Sanh nearly scared Imes to death with news that North Vietnamese troops might soon overrun his position.



Allan Imes married Aliene Nail before he graduated, making her his wife and his sponsor.

He answered his own question years later on his first of three tours in Vietnam.

"I was a Ranger adviser to the Vietnamese Rangers. We were out on an ambush patrol, and in an ambush, you don't move around, you don't talk, and you don't make any noise or do anything that might alert someone to the ambush and its location. You just sit and wait.

"As I waited, my throat began to tickle, and I had to cough. I was doing everything I could to choke down and swallow that cough. Fortunately I did, but not before Maj. Goodwin's remarks flashed across my memory. Wow! Ten years earlier, I laughed at what he said, but that day, I thought he was the smartest man alive.

"I had a chance to write him from Vietnam before he died, told him about the ambush, and I thanked him for what he taught us."

Today, at 74 years of age, retired Lt. Col. Allan Imes looks fit enough to still jump out of an airplane and join fellow U.S. Army Rangers patrolling the jungle in 110 degree heat. His manner is so personable and good-natured, it belies that he is a tested warrior.

"Everything good and positive that has happened to me in my adult life, I owe to Gordon Military College and Barnesville," he said in an interview. "I probably would not have gone into the military had it not been for Gordon. I didn't realize it at the time, but the professional military

Imes was to send his Vietnamese and Montagnard troops home except for "a small loyal contingent he could count on." He was to collect intelligence on a massive buildup of North Vietnamese forces along the border, then to establish a guerilla force and continue reconnaissance if they invaded.

cadre assigned to Gordon inspired me in so many ways."

His words confess one of the great ironies of his life. He didn't go to Gordon because of its military program or as a stepping stone to the Army. He went on a football scholarship to improve his grades and with the hope for a scholarship to a four-year college. He finally got the scholarship but by that time had married Aliene Nail '54, a lovely local girl and former Gordon day student. When time came to report for football camp, Imes decided he didn't want to leave her, so he didn't go. The City of Barnesville gave him a part-time job as a recreation director and let him attend college at nearby Mercer University.

"Coach Fred Miller at Gordon let me do some coaching while I was going to Mercer," Imes said, "and it was then that I realized that I probably wasn't very good at it."

By 1959, he graduated from Mercer and had a wife and two children, and joined the Army for two years to give himself time to reevaluate his future.

"Much to my surprise, I really liked the Army and thought about staying in. I didn't push it because I didn't think Aliene wanted the Army life. But President John F. Kennedy resolved that issue two weeks before I was due to get my discharge on Sept. 12, 1961. When the Berlin Wall went up in late August 1961 and tensions were

growing worldwide, Kennedy extended everyone on active duty for a year."

Imes went home to tell Aliene the bad news, but when he told her, she surprised him by saying, "Why are you getting out for anyway? You like the Army, and I don't mind it."

This is all it took, and he became regular Army. In October 1961 he got orders for Vietnam.

"I wasn't even sure where it was located. I had to go look it up to be sure," he said.

On his second Vietnam tour in 1964, he was commander of a Special Forces A Detachment. In addition to his 12 Americans, he had three Australians, 35 Chinese Nungs and about 500 indigenous Vietnamese and Montagnard civilian irregular defense soldiers in his "little army."

They were located at an old French fort near the village of Khe Sanh close to the Laotian and North Vietnamese

borders. Khe Sanh later became the site of a vicious Marine Corps battle.

"I used to say that as a young captain, I was the seniorist American the furthest north in South Vietnam," he joked.

The Tonkin Bay incident occurred while he and his troops were at Khe Sanh. Imes said they knew nothing about it until one day a bright, shiny C-123 airplane landed at their airstrip and out stepped Gen. John K. Waters, the Commander in Chief of all Army forces in the Pacific Theater. It even sounds improbable today, but the general had come to personally brief and give Capt. Imes orders.

Waters informed Imes that he was expecting the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) to attack across the demilitarized zone (DMZ) and overrun Khe Sanh on its way south.

Imes was to send his Vietnamese and Montagnard troops home except for "a small loyal contingent he could count on." He and the small band were to operate

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Joe Bray,

The Man for the Times

by Peter Boltz



Joe Bray liked to smoke a distinctive smelling cherry blend tobacco in his pipe that was well-known to his colleagues at Gordon College. When it was in the air, someone was bound to say, “Joe must be in the neighborhood.”

Over the course of his 25 years at Gordon, there was no place that did not become his neighborhood, from the classroom to the president’s office.

Bray came to Gordon, then known as Gordon Military College, from North Carolina where he was born in the town of Yadkinville. When he finished high school in 1943, he joined the Navy and was sent to fight the Japanese in the Pacific Theater as a radio operator on a ship known as a landing ship tank or LST. Bray would later recall that while he was still in high school he was “afraid the war would be over before I could get into it, and after I got into the Pacific, I was afraid it would never be over.”

The job of an LST was to beach itself so that heavy equipment like tanks and trucks and their troops could drive right out on an island to fight the Japanese who occupied it. Bray’s ship did just this in the invasions of the Philippines and Okinawa, where fearsome kamikaze attacks destroyed many ships just like his. By the time the war was won, he had four battle stars on his chest.

After the war, he formed a construction company in Charlotte with a friend, but he left it to go to college at Ap-

palachian State University in Boone, N.C., where he earned a B.A. in English with a minor in history. After teaching high school for a while and then working in private industry, he returned to Appalachian State to earn an M.A. in English.

Bray came to Gordon in 1962 as an English teacher. According to a newspaper article written by Joyce Haire, Bray found Gordon especially appealing “because it was military, and as a veteran he had a deep ‘respect for the military needs of this country.’”

By 1964, Bray not only taught English, but he was Gordon’s registrar and dean of the college. In 1970, he became the college’s president, retaining his position as dean of the college. In 1972, when Gordon became part of the University System of Georgia (USG), Bray returned to teaching full-time.

His accomplishments at Gordon were not just the offices he held, but as his wife Frances, recalled he also

Starting from the top: Administration receiving line at a 1965 dance. Left to right: Col. and Mrs. Light, Col. and Mrs. Yates, Maj. Joe and Frances Bray, Maj. Bill and Bert Aiken, Maj. Joe Johnson, Maj. and Mrs. Hoover.

Maj. Joe Bray, acting dean of the college, June 1964.

Joe and Frances Bray at the 1972 graduation

Joe on April 11, 2008, almost one year to the day of his death on April 3, 2009.



computerized the registrar's office in the latter part of 1967 and early 1968. She said that Gordon's registrar's office was still posting grades on paper at the time, and her husband was able to work out all the details of having them run and posted on computer printouts on the University of Georgia's computer.

Also in the latter part of 1967 and early 1968, Frances said, Bray changed the way Gordon registered students for classes. In the past, students would go from one academic department to another to register. Any student of today would quickly understand how cumbersome and nerve-wracking this would be. Bray centralized class registration in one location. Everything a student needed to add a class was in one spot, not spread out across the campus.

"He was a rare person; all who worked with him respected him greatly. He was the most professional and kindest man I've known over a 43-year career." - Robert Simmons

Bray saw a need for a place on campus where students could relax, his friend and colleague Robert Simmons said, so in 1967, the two of them, with the help of Frances, went to work converting a cinderblock building behind Lambdin Hall into a student center. With very little money but a lot of ingenuity, the building was refurbished and equipped with pool tables, ping pong and a jukebox.

When the college was suddenly left without a president in 1970, Bray accepted the appointment by the board of trustees with the understanding that they would work with him to get the state to accept Gordon into the USG.

Peter Banks, a member of the college's board of trustees, was appointed chair of a committee charged with promoting the USG by the board chair at the time, John Crawford.

"Joe would help me write speeches and come up with points," Banks said. "He hosted meetings with legislators and had meetings with townspeople. He and I spoke to them and others about the good of a state takeover. When we finally addressed the Regents, he checked my speech. He was a tremendous help to me."

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Falling in Love with Vienna



Above: Billye Pope at a Marseille fish market in March 1948.



Left: Burnam Pope enjoying his first milk in three years in Copenhagen, 1947.

by Peter Boltz

BUCK SGT. BURNAM T. POPE was in charge of a water-cooled 30 cal. machine gun unit in the 66th Infantry Division in World War II. He remembers one time when he and his team were ordered from a position where they were firing on Germans. No sooner than they were safely away, a German artillery shell landed exactly on the position.

Pope, like many veterans, plays down his role in combat. The mission of his division was to contain a pocket of Germans left in the coastal areas of St. Nazaire and Lorient in Brittany after D-Day. It may not have been a well-known mission in the war's history, but it was

important, and it was deadly. The night they left England for France, one of the troop transports, the *Leopoldville*, was torpedoed by a Nazi U-boat, perhaps one stationed at St. Nazaire or Lorient. About 800 men were killed.

"The war was a terrible thing to happen," Pope recalled. He heard about Pearl Harbor that Sunday afternoon in 1941 while studying by the radio at his Uncle Hugh Thomas' house near Milner where he stayed for his first year at Gordon.

Room and board were taken care of by his Uncle Hugh, and he commuted to Barnesville either by bus or by hitchhiking. In his second and final year at Gordon, he

lived at the Five Oaks boarding house run by two sisters, Miss Mae and Miss Emma Williams. His tuition was taken care of by James Howard Candler Thomas, another of his mother's brothers. Uncle James set type, printed and distributed Gordon's newspaper, *The Reveille*, in trade.

Like so many other young American men at the time, he registered for the draft when he turned 18. He still remembers climbing on top of his bicycle in his hometown of Alamo, Ga., in June 1942 and riding it to his draft board located in his old high school. On Nov. 9, 1942, he signed up for the Enlisted Reserve Corps while at Gordon.

"The ERC did two things for me. First, it allowed me to complete my last year at Gordon without worrying whether I'd be drafted before the end of the school year. Second, it gave me G.I. Bill credit for time served while I was in school."

Pope said the government was "true to its word. One week after my graduation, I got a letter telling me to report to Ft. McPherson in Atlanta." On Nov. 15, 1944, he and his division were shipped to England, and on Christmas Eve 1944, they were shipped to France.

When the war ended, Pope became part of the American forces occupying Vienna, Austria, a city he said he fell in love with.

He must have, because he elected to stay on as a civilian employee of the Army working in G2 intelligence even after he was free to return to the United States with an honorable discharge. In turn, the city must have loved him back, because it was in Vienna that he met his wife Billye Cartright, the daughter of an American Army officer from Oklahoma.

"We met one night and never separated," he said. "I proposed to her six months later, Dec. 13, 1947."

His boss in Vienna – a former newspaperman – was Pope's inspiration to study journalism at Emory when he and Billye returned to the United States in 1948. But when he took a course in political science, he was reminded of a book on the formation of government that really interested him.

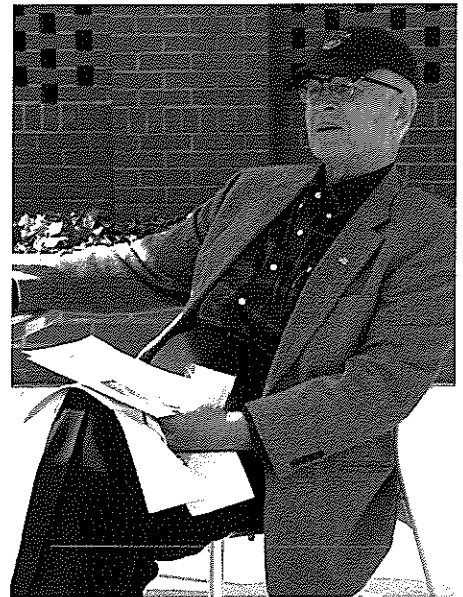
"It all came together," Pope said.

That is, he decided he would change his major to political science and go to work for the State Department

or the CIA upon graduation, a goal still inspired by his former boss who had been a member of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), the precursor of the CIA.

But by the time he graduated and started looking for work in Washington, D.C., President Dwight D. Eisenhower had frozen all positions in the government, so neither the CIA nor the State Department were hiring.

"I roamed around and found a job in accounting with the United Mine Workers of America Health and Retirement Funds," Pope said. This entity eventually became the Miner's Memorial Hospital Association, and it was eventually sold and the name became what it is today, Appalachian Regional Healthcare. Pope retired from ARH in 1990 as assistant controller. ✎



Dr. Ed Wheeler, Gordon College's dean of academic affairs (left) and Dr. Jerry Stinchcomb, interim chair of the division of teacher education, with Kenneth Vaughn, the University System of Georgia Outstanding Scholar at Gordon College for 2009.



Vaughn Is Gordon's Outstanding Scholar

K

enneth Vaughn was selected the University System of Georgia Outstanding Scholar at Gordon College this academic year.

Vaughn, of Thomaston, graduated in May with a bachelor of science in early childhood education degree summa cum laude – the highest honor a graduate can earn.

Vaughn was honored with Senate Resolution 390 and House Resolution 438 during Academic Recognition Day during the recent session of the Georgia General Assembly.

Academic Recognition Day was first held in 1987 as a "celebration of individual academic achievement and recognition of those students who exemplify that which is best about the University System of Georgia and its institutions."

Vaughn is one of 28 in the first class of teacher candidates in the history of the college to earn a baccalaureate degree, and one of only two men in the class. He will begin teaching in Upson County in the fall.

"This is an honor for me," Vaughn said. "I look forward to starting my career and continuing my education. Our instructors have prepared us well for what lies ahead, and I share this honor and my academic success with them as well as my fellow classmates and family."

Jerry Stinchcomb, interim chair of the division of teacher education, admires Vaughn's dedication.

"Kenny is a fine young man and it is a pleasure to acknowledge his scholarship and dedication to becoming a teacher," Stinchcomb said. "Wherever his career takes him, he will make a difference for a generation of future students."

Big Kids Helping Little Kids

Checking homework and reading are only two ways members of the Gordon College Student Government Association helped students in the after school program at Barnesville's E.P. Roberts Center.

"Sometimes our just being here is what the kids really like," said Fredrick Bailey, president of the SGA. "We're the 'big kids from the college.' I think they get a kick out of that."

Each year the SGA picks a service project that shows its dedication and appreciation to the community surrounding Gordon College.

"This helps us out so much," said April Smith, director of the E.P. Roberts Center which hosts a variety of programs during the school year as well as during the summer. "With volunteers we are able to do a lot more one-on-one with these kids"

"I know the kids like this, you can see it in their eyes," said Bailey. "But I think we get just as much, if not more, from being here."



Reading Day

To celebrate the grand opening of the Gordon College Bookstore, some members of the junior class of early childhood education majors held a children's book hour with each student choosing a book to read. Cherrell Alexander read *Five Little Monkeys Wash Their Car*, to Charlessia Head, 2, and Persephone Woodson, 2.

Middle School Students Go to College

Belinda Shaw, the clinical/lab manager in the nursing program at Gordon College, discusses "test" results with Naderricka Haygood and Laurie Slagle. The students were visiting Gordon as part of the "I'm Going to College!" event. Approximately 160 students from Lamar County Middle School participated in the annual event which gives them a taste of college life. At the conclusion of the day the students were individually greeted by Gordon President Lawrence Weill who gave each student a small memento upon hearing their promise, "I'm Going to College!"





The cast of *Urinetown* strike a pose. The musical comedy was Gordon College Theatre's last production of the year, April 22-25.

Gordon College Theatre to Present *The Illusion*

The Gordon College Theatre Department is gearing up for the 2009-2010 season with a strong drama, a thought-provoking play and a Shakespearean tragedy. The plays will be presented under the direction of Rhonda Wooley, instructor of theater, and Tony Pearson, assistant professor of theater.

Twelve Angry Jurors

Sept. 30 - Oct. 4

Twelve Angry Jurors reveals, behind the scenes, a jury's deliberations as the 19-year-old son of an abusive old man is on trial for murdering his father. On the hottest day of the year, the 12 jurors begin their deliberations with 11 in favor of conviction. But one man, Juror 8, holds his ground, trying to convince the others of "reasonable doubt." Alliances are drawn, tempers flare and all reveal who they are and what they believe in while a man's life hangs in the balance.

The Illusion

Nov. 18 - 22

In *The Illusion*, Pridamant comes to the cave of the magician Alcandre seeking the whereabouts of his prodigal son. Pridamant is shown visions of the son courting an aristocratic woman, flirting with her servant, and defeating his rival. Neither Pridamant nor we can understand why, just when the son has finally won the girl, the courtship starts up all over again but with the same characters in slightly different circumstances and all of them now bearing different names. The plot continues on its twists and turns and just when you think you've gotten it all figured out, *The Illusion* deals you the strangest twist of all.

Hamlet

April 7 - 11, 2010

Hamlet is a tragedy that recounts how Prince Hamlet exacts revenge on his uncle Claudius who has murdered Hamlet's father, the King, taken the throne and married Gertrude, Hamlet's mother. It's a story which vividly charts the course of real and feigned madness – from overwhelming grief to seething rage – and explores themes of treachery, revenge, incest, and moral corruption.

All performances are in the Fine Arts Theater and are presented Wednesday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at the door and are \$7 for adults, \$6 for senior citizens, \$5 for students, \$4 for groups of 10 or more.



SNOW DAY

Several inches of snow fell Sunday, March 1, giving students, staff and faculty a half snow day on Monday. And in typical Georgia weather fashion, it melted almost as fast as it fell.



Chafin Smith Award Winner

Gordon College student Stephanie Elliott spent the month of June in Barcelona, Spain, immersed in its language and culture.

Elliott was one of two students awarded the Chafin Smith Study Abroad Scholarship. The annual scholarship is made possible by Claudette Smith in memory of her late husband, Chafin. The two shared a love of travel.

This study trip allowed Elliott, who is from McDonough, to hone her language skills and earn six credit hours toward her minor in Spanish. She plans to become a nurse and feels that being able to communicate in English and Spanish will enhance her ability to care for patients.

"It is a very exciting program," Elliott said. "We attended class from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day. We lived with a local family and were able to see exactly how they live. We also were able to take short trips in that part of Spain."

NAH Building to Be State of the Art

Work on the Gordon College Nursing and Allied Health Building began this summer and is expected to be completed in the fall of 2010 – just in time to greet the first class of nurses entering the bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) program.

The three-story, 54,000 square-foot structure will be built where Watson Hall once stood – on the west side of campus near Spencer Street. It will allow the nursing and allied health program to move from Smith Hall, which was built in 1938 and contains approximately 13,000 square feet.

Plans call for Smith to eventually undergo some interior renovation and house the early childhood education program and portions of the community education program.

The Piedmont Group of Macon has been selected as the construction management firm; Larry Pope of SP Design in Macon is the project manager; and the architectural firm is Collins Cooper Carusi of Atlanta.



The modern, three-story building will contain two large, tiered lecture halls, a collaborative learning center, computer lab and several classrooms. The focal point of the building will be on the second floor where a state-of-the-art simulation lab, practice lab and check-off lab will be located. The labs will allow students to learn in an environment that closely resembles a hospital. The first BSN class of 30 students is expected to graduate in 2011.

Speaker Series to Feature Gordon Faculty

The 2009-2010 Gordon Speaker Series will feature topics on travel, comedy, a scholarly perspective on the Holocaust and even a reading from a book of poems that center on Dolly Parton.

All will be presented by Gordon faculty.

"This year's series offers a little bit of everything," said Jeffery Rogers, coordinator of the Gordon Speakers Series.

October 8, 2009, 7 p.m.

Caesar Perkowski, assistant professor of English, will present *Behind the Iron Curtain: A Photographic Travel Essay on Russia*. Dr. Perkowski will speak on his experiences traveling the largest nation on earth.

April 15, 2010, 7 p.m.

Gary Cox, professor of history, will present *Scholarly Perspectives on the Holocaust: Comprehending the Inconceivable after Seventy Years*. Dr. Cox will discuss how historians have written about the Holocaust and new directions in Holocaust scholarship.

February 18, 2010, 7 p.m.

Stephen Powers, assistant professor of English, will present poems from his first book, *The Follower's Tale*, a collection of lyric and narrative poems about road trips to Dollywood to see Dolly Parton perform benefit concerts for the Dollywood Foundation. The poems are about driving and exploring, music and loss, and they paint an off-beat picture of where America fits in a world under the shadows of pop culture icons.

September 23, 2010, 7 p.m.

Karen Guffy, associate professor of Spanish, will present *Humor: It's All in the Language*. Dr. Guffy will discuss how language – as opposed to situation, character, etc. – is at the root of certain lines in comedy.

All events will be publicized on the Gordon College Website at www.gdn.edu. All are free and open to the public.



Gordon College Pumps More Than \$100 Million into Local Economy

GORDON COLLEGE PUMPED MORE THAN \$100 MILLION INTO THE REGIONAL ECONOMY DURING FISCAL YEAR 2008, ACCORDING TO A REPORT RELEASED BY THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA.

In fiscal year 2008, which ran from July 2007 to June 2008, Gordon College provided 902 jobs to the area, up from the 847 jobs provided during fiscal year 2007. Of those jobs, 256 were on-campus while 646 jobs existed due to institution-related spending.

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

"For each job created on a campus, there are 1.6 jobs that exist off-campus because of spending related to the college or university," said Jeffrey M. Humphreys, director of economic forecasting for the Selig Center.

The study also revealed that Gordon College provided the regional economy with:

- \$102 million in sales, an increase of \$10 million from FY 2007 figures. This also includes a \$3 million increase in spending by students which totaled \$55 million in FY 2008;
- \$62 million in value added impact, up \$6 million from FY 2007 figures;
- And \$40 million in labor income impact, an increase of \$4 million from the 2007 fiscal year.



"Despite the economic downturn that is being experienced throughout the country, Gordon College continues to provide not only a quality education to its students, but also continues to be a strong economic pillar within the regional community," said Gordon College President Lawrence Weill.

Researchers found that, on average, for every dollar of initial spending in a community by a University System Institution, an additional 51 cents was generated for the local economy hosting a college or university.

For the entire Selig Center's FY2008 report, go to: www.icapp.org/pubs/usg_impact_fy2008.pdf.



Col. L.D. Watson

President Gordon Military College

Watson Hall was dedicated on Oct. 16, 1965, to Col. Larkin Douglas Watson Jr. by a unanimous vote of Gordon Military College's board of trustees.

Now that Watson Hall has been torn down to make way for Gordon College's new nursing and allied health building, it is fitting to remember this important figure in the College's history.

He was born in Griffin on Nov. 24, 1874, and died on April 7, 1965. A professor of mathematics, Watson earned his B.A. from the University of Georgia in 1897 and then did graduate work at the University of Tennessee ('97-'99), Harvard University ('04-'05), and the University of Chicago ('07-'08).

During his time at Gordon, from 1912 to 1963, he served as a mathematics professor, head of the mathematics department, dean, vice-president and president. During his term as president (1923-1929), Col. Watson oversaw Gordon's advancement from a college preparatory school to a two-year college in 1928. He also organized the Gordon Evening Division program in 1954, which helped veterans go to college under the G.I. Bill.

At the dedication of Watson Hall, Miss Marion Bush, Gordon's dean of women and head of the English department, called Col. Watson "a scholar, a penetrating thinker, a dedicated teacher, and a man of vision."

Watson

Making a Better Story

Anthony McCalla

Gets Historical Marker for Barnesville



Anthony McCalla.

It wasn't the photograph of President Franklin Roosevelt that Anthony McCalla found unbelievable; it was the headline, "FDR on Stage in Barnesville." But as disbelieving as he was, he knew it was just what he was looking for.

The Gordon criminal justice major had been to Athens, Ga., to visit some friends

who were attending the University of Georgia. He came back to Barnesville impressed with how much his friends knew about the history of their campus.

"It wasn't just my friends. Out of 30,000 UGA students," McCalla said, "any one of them could tell you about the history of the campus. But who at Gordon knew as much about their college's history? At the time it made me think, what does my school have?"

At this time he was taking an American history course from Wesley Moody, and one day Moody lectured on FDR, mentioning his many trips to the Little White House in Warm Springs, Ga.

"HERE WAS THIS YOUNG MAN WHO VALUED THE HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF THIS PLACE SO MUCH THAT HE WOULD TAKE THIS PROJECT ON, NOT FOR A GRADE OR AN ASSIGNMENT, BUT BECAUSE HE SAW THAT IT NEEDED TO BE DONE — THAT WAS EXCITING."

RHONDA TOON

Out of curiosity, McCalla Googled Roosevelt and Barnesville. When the FDR photo came up, his initial response was "no way," but the more he read, the more he realized FDR really had given a speech in Barnesville on Summers Field, which was at the time part of Gordon College.

He was certain that there would be a historical marker at the site, but when he went to search the area, he found nothing. He then went to Gordon's Hightower Library and asked the librarians how one might get a marker, and he was referred to Rhonda Toon, the vice president of advancement.

Toon remembers that McCalla was animated by the idea of having a marker to commemorate FDR's speech, and no sooner than McCalla finished his argument for a marker, she was already working on it.

"Anthony's enthusiasm was contagious," said Toon. "I took him to Dr. Peter Boltz's office and had him repeat what he had told me. When I left them they were both looking at the Web site of the Georgia Historical Society. Soon they had a list of what needed to be done and who needed to be involved."

Toon gathered a team which included Gordon President Larry Weill, Gordon's Business Vice President Jerry Turner, Southern Rivers Energy CEO Raleigh Henry, and Barnesville City Manager Kenny Roberts.

"When I took Anthony to Barnesville City Hall I made the introductions, but Anthony presented his plan. Here was this young man who valued the history and heritage of this place so much that he would take this project on, not for a grade or an assignment, but because he saw that it needed to be done — that was exciting," said Toon. "Each time he presented his argument, he gained ready support."

McCalla and Boltz worked on the history, researching the event, and preparing the narrative and text for the application. With letters of support from the City of Barnesville, and Southern Rivers Energy, they prepared the package for submission.



ON AUGUST 11, 1938, AS MANY AS 50,000 PEOPLE GATHERED IN THE STADIUM OF GORDON MILITARY COLLEGE FOR AN ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT DEDICATING THE LAMAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, A PROJECT OF THE NEW DEAL'S RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION (REA).

"I spoke with friends about it," McCalla said. "I'd say to them, 'Hey, did you know that FDR spoke here?' None of my friends cared, but it was exciting to me."

When he heard about FDR's Little White House in Warm Springs, Ga., McCalla enlisted two friends, Ashley Myers and Jonathan Robertson, into a road trip. They were skeptical about how interesting this history trip could be, but he won them over by paying for the gas.

According to McCalla, his two friends "left with a different view of history and Gordon. We all learned that FDR's visit played a part in what type of college we are today and what we will be in the future.

"It's that 'southern can-do spirit' that Gordon College has, just like putting electricity in middle Georgia in the '30s. I feel that Gordon still has that spirit today, making students think about how they can make the world better for themselves and others."

By 2006, McCalla had moved on to Kennesaw where he continued his studies in criminal justice, graduating Dec. 12, 2008, and landing a job with the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) Police.

While he was studying at Kennesaw, Boltz kept revising McCalla's original application which was rejected in October 2006. A second application was rejected in April 2007, as was a third in April 2008. But the fourth was a charm and it won the approval of the Historical Society on May 18, 2009.

When he was notified that the marker had finally been approved, he said he couldn't believe it. "It's been almost three years since I was at Gordon. I almost forget about the marker."

"I am happy that Barnesville and Gordon College are getting a marker that will spotlight its history," he said. "I still feel like this marker has a way of connecting generations of students and citizens of Barnesville in one common event."

The full text of the marker will read: "Roosevelt's Barnesville Speech: On August 11, 1938, as many as 50,000 people gathered in the stadium of Gordon Military College for an address by President Franklin Roosevelt dedicating the Lamar Electric Cooperative, a project of the New Deal's Rural Electrification Administration (REA). As part of a campaign to promote New Deal policies and the politicians who supported them, FDR also used the occasion to attack Walter George, the incumbent U.S. Senator from Georgia, and endorse George's rival in the 1938 Democratic primary, Lawrence Camp. FDR's endorsement drew wide criticism in Georgia and despite Roosevelt's popularity, Georgia voters returned George to the Senate until 1957.

"Erected by the Georgia Historical Society, the City of Barnesville, Gordon College, and Southern Rivers Energy."

Continued on page 45

Alumni Tell of Gordon's Military Past

Three alumni shared tales of Life at Gordon Military College, in a roundtable discussion that opened the 2008-2009 Southern Culture Series.

The roundtable featured Peter Banks, Gordon High School class of '56, a Barnesville native and its current mayor; Allan Imes, Gordon Military College class of '56 who spent his career in the military and then served as the leader of the Griffin High School ROTC for many years; and Betty Crawford, a Barnesville resident who attended Gordon during World War II.

This first talk of the College's Series was produced in partnership with the Barnesville-Lamar County Historical Society and its president Jim Granum.



Peter Banks, Allan Imes and Betty Crawford hold the wool Gordon blanket Imes' gave to the College on loan. After the 1952 football season, President C.T.B. Harris gave the players graduating from the college division the option of a football letter jacket or the blanket with a big G on it. Imes chose the blanket.

Teachers and Pharmacists Form Alumni Groups

Gordon College is working to develop two new alumni groups, one for students who completed any part of their pre-pharmacy program at Gordon, and one for graduates of the Early Childhood Education program. These groups will be subsumed under the umbrella organization, the Gordon College Alumni Association.

Dan Jackson, long-time chemistry professor and mentor to pre-pharmacy students, has agreed to interrupt his retirement and serve as coordinator of the pre-pharmacy group.

According to Jackson, more than 300 students have graduated from the Gordon pre-pharmacy program and more than 100 are practicing pharmacists.

Tentative plans call for a reunion to be held in conjunction with the annual Gordon College Alumni Weekend April 9-10, 2010, with a separate function held for the pre-pharmacy group.

Also in the works is the development of an alumni group for graduates of Gordon's first baccalaureate program, Early Childhood Education.

"We are excited for all alumni to return to campus for the annual reunion," said Lynn Yates, coordinator of alumni affairs. "But it is extra special for our special groups to return."

For more information on alumni affairs visit www.gdn.edu, or call Yates at 678-359-5073.

Harvey Awarded Posthumous Degree



Patricia Harvey receives her husband's diploma from Gordon College President Lawrence Weill. Nearby are daughters Jemica and Tyreka.

Gordon student James "Chuck" Harvey was less than a month from fulfilling his dream of graduating college when he was struck down by cancer.

"CHUCK HAD BEEN LAID OFF from his long-time factory job and had returned to school to try and find a new and viable direction during these hard financial times," said Ed Whitelock who had Chuck as a student. "He was inquisitive and excited about learning. While so many of my 19-year-old students were complaining that reading Thoreau was hard, Chuck was saying, 'Man, I wish somebody had turned me on to this dude when I was 20!'"

"It was for students like Chuck that I entered this profession, those for whom education is a life-changing journey," Whitelock added.

Just two weeks prior to his diagnosis, Chuck, 48, visited the doctor thinking he had pneumonia, according to Marlin Adams, who had Chuck as a student in several of his art classes. "It turned out to be a 15-year-old slow-growth lung cancer."

Chuck had an impact on several of his instructors.

"Mr. Harvey was an exceptionally good student. James was hardworking, scored well on exams and loved to chat with me in regards to the scientific topics covered

during class even though he was a nonscience major," said Phillip Jen, who taught Chuck in Biology 1112.

Jen awarded Chuck an A "for the hard work he put forth during the course of this semester."

To honor his work, Harvey was awarded an associate of arts degree posthumously. His wife, Patricia Harvey, and daughters, Jemica and Tyreka, were on hand to receive his diploma. Also in the audience was his sister, Teresa Harvey.

"This is a great honor, thank you," Patricia Harvey said after the ceremony. "I know James worked really hard, and we are so proud of him."

Beside attending classes, Chuck was also involved in student activities.

Just last November Chuck was one of 77 participants in the annual Turkey Trot, a two-mile run through the Gordon campus held just before the Thanksgiving break. Despite the frigid temperatures and the very early hour, he finished the run and received a T-shirt.

"I like to run, it frees me," he said at the time. "You can forget everything when you are running."



Gordon President Larry Weill and Alumni Association President Don Neuner '70 cut the ribbon to officially open the Alumni House for business. Looking on, from left to right, are Peter Banks '56, Jimmy Stocks '56 and Bill McKay '56.



Claudine White shows a photo of a young Maj. Paget as an older Maj. Paget enjoys the tribute.



June Bartlett '53 dances with the DJ Jack Dupree (left) while Bob Rooke '57 dances with his wife Sondra.



President Larry Weill (left) visiting with Burnam T. Pope '43.



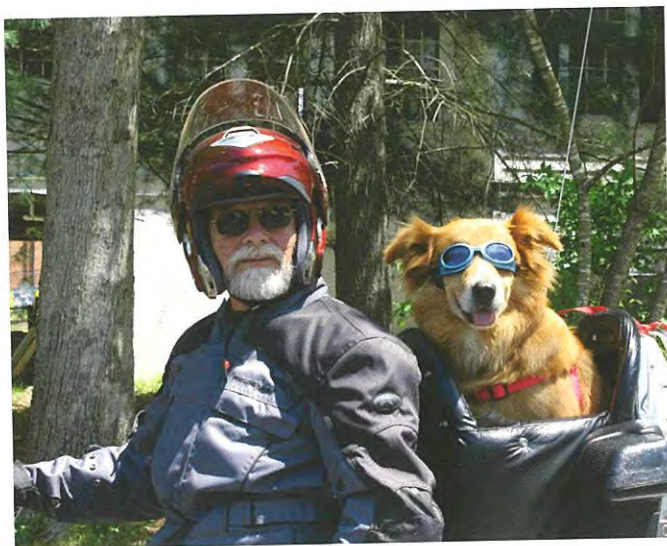
Greg Blosser flew over in his 1936 Stearman, and Mulkey McMichael '69 donated his father's 1916 Gordon Institute diploma.



Alumni Weekend 2009 Premiers ALUMNI HOUSE



Caywood Chapman and Amanda Buice.



Retired Assistant Director of Facilities Michael O'Dell and Bernadette at the faculty and staff reception.



History professor Don Butts during the faculty and staff reception at the Alumni House courtyard.



English Prof. Doug Davis, and his son and Gordon's youngest student Case.



June Bartlett '53 and Kike Seda '59.



Mary and Bob Wines '60 and Ed Guilbeau '60 enjoying the deck and each others' company at the Alumni House on April 17.

Returning alumni congregated at their new home on Gordon's campus on April 17 for the start of Alumni Weekend 2009. It was the second year of the Alumni Association event which welcomed alumni from all class years back to campus.

This year, the earliest class represented was 1943 in the person of Burnam T. Pope, and the latest class represented was 2008 in the person of Patrick Howard.

Gordon President Larry Weill and Gordon's Alumni Association President Don Neuner officially opened the Alumni House with a ribbon cutting. The house has a large courtyard, which served as a registration area and setting for the faculty and staff reception the afternoon of the ribbon cutting.

The faculty and staff reception is an occasion where faculty and staff from the past can visit with current faculty and staff, and returning graduates. This year's reception included a new feature, a recognition of those faculty who were promoted in the last year.

On Friday evening, alumni were treated to a newly found promotional film about Gordon from the late '60s during the Weekend's "Starlight Memory Lane Social" in the

Continued on page 44

President's Report

Joe Bray *Continued from page 27*

Bray was also instrumental in publishing a notebook which included endorsements by community leaders and organizations, historical background, curriculum and financial status. It was meant to help promote Gordon to the USG and legislators. According to Banks, "One of the things needed to persuade them was a book to show the proposal. The Regents remarked how convincing it was."

Simmons, who worked with Bray on the book, commented on how kind and persistent a person he was to work with. "He was a rare person; all who worked with him respected him greatly. He was the most professional and kindest man I've known over a 43-year career."

Simmons remembered that when he and his wife-to-be, Janice McSwain, first got their jobs at Gordon, Bray gave them some extra time off just before classes started to get married and have a nice honeymoon.

"When we came back," Simmons said, "we learned we not only had our expected teaching duties, but she was made sponsor of the *Reveille* and I was made sponsor of the *Taps*." Then Simmons said with a chuckle, "Joe was the kind of guy you couldn't turn down."

Scott Douglass, an English professor who came to Gordon in 1981, found Bray to be a wise and kindly friend. He spoke at Bray's funeral.

"Joe chose his words carefully," he said. "He had a habit of doing so. I remember him putting his hand on my shoulder one time and saying, 'Scott, you're a scholar and a gentlemen, and there are few of us left in this world.' And I noticed that people throughout the congregation started smiling and nodding their heads, having heard those words themselves. This was high praise from Joe. When you heard this you knew you were in his inner circle."

"Joe had been everything there was to be when it was a military school up to and including president," Douglass said. "If you've met Henry Wisebram '40, you've met Joe."

Wisebram was a dedicated member of the board of trustees and a highly respected Barnesville businessman, serving as chairman until he fell ill just before Bray became president. Wisebram remembered that "everything Bray did was superior. His character could not be beat and his dedication to his job couldn't be better. He did what he thought was right, and he stuck to it."

Caywood Chapman, a colleague and friend of Bray's since he came to Gordon in 1973, said Bray "was a real calming influence whatever the turmoil."

Then, in three simple words, Chapman expressed a sentiment his friends and loved ones will feel for many years to come....

"I miss Joe." ❧

Alumni Weekend 2009 *Continued from page 43*

College's amphitheater. Footage from football games of the time were an added feature.

Saturday events were loosely structured around the "big tent" set out on the lawn in front of Lambdin Hall. The first event of the day was "Breakfast with the President" and the last was the alumni reception that evening on the fourth floor of the Instructional Complex. And while this event was going on, the Class of '59 was holding a reception in the Alumni House and then dinner in the Atrium.

Earlier that day, the Class of '59 honored Maj. Paget with a tree dedication between the Instructional Complex and the Hightower Library. During the ceremony, Greg Blosser and his daughter, Michelle, flew overhead in his vintage 1936 Stearman biplane.

Next year's Alumni Weekend is scheduled for April 16 and 17, 2010. Gordon's coordinator of alumni affairs, Lynn Yates, will be sending out promotional material well ahead of time, but anyone wishing information ahead of time can contact her at 678-359- 5073 or lynny@gdn.edu. ❧

A Simple Life Lesson *Continued from page 25*

behind enemy lines, conduct guerrilla warfare, continue reconnaissance patrols and gather much needed intelligence. Nearly 50 years later, Imes' memory of the order is still fresh. "It nearly scared me to death."

The feared invasion, at the time of the Gulf of Tonkin incident, never transpired, so Imes continued with his original mission of finding and locating enemy soldiers infiltrating South Vietnam through Laos on the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

"I guess one of the most significant things that happened to us at Khe Sanh took place a few weeks after Waters' visit," Imes said. "I sent out a patrol of about 75 men. Before the day was over, they had located a company-sized NVA unit bivouacked inside South Vietnam. They surrounded it and shot it to pieces. The significance is that the North Vietnamese, the Soviets and the Chinese vehemently denied that there were any North Vietnamese units in South Vietnam. We made the first confirmed contact and report that the NVA was in South Vietnam. After that engagement we had undeniable proof."

When he inspected some of the personal effects of the NVA brought back to Khe Sanh by the patrol, the reality of war began to really hit home.

"I was looking through billfolds taken off some of the dead NVA soldiers, and in one were photographs of family

Continued to page 54

Dr. Don Butts *Continued from page 7*

“flying turkeys,” a show that was popular, yes, in the ’70s.

Butts has been at Gordon College for 30 years. His career path split with one road leading to law school, while the other led toward teaching. A fellowship came along, and the history path it was. The Jersey boy who was educated at Davidson College and Duke University landed in Barnesville, because there was a job opening at Gordon College, something precious and hard to find, since the ’70s produced what Butts calls a “glut” of history Ph.Ds.

“But I found out that I love teaching,” Butts said when asked what has kept him here so long. “I also like the small town atmosphere of Barnesville. When we first moved here everyone knew who we were – and a little bit about us – before we even finished unpacking.”

Butts is passionate about teaching and has an amazing “near encyclopedic memory and first-rate mind,” said fellow history professor Marvin Thomas.

“He is one of the smartest people I know,” Thomas added, “and he is 100 percent dedicated to teaching. He is totally focused on getting the information across to his students.”

But despite the great students and camaraderie with fellow faculty members Butts has encountered over the years, things weren’t always wonderful. Tension often bubbled up during a previous administration. Butts admitted to taking stands, holding fast to his beliefs and supporting others when they needed it.

“We’ve always had good students here; the campus is beautiful. I had a sense that if the administration changed, things would turn around,” he said. “And things have gotten better.”

As an instructor, Butts wants his students to learn to empathize.

“I want the students to look outside of themselves and try to see things from the aspect of the historic figure or the historical time we are studying,” he said. “I teach history that occurred before and during the Civil War – such a central event of this country’s history. The issue of slavery of course comes up, but I try to show the students that it isn’t unusual that slavery existed at the time – there has always been slavery – but that someone decided it was wrong.”

Empathy is also key to the advice he offers students for living their lives outside of the classroom. “Enjoy these years. It’s your opportunity to get an education and at the same time enjoy your life. This is probably the last time in your life that you won’t have a lot of responsibilities, and you really aren’t being asked to do a lot. So enjoy. . . , there are a lot of possibilities out there, take advantage of them.” 🌿

Historical Marker for Barnesville *Continued from page 39*

The marker will be situated on the traffic island maintained by the Barnesville Garden Club at the intersection of Summers Field Road and College Drive behind Guillebeau Hall. Plans for an unveiling ceremony are set for Oct. 6, 2009, 10 a.m.

Meanwhile the newly graduated and employed McCalla is already thinking about forwarding his career by going after a master’s degree in either public policy or family counseling, and ultimately getting his Ph.D. by age 35.

Ambition surely is a power in his life, but it is tempered with a fine altruism. Paraphrasing former President Bill Clinton in *My Life*, McCalla says he believes everyone has a story, and that what he wants to do with his life is “to give people a chance to have better stories.”

Thanks to McCalla’s persistence, Gordon College students will now have a story to tell friends who visit them on their campus. 🌿

Nurse Quillian *Continued from page 6*

When Carol died in 1974, Quillian became lady of the house in Smyrna, with the goal of getting her son-in-law Charlie remarried.

When grandson Charlie tells the next part of the story, he remembers that his grandmother was always fully dressed, even in the privacy of her home. John said the same thing. “She never left her room unless she was fully dressed and her hair done. You wouldn’t know it, but she had waist-long hair.”

As Charlie tells it, one day his father had a blind date arranged by friends at church. When he returned home, he found her lying across her bed, looking as if she were asleep. “Apparently she had just finished tying her shoes,” Charlie said, “and when she sat up, she suffered a stroke and fell backwards onto the bed.”

Rosalie Beacham was born Aug. 6, 1888, and died April 7, 1974.

As family lore has it, she somehow knew the blind date would lead to marriage and so her work on this earth was done, and as it turned out, she was right. Charlie and his date that night, Dorothy, have been married 35 years this August. 🌿

1940s**Betty Smith Crawford '43**

continues to serve as a church, school and community volunteer. She is the widow of John B. Crawford, M.D., a longtime Barnesville physician and former trustee of the college, who died in 2005.

Ruth Moye Gadebusch '48

earned a degree from Georgia State College for Women. She was a U.S. Naval officer '52-'55 and served 13 years as a Fresno Unified School District Trustee. She is a community activist and writer of political commentary. She and her husband Rolf, a retired judge, have been married for 53 years. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

1950s**Major (Ret.) David M. Harp '51**

entered the United States Air Force in '51 and retired in '71 after serving in Korea, Indochina and Vietnam in intelligence operations. He and his wife, Gisela, reside in Ashburn, GA.

Doug Worsham '52

graduated from UGA in '55 with a degree in agronomy, earned a master's in '57 and a Ph.D. from NCSU in '61. Doug and his wife, Linda, own and operate Motley's BBQ restaurant in Ashe County, NC. They have five children and seven grandchildren.

Catherine Redd Cloud '56

Catherine and her husband Bobby celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year. They were surprised with a party by family and took a celebratory trip to Williamsburg, VA. They reside in Griffin, GA.

Charles W. Henson '59

was owner and operator of the Smathers Oil Company for 30 years. Since retiring, Charles owns a cow-calf operation and enjoys farming. Charles and Janice will celebrate their 45th anniversary this year. They have one son. They live Canton, NC.

George E. Legge '59

joined the Air Force and retired as a senior master sergeant with 27 years of service. He then worked for Air Force Space Command on Eglin AFB, FL. After retirement from civil service in 2006, George and his wife, Marie-Helene, served a mission for their church in Salt Lake City. They live in Niceville, FL. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

Florapaul Milner Livingston '59

retired as an elementary teacher and is enjoying her retirement by serving as a volunteer long-term care ombudsman. She and her husband George live in Riverside, CA.

Julian E. (Gene) Roberts '59

retired from the Navy in 1987 and now operates a small home improvement company in the Virginia Beach, VA, area. He and his wife, Martha Lou, have three sons and one granddaughter.

Ken Sheppard, HS '59

retired from a 40-year career in aviation. Ken and his wife, Maya live in Mossel Bay, South Africa. They have a daughter, and he has a daughter from a previous marriage.

1960s**Sidney S. Eagles, Jr., '62, '64**

was presented the 2008 Joseph Branch Professionalism Award by the Wake County Bar Association.

Gloria Roquemore Johnson '63

retired after 31 years of teaching in Thomaston, GA. She was awarded Teacher of the Year three times during her career. She has two sons. Her husband, Neal, is deceased.

Homer Haygood Keadle, Jr. '66, '68

retired in 2002 after 30 years with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. He and his wife, Elaine, have been married 38 years. They reside in Gray, GA.

Rob Doll '66

graduated from Florida State University in '69. He currently owns several car dealerships in Georgia and Alabama, is active in several community organizations and is a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Columbus. He and wife, Sissy, have four children.

Michael Winkles '66

is employed by Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, GA. He has a daughter and two grandchildren and lives on Lake Sinclair.

Bill Hobgood '67

graduated in 1969 from Texas A&M, retired from the Navy in 1991 and entered private business near Tampa, FL. He fully retired in 2006 and moved to Austin, TX, where he lives with his wife, Becky, and their son.

Frank Beall '68

graduated from Auburn University in 1970. He served as a U.S. Army helicopter pilot (OH-6A) in Vietnam in 1972. Frank resides in Indialantic, FL.

1970s**Deanna Brinkley Turner '79**

was named the 2008/2009 Teacher of the Year for Lamar County Primary School in Barnesville, GA.

1980s**Jane E. Mitchell '83**

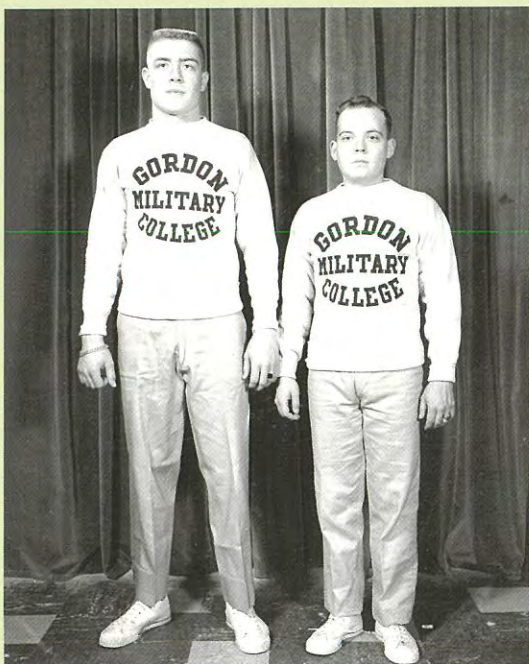
was named 2008/2009 Teacher of the Year for the Lamar County School System in Barnesville, GA. Jane teaches English at Lamar County High School.

Pekka Sarkisilta '86

was in the Rotary exchange program in the summer of 1983. After graduating high school in Finland and fulfilling her military service in the Finnish Navy, she returned in September '85 to attend Gordon. Pekka then returned to Finland to attend Haaga-Institute. In 2005 she became editor-in-chief for a car, boat, and motorcycle magazine. Pekka resides in Helsinki, Finland.

John Wimbish '88

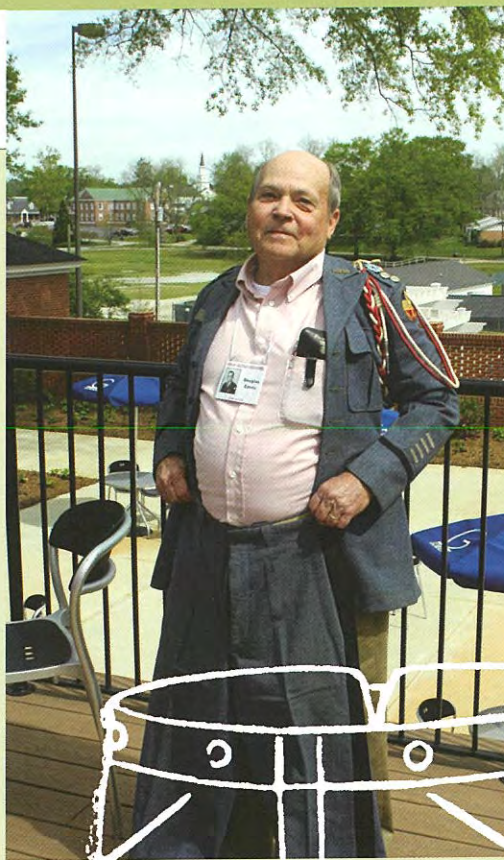
completed the electrical and air conditioning technology programs at Griffin Tech. He owns Wimbish Electric and works as a welding electrical maintenance technician at General Motors. He met his wife, Margrite, ('88) while attending Gordon. They married in '93 and have two children. The family resides in Sharpsburg, GA.



Douglas Eaves

Douglas "Doug" Eaves, High School Class of '59, was a model, literally and figuratively, for Gordon cadets in the '60s. He appeared on six photographs with another cadet, demonstrating the proper way to dress in the cadets' various uniforms. Eaves was the model for the ranks of the enlisted, and the other cadet was the model for the ranks of the officers. These photographs were posted in the hallway of the military science building.

Eaves, who attended Gordon's April 2009 Alumni Weekend, said he wasn't sure why he was chosen for the instructional photographs, but he said he assumed it was because he was a model dresser.



"My pants were always creased. When they came from the laundry, they were starched, so they held the crease," he said. "I ironed my shirts every night." And those shirts always had two creases in the front and three creases in the back, and he wore those shirts in a military tuck, never tucking pens or anything else in his shirt pocket.

Eaves spent five years in the Army and is retired from Travelers Insurance.



Emily L. Foley

Graduated from Gordon College in 2002 with a degree in political science. Following her graduation, Foley attended Georgia State University where she earned a B.A. in public and political communication in 2005. Since that time, Foley has worked as a freelance journalist writing for print and online publications nationwide.

Margrite (Margo) Echols Wimbish '88 earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in science education from Georgia Southern University, an educational specialist degree in educational leadership from Lincoln Memorial University, and is currently a doctoral candidate at Trevecca Nazarene University. Margrite has taught science in Fayette County for 14 years. She and her husband, John ('88), and two children live in Sharpsburg, GA.

1990s

Kerry Reeves '93

received his degree in optometry in Birmingham, AL. He and his wife Joy have seven children and reside in Hickory, NC. They are heading to Haiti to serve as missionaries.

Lisa Barfield '95

earned a bachelor's degree in nursing at South University in Savannah and is a homecare consultant with United Clinical Services. Lisa and her husband Tracy have two sons and live in Thomaston, GA.

Jason Butler '96

received his associate degree in nursing in '96, a bachelor's degree through the Medical College of Georgia at Gordon in '98, a master's in nursing anesthesia at MCG in 2002. He is a nurse anesthetist at Rockdale Medical Center in Conyers. He lives in Atlanta.

Ben Thrasher '99

graduated from Auburn University with a bachelor's degree in English. He plans to teach 9th grade English at Camden County High School and serve as a line coach for the Camden County Wildcats.

2000s

James Darden '04

is enrolled at Georgia College and State University working toward a degree in business. He and his wife, Sarah, have a daughter. They live in Griffin, GA.

Joshua Howell '04

received a bachelor's degree from Emory University in 2006. He is a senior operations analyst with Aflac in Columbus, GA.

Sean Boland '05

graduated from Valdosta State University with a bachelor's degree in athletic training. He is working on a master's degree in sports and fitness management at Troy University where he is a graduate assistant athletic trainer for the baseball team. Sean and his wife, Kellis, ('05) live in Troy, AL.

Kellis Johnson Boland '05

graduated from the University of Georgia with a bachelor's degree in animal science. She is currently pursuing her master's in agricultural leadership. Kellis and her husband Sean ('05) live in Troy, AL.

Whitney Brown '06

graduated from Georgia Southwestern State University in 2008. She teaches health and physical education at Rossville Middle School in Rossville, GA. Whitney played soccer at Georgia Southwestern and Gordon College.

Aubry McKoon '07, '08

earned an associate degree in '07 and again in '08. He works for a textile company in Griffin, where he is the director of the plant's EMS and safety programs. He lives in Griffin, GA.

Beverly Dycbe '08

was promoted to community education program coordinator at Gordon in July 2009. She oversees continuing education programs for the college as well as registrations for conferences, alumni reunions, and other campus events. She has a daughter, Courtney, and resides in Barnesville.

Laura Chambley Shadrick '09

is employed by Gordon College in the business office. She and her husband Chris reside in Barnesville, GA.

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, Alumni Office, Gordon College, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, GA, 30204, email her at lynny@gdn.edu or call her at 678-359-5073. You may also fax them to 770-358-5738. We want to know your news!

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Class of '56 Donation

When the Class of '56 held its 50th reunion, it took on the project of furnishing the new Alumni House. Gordon College's alumni coordinator Lynn Yates shows off the fruits of the class's generosity and the professional touch of Jan Marsh of Brannon Antiques. The room, at a cost in excess of \$20,000, is completely furnished except for four side chairs planned for the perimeter of the room. The sabers in the parlor were donated by Jimmy Stocks and Bill McKoy. The piano in the adjoining music area was donated by Frances S. Green in honor of her late husband Clay Smith who was a longtime faculty member and band director at Gordon.

The College hopes to have someone adopt the dining room and provide a table and chairs. If you would like to be part of Gordon's beautiful Alumni House, please call 678-359-5124.

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Generous Donation by the Class of '49

The 60th year reunion of the class of '49 had many highlights, but the most generous of them was the donation of \$5,600 to the College by the class to help build the proposed Memorial Plaza, which will include a military memorial for servicemen and -women who went to Gordon.

In his address as president of the class of '49, Eston Melton told alumni and guests about how his classmate Joe Boggs spearheaded the fundraising effort.

"It was his idea, his work," Melton said. "Gordon College is indebted to him and our generosity. If Joe hadn't thought to do the work he did, this wouldn't have happened."

Melton then turned the floor over to Boggs who told the audience that it was Gordon President Larry Weill who inspired him to raise the money for the memorial. Weill then joined Boggs and praised the class of '49 for being the foundation on which today's Gordon College was built.

Weill paraphrased Isaac Newton in his praise, saying that if he and the Gordon of today have done well, it was because "we stand on the shoulders of giants."

The Class of '49's generosity extended to a point in their reunion when they were watching a DVD, which came to a stop on an image that said "In Memory."

Wallace DeLoach stood and asked alumni and guests to remember those classmates who had died. He encouraged individuals to stand and recall the deceased, saying, "Let's spend a little time thinking about these people, because these times we gather are special."

Someone stood up and remembered Barb Oliver, "She always worked for peace." Another stood for Nancy Ruffner, saying that she taught everyone to strive to be the best they can with what they have.



Left to right, front row: Olene Trice Duke, Dr. George M. Wood and Thornton Burns.

Second row: Dr. Wallace H. DeLoach, Joseph C. Boggs and Mary Melton Aist.

Third row: June Sanders Tyler and Dr. Eston E. Melton, Jr.

Fourth row: Wayne F. Leverette, Joyce Watkins Key, Antoinette Fifield Bordonaro and Elsie Smith Cray.

Larry Carver was remembered as a cadet who believed that classmanship and seniority should mean something for rank and not popularity. And J.T. Mathews Jr. was remembered as "my roommate. He loved with a pure heart."

Class members who attended the 60th reunion were Thornton A. Burns, Joseph C. Boggs, Wallace H. DeLoach, Antoinette Fifield Bordonaro, Wayne F. Leverette, Glenn C. Lindsey, Eston E. Melton Jr., Mary Melton Aist, Elsie Smith Cray, Joyce Watkins Key, George M. Wood, June Sanders Tyler, and Olene Trice Duke.

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A Simple Life Lesson *Continued from page 44*

members which I took to be a mother and father, a wife and two children. It kind of set me back, and I thought that those poor guys probably didn't want to be there anymore than I did. Somewhere in North Vietnam, I thought, a family would be grieving for their loved one.

"I have to confess that I felt remorse at first, but it didn't last long, and I kept on going. I was just glad it was them and not me. It was only after I began to see American soldiers die that the reality of the war hit me, and that was hard to shake off."

Imes' third and last tour was in '68-'69. He was again in Special Forces assigned to a special operations unit whose code name was SOG.

"While it was challenging and exciting, it was undoubtedly the longest and worst year of my life," he said.

Imes' mission in this "worst year" is best left undetailed since it is likely still classified, but it can be said that he or his men were in combat on an almost constant basis. Many of the decisions he had to make, some involving life and death, kept his stomach in a

knot the whole time except for the last six weeks of his tour when he was moved to headquarters.

Imes retired from the Army in 1980 and directed the Reserved Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program at Griffin High School in Griffin, Ga., for another 17 years.

"Those were real good years," he said.

Today, Imes is a real estate agent at Ann Imes and Associates Realtors in Griffin, Ga. And while the war is decades and thousands of miles away, it can still step back into his life at the most unexpected moments.

For example, not long ago he was with his wife during an operation. He noticed the anesthesiologist was a petite Asian who looked Vietnamese. He asked her what her nationality was, and she told him she was from South Vietnam. He responded that he had spent a few years there and liked the Vietnamese very much. She stopped what she was doing, looked at him and asked, "Are you one of the soldiers who came to help my people and my country?"

Imes lowered his voice at this point in his story and said, "I was moved. She really touched my heart." 🍷

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Class of 1959



From left to right, first row: Doug Eaves, Florapaul Milner Livingstone, Judith King Anderson, Capt. Maj. M.C. "Sonny" Paget, Patsy Torbert Dunn and Cheryl Beard Jessup. Second row: Barbara Bush Etheridge, Larry Hunter, Letha Whaley Henry, Ronnie Gilbert and Mary Elizabeth Thomas Vause. Third row: Kike Seda, George Legge, Dan Mann, Charles Henson and Phillip Beamer. Back row: Gordon College President Larry Weill, Bob Rooke [JC59], Paul Kilpatrick [JC59], John T. "Sonny" Middlebrooks III, Neil Shelor and Henry Lambert. Not pictured: Emily Sullivan Brown and Billy Brown [JC59]. (Unless otherwise indicated all are HS '59.)

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT IS FOR ALL GORDON ALUMNI

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