

Gordon College

volume 8, number 1

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

fall
2010

Inside

Sgt. Maj. Richard Davis

Richard Schmude, Faculty Profile

A Lovely Little Adventure

The Barrett Legacy

Basketball Coach Israel Ingle

Gordon's Pre-Pharmacy Program

Harris County's Dr. Miriam Chambless

Class Notes

Alumni News

Honor Roll of Donors



DEDICATION

Joshua Henry WISEBRAM



Henry Wisebram, 1942



Henry Wisebram with his father Elijah and mother Nora, 1946.



IT IS DIFFICULT TO WRITE about Henry Wisebram. He knew so many people well, and they all have their special memories. It would be possible to collect all these memories, but the task would be Herculean. He did so much for his hometown of Barnesville and his alma mater Gordon, but lists of club memberships and offices do so little to reveal the essence of the man. He left an indelible mark of industry, kindness, leadership, civic pride and honor on both Barnesville and Gordon, and now that he is gone, both the city and the school wonder when such a man will come again, if ever.

It was sad when he closed Wisebram's Store, but we understood. He wanted to retire, and we could not deny him that. It was sad when he left Barnesville to live in an Atlanta apartment, but we understood. He wanted more time with his children and grandchildren, and we could not deny him that.

Now he is gone from all of us, and as much as we can understand that death is a fact of life, we also understand our memories will give him life beyond death. It cannot deny us that.

His granddaughter Harden Wisebram delivered the eulogy at his funeral, and in doing so, she not only remembered his life, but gave him life.

She remembered her "Pop-Pop" for his love of his wife Jeanne, who Harden and he thought to have "the strongest spirit and heart of anyone we know."

She reflected on how much he had accomplished by age 22. She said the hardest battle she had to fight at age 22 was learning how to live through an Ohio winter, whereas he had made it through World War II as the youngest major in the U.S. Army and found the love of his life.

She said there were many things she hoped she could have in common with her grandfather.

"He knew how to listen to people," she said. "He knew to give everyone a chance. Pop-Pop always asked me what I thought – or what 'you young people' think – about politics, news stories, history. He always gave me the chance to voice my own opinion, and he really listened."

"I hope that I will always listen to other people, that I will be active in my community, that my family will feel how much I love them, and that I will always have a good appetite, just like Pop-Pop."

"While moving from Barnesville was hard for Pop-Pop and Je-Je [grandmother Jeanne], I am grateful that the move to Atlanta allowed me to not only be a granddaughter but, I hope, a good friend."

Contents



- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 President's Letter | 14 The Barrett Legacy
A story of integration and the importance of a good education | 28 A Beloved Doctor
Dr. Miriam Chambliss |
| 2 A Great Big Softie
Sgt. Maj. Richard Davis | 22 Leading a Fulfilling Life
Israel Ingle, second generation basketball coach | 31 Campus News |
| 6 Faculty Profile
Richard Schmude | 24 Pre-Pharmacy Program
The story of two students | 37 Alumni News |
| 10 A Lovely Little Adventure
Thornton Burns lost a trunk nearly 60 years ago, but today it is back with him in Forsyth, Ga. | | 48 Class Notes |
| | | 52 Honor Roll of Donors |

Gordon College

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Fall 2010, Volume 8, Number 1

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Letters



Oscar Higginbotham Jr.

February 20, 2010

I am a proud high school graduate of Gordon, but at 85, I cannot drive and/or fly there (I did send in a nice contribution though).

I spent four of the best years of my life at Gordon. I was in the first cadet fancy drill team ever organized at Gordon under Cadet Capt. Kendricks.

Oscar Higginbotham Jr., '42

Editor's note: Mr. Higginbotham's note was a response to the College's invitation to the April 2010 Alumni Weekend. When asked for a photograph he was kind enough to send the photograph above. The following was written on its back: "Cadet Corporal Oscar Higginbotham. There was a flying club at Gordon and I was in it. I soloed at Griffin Airport at age 17. Solo means you take your first takeoff and landing alone for the first time to get your wings."

June 7, 2010

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to drop a quick line to say how much I enjoyed the "mini-reunion" of the freshman class of 1969-1970 and seeing friends I had not seen in decades.

Not only did I enjoy it, but it touched my heart and gave me a sense of urgency to connect with others in our class, and also help preserve the legacy of Gordon Military.

Although I did not graduate from Gordon, my time at Gordon Grammar and Gordon Military has always been special to me. I am very interested in volunteering to help preserve the past for our kids and grandkids. I would be available one or two days a month and would very much enjoy researching and going through records. Just let me know. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Chuck Belote

November 4, 2009

Dear Editor,

I congratulated Rhonda at the foundation meeting last Wednesday on the outstanding recent issue of the *President's Report*. It was the most interesting issue I've read over the years, and I think it will yield future dividends for the foundation and the college. Rhonda gave you most of the credit for that publication, so I sincerely thank you for a job very well done.

Joe Edwards

December 30, 2009

Dear Editor,

Great soldiers and great souls have called Gordon Military College home for a time. For many of us, even those of us who are not so great, Gordon Military College is and will remain a part of our blood. We never left Gordon behind, we took her with us. Men of Gordon served in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam and beyond. Some gave their lives in service of their country. I believe all who were here, my brothers, still live the code, God and country, duty and honor. I take great solace and pride remembering that.

Sometimes I imagine the sound of boots marching in cadence and cadets sounding off loud and clear as they march along. I can feel the weight of the M1 rifle on my shoulder, and smell the linseed oil on the wood stock. I see the waves of heat on a hot Georgia day, the cadets standing at attention. I remember some, standing ramrod straight falling face first in the red Georgia clay as the heat overtook them. I hear the sound of reveille in the morning and the sound of taps at night.

I remember the Commandant Capt. Dickenson consoling me as a close family member died and circumstances would not allow me to attend the funeral.

At a later time, some of us would press the limits, and 10 of us met with Capt. Dickenson's giant paddle with the holes in it – still a good memory.

I remember Coach (Big Cat) Miller roaming the halls of Connell. The man filled a doorway and commanded deep respect. I miss him. I remember my cadet sponsor, Kathy Butler Matthews, who gave me a Bible with an enclosed prayer that has had a profound effect on me as the years have passed. These memories and others too numerous to mention act as a compass in the storms of my life. respectfully submitted,

Ron Gainer '63

October 29, 2009

Dear Editor,

I have not had the pleasure of meeting you in person but wanted to tell you how much better the *President's Report* magazine is now. The last two issues I thought were extremely well done and a credit to Gordon.

I am glad Rhonda told us who to thank for the great improvements and interesting articles. All of the Gordon trustees were very impressed. Thank you again for your efforts.

George H. Hightower Jr.

June 8, 2009

Dear Editor,

At my present age of 85 and with a fugitive memory, I can still recall that Gordon Military made a lasting impression on me in 1942.

I and my family lived in the deep south Alabama countryside in the little village of Mount Willing. We were assisted in getting admitted to Gordon at the last minute by the family of my cousin, Joe Park Moore, who had been very successful at Gordon.

Although I was not a good student and certainly not a good cadet, I was impressed by everything I saw – a psychology professor, the military regimen, Thomaston Street barracks and students from the northern world.

Best wishes,

Emmett Lee, '42

Dear Friends,

A few months ago I walked on to the Gordon College campus as interim president. I am humbled to serve and excited about what we will do together.

Gordon College is a great institution with a long history. The course President Weill set in 2002 to protect and preserve the history of Gordon is one that will continue to be a critical part of our mission. Alumni from Gordon's military years as well as its university system years make up the fabric of who we are today. No matter whether you attended the Sixth District A & M, Gordon Military High School or Gordon Military College, you are part of the Gordon College family.

I hope you will join me in doing all we can to ensure that Gordon College grows and prospers and that those who hear the name Gordon will know that it represents academic excellence.

Gordon College's enrollment has grown in the past several years, but we still hold on to many of the things that you valued in your experience here. Classes are small and professors know and care about their students. Students still meet friends who will be their friends long after they walk away with their diplomas. In this next year I will be learning more about Gordon and its story. What we do in the com-

ing months will add other chapters to a story that already is strong and vibrant. I will need your help in ensuring that the work of this College continues and the ideals we hold important remain true.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible. Please come and visit our beautiful campus and stop by to say hello. You'll find both the campus and its people very welcoming.

As you read the stories in this year's magazine I hope you will reflect on what Gordon College means to you as an alumnus, a friend, or a community member and that you will give back to Gordon with your time, talent and resources.

Sincerely,

Shelley C. Nickel



Shelley C. Nickel
Interim President

What we do in the coming months will add other chapters to a story that already is strong and vibrant. I will need your help in ensuring that the work of this College continues and the ideals we hold important remain true.



'Never before have enemy soldiers been so awaited as the American troops were by the Berliners after the capitulation of Hitler's Empire" So begins the now published documentation now in book form by Arno Scholz, "Amerikaner in Berlin" (Arani-Verlag, Berlin 33). This picture book with 100 photos and an impressive text is a historical documentation of the heartfelt mutual acceptance between the Berliners and the Americans. Out of bitter enemies became re- friends - this is also mirrored in the transformation of human relationships. This friendship has only been strengthened by tests. For example, as the disastrous triumphal reception that was prepared for the then US Vice-president and now resident LBJ on 13 Aug. 1961. The Berliner still maintains an unforgettable sense of gratitude that the Americans organized the allied airlift that delivered the essential goods that were needed as the city was surrounded by water and land by the communist blockade of 1948.

A Great Big Softie

by Peter Boltz



Sgt. Maj. Richard Davis at Gordon



Davis in Japan, circa 1951



Richard and wife, Barbara, 1954

He is a man who had cadets trimming the sidewalk with their mess-kit knives. He is the man who once conducted a white-glove inspection of his daughters' bedrooms to show them how it's done.

Yet, sitting in his living room across from his eldest daughter Kay, retired Army Sgt. Maj. Richard Davis declared he is nothing but "a great big softie."

At 80 years of age, perhaps he is, but Kay has her reservations. "Shoot," she said during a recent visit, "there's nothing soft about you."

Davis is an Army man, a paratrooper with numerous medals on his chest including a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. He served in occupied Japan, he served in war-torn Korea, he served in Berlin and he served in Vietnam. If Sgt. Maj. Davis is a softie, he's a different kind of softie than described in Webster's dictionary.

Born in Camden, S.C., Davis entered the Army in 1947, serving with the 82nd Airborne. In 1950

he was discharged, but turned around to join the National Guard, because, as he put it, he wanted to go to camp with three of his brothers. Instead, President Harry Truman activated the Guard, and Davis was sent to join the 187th Regimental Combat Team. He was allowed to take his family to live with him in Japan.

Japan was where Davis began to train his young daughters in discipline. "He'd say, 'When I whistle you come,'" Karen said. And woe unto the daughter who did not answer the whistle. Her father's response was matter of fact. "It was easy to get out of range in Japan because of the density of population." He didn't want his daughters getting lost in a foreign – and occupied – country, but he did want them to explore their world.

The family's next overseas station was West Berlin, right in the heart of communist East Germany

and surrounded by an enemy which had once already tried to squeeze the life out of it. "We went, even as the Wall was going up in August 1961," he said. It was a time when the Cold War got colder.

Davis was an intelligence sergeant, and his job was to keep an eye on the East Germans and Soviets by patrolling East Berlin. The family came to expect alerts that called Davis away at unexpected times, such as early Christmas morning 1961 when American forces were called to support the escape of East Berliners to the West across the Teltower Canal. But it wasn't cold enough for the water to freeze over, so the escape was not attempted.

He said he had "a lot of fun" patrolling the communist-controlled part of the city even though he and his men were occasionally detained, such as the time he was stopped by a Soviet officer who wanted to know what he and his men were doing in his part of East Berlin. Davis said he didn't bother to answer the officer and told his driver to edge forward to see if they couldn't get by. But when two Soviet soldiers unslung their AK-47 rifles and aimed them at Davis and his driver, they stopped.

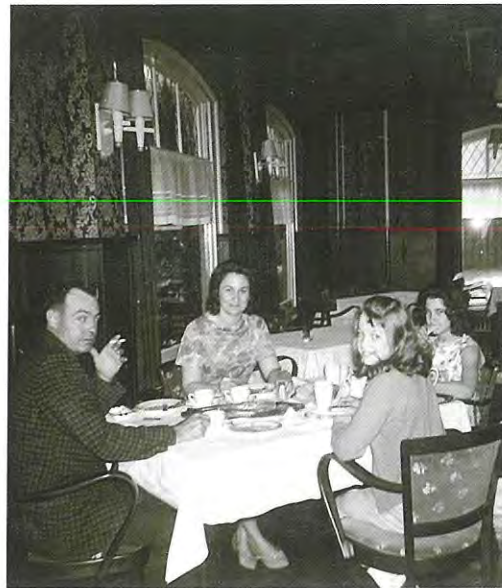
Still not responding to the Soviet officer, Davis called up his headquarters, and then he and his men sat back and ate the "sack lunches" they brought with them. "I don't know who talked to whom, but in about 15 minutes, they walked away, and we drove off."

Davis and his men were scrutinized and harassed not just by Soviet and East German soldiers, they also had the MFS (Ministerium für Staatssicherheit, also known as the Stasi secret police) and the Volkspolizei (the VoPo or People's Police) following them around.

On one occasion, Davis's powerful Ford sedan could not lose the tail of two police in an East German Trabant. Davis eventually had his driver pull into a park, and the Americans got out and started to talk with the East Germans who had followed them in. Speaking in broken English and German, the two sides started talking about their cars, even opening up their hoods for inspection.



Barbara Davis with a West German border guard.



Breakfast in Holland, 1964

It was a
time
when the
Cold War got
colder.

One of the East Germans then started bragging about how good he had it; he had even saved 40 East German marks.

The East German then wanted to know the “situation” of the Americans, to which Davis and his men gladly responded. They might have even told the man that his life savings were only worth \$1 to \$4, depending on the exchange rate at the time. Apparently the East Germans didn’t believe what they heard, because they still insisted they had it better.

After Berlin, the family moved to Arkansas, but it wasn’t long before Davis was sent to Vietnam. He still remembers joining the 1st Cavalry at one of the division’s landing zones in 1966. “I arrived with no equipment except for a rifle, a helmet and a poncho. That night I used a sandbag for a pillow and the poncho for a bed.” During the night, a firefight broke out, but not knowing the positions of his fellow soldiers, all he could do was stay covered and out of the shooting. “It gave me a quickening heartbeat,” he said.

“We kept moving,” Davis said. “We’d set up a battalion command post then patrol an area trying to make contact with the Vietcong. Once an area checked out, we’d move to another area and do the same thing.”

During one of these operations, he answered a call from his battalion commander, who was out flying a light observation helicopter by himself. Davis was told to grab his rifle, his flak jacket and his helmet, and to meet the colonel at the helipad. When the copter landed, Davis noticed a bullet hole in the cockpit bubble, and then he noticed the colonel’s flight helmet had a bullet crease along the left side.

“Let’s go find that sucker,” was what the colonel said, but by the time they got to the same spot the enemy had disappeared.

At the end of Davis’ tour, he was promoted to sergeant major while still in Vietnam, and this was one of the things his family noticed when he got off the plane in Albany, Ga. Other things they noticed were the Bronze Star and Purple Heart on his chest. According to his daughter Kay, Davis’ sister-in-law demanded, “Richard, what’s that Purple Heart for?”

According to Kay, when Davis shrugged the question off, his sister-in-law told him that she and his wife Barbara would strip him down on the spot to check him if he didn’t tell them. So he did. He was wounded in the left hand when a booby trap was tripped by a soldier a short distance ahead of him. He said he didn’t even notice it at the time, but an officer

Continued on page 44

Teaching with the Davis Method

Mike Alexander is today a retired Army colonel still on the front lines in his new job as museum director of the Second Infantry Division Museum in Uijongbu, South Korea, but in the summer of 1971, he was just another Gordon cadet, and he was late.

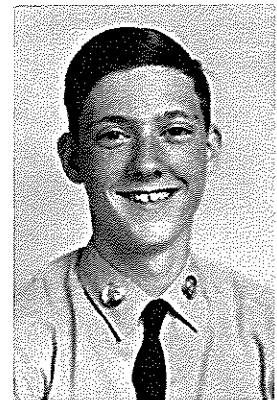
As a local student attending Gordon Military High School, Alexander usually lived off campus at his parents’ home on Spencer Street, but that summer he was part of Drill Team Camp living at Watson Hall with the rest of “The Ramrods.” Overseeing the mustering was Sgt. Maj. Davis, and when he saw that Alexander and another cadet were late, he told them to meet him in front of the military building that afternoon.

Once Davis arrived, the two cadets got their orders. They were to weed the lawn in front of the military building with their mess kit knives.

Alexander remembers the 100 degree heat, but the memory that he most associates with this event in his life was being seen by others. When Mrs. Keadle, a staff member, walked by, he heard her barely stifle a laugh. Alexander said that another staff member, Jimmie Burousas, didn’t even bother to try and hide his laugh.

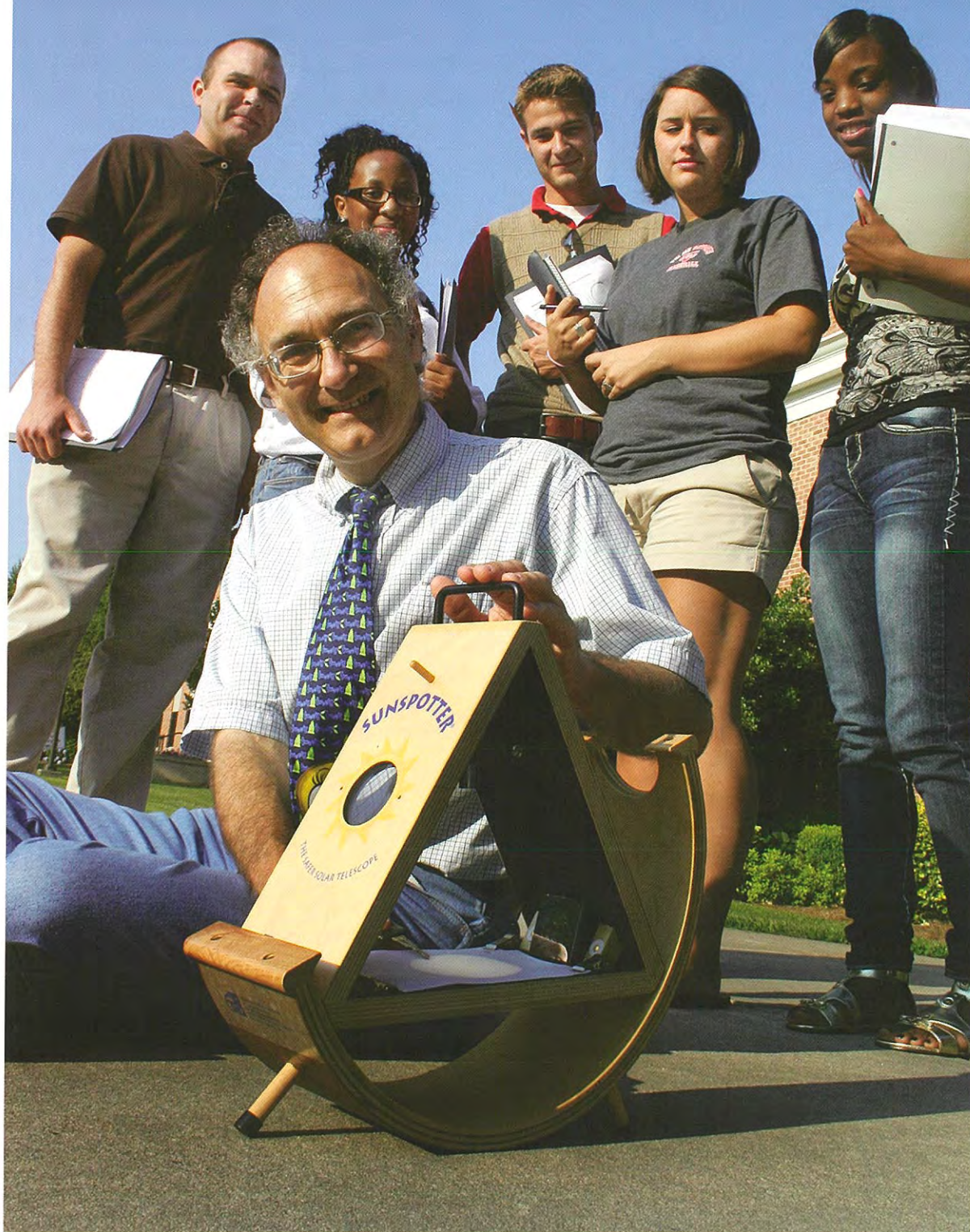
“Thirty-nine years later, I am never late,” Alexander said without a hint of upset in his voice. In fact, he sounded rather admiring.

“Davis was, and is, a class act,” he said. “After the camp, thanks to Sgt. Maj. Davis, I was promoted to cadet corporal, one of my proudest promotions until I became a colonel.”



Mike Alexander, 1970

Faculty Profile: **Richard Schmude**





The Magic of the Sky

By Tamara Boatwright

RICHARD SCHMUDE READILY REMEMBERS THE MAGIC HE FELT THAT FIRST NIGHT HE REALLY NOTICED THE STARS IN THE NIGHT SKY. “WE WERE LIVING IN MARYLAND, AND MY DAD AND I WERE OUTSIDE,” HE SAID. “I WAS ABOUT 6 AND DAD STARTED POINTING OUT OBJECTS IN THE SKY TO ME. IT WAS JUST MAGICAL.”

And while his love of the sky – day and night – grew, it wasn’t until he was 15 that he was able to save enough money to buy a telescope. “It really was a combination microscope and telescope,” he explained. “It wasn’t very large at all, but I could do a lot with it.”

Schmude is the oldest of 10 children whose impact on the world ranges from working as a waiter to engineering. Richard Sr. was a corporate attorney for Humble Oil – now Exxon – which prompted the move to a Houston suburb when Schmude was 9. Richard Sr. is now a semi-retired private attorney in Tomball, Texas, and Schmude’s mother, Winifred, who worked at the Afghan Embassy in Washington, D.C., before she started her family, helps care for one of Richard’s sisters who is mentally challenged.

“Our parents always put an emphasis on education, but not so much on grades,” Schmude says. “You always were expected to put your best effort into

anything you did. The letter grade was not all that important to my parents – unless it got really low.”

But grades and money became more important as Schmude entered Klein High School, in Klein, Texas, and started thinking about college. He had always planned to first attend a two-year school – it was just more economical – and finish up at a larger school.

“So, I attended a junior college for two years before going to Texas A&M,” he said. “I entered with plans to study engineering, but that didn’t work out for me, so I settled on chemistry, since A&M didn’t have an astronomy program.”

Schmude is completely devoted to his alma mater – where he earned his bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate – and numb to the Aggie jokes that are famous in the Lone Star state. Try one on him, and he will patiently listen, smile and politely change the subject.

“A&M did a lot for me even when I didn’t deserve it,” he said. “I owe them a lot.”



Dr. Schmude shows students how to observe and record sun spots.

He has shown his appreciation by endowing a scholarship that supports a full-time student pursuing a graduate degree in chemistry.

"I remember what it was like struggling as a grad student," he says. "Perhaps the scholarship can help someone struggle a little less."

And while he is devoted to A&M, you won't find him wearing an A&M tie. There is no Aggie maroon and white in his office and no bumper stickers on the wall. What you will find is Tweety Bird. Stuffed Tweety Birds, Tweety Bird statues, Tweety Bird stickers and more Tweety Bird.

He even has a Tweety Bird stamp he uses on tests. Do well and you get a Tweety Bird. Not so well and you get a Sylvester, Tweety Bird's cartoon nemesis.

The explanation for his affection of all things Tweety Bird is simple and sweet. "I had a good friend in graduate school called Tweety," he explained. "The collecting started there and has just kept on, even though I lost touch with Tweety several years ago when she married."

Schmude came to Gordon College in 1994. A lady at his church in College Station, Texas,

helped him find two jobs that were open – the one at Gordon and one at Life College in Marietta, Ga.

"I applied at Gordon, and within a few weeks I was packed and driving to Georgia."

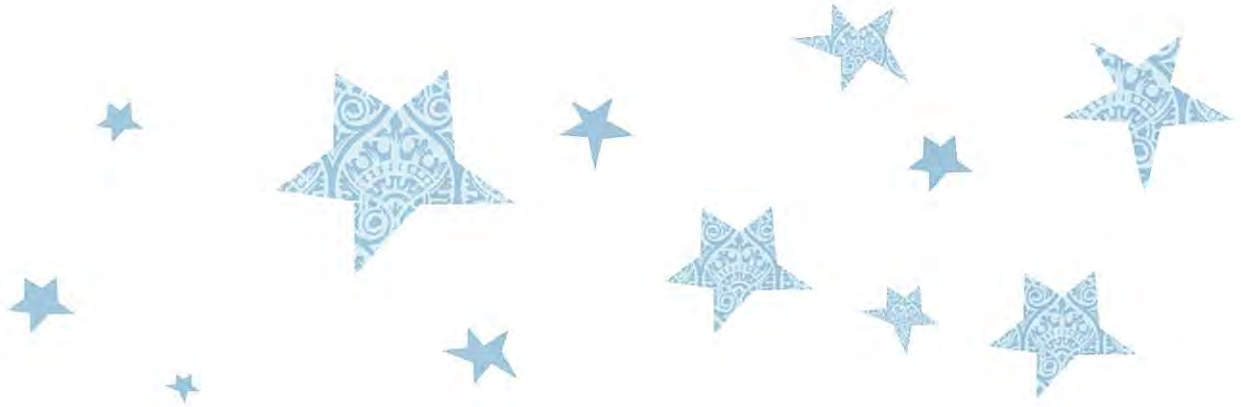
He says that being at Gordon is perfect for him.

"I am able to teach and do my research. I still love chemistry; it is an interesting field, but I have a special love for astronomy, and I am able to get my papers published," he said. "We have simple equipment here, but I can do good work with it."

Part of his astronomy class is spent outdoors looking at the moon as it transits the sky and looking for sun spots and solar storms with a special optical device.

"He is a great instructor," said Matt Williams, a summer semester student observing and drawing a sun spot as part of a class assignment. "The material is very challenging, but he puts an amusing twist on things that make the material easy to relate to and learn."

Sharing his knowledge of the sky is important to Schmude. He often holds viewing events in the community and at area schools and is willing to



“HE IS A GREAT INSTRUCTOR, THE MATERIAL IS VERY CHALLENGING, BUT HE PUTS AN AMUSING TWIST ON THINGS THAT MAKE THE MATERIAL EASY TO RELATE TO AND LEARN.”

Matt Williams
student

help anyone who asks to learn how to use their telescope.

“I remember the first time I helped someone look at the sky. I was about 15 and it was a neighbor girl, her name was Kathy, and we used my combo telescope/microscope,” he said. “I knew then I wanted to share my fascination with the sky with others.”

Schmude loves all things astral, but he has a special fascination with the planet Jupiter. He serves as the coordinator of the Jupiter Section of the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers (ALPO) and has been recording observations since his mid-20s. Any given week he will receive dozens of photos of Jupiter via e-mail, study them and report his findings. He is also very active in the Flint River Astronomy Club.

He recently published a book, *Uranus, Neptune and Pluto and How to Observe Them*, has another coming out in September on how to observe comets, and plans yet another book on artificial satellites.

When he’s not studying the sky, teaching or helping others observe the sky, he likes to tinker in his garden and walk.

On campus Schmude is the sponsor of the Newman Club, an organization designed to encourage Christian growth for students through service projects. This year the group collected, packed and shipped shoeboxes filled with items for less fortunate children and also for soldiers. He is also very active with the Gordon Relay for Life team and has served as its captain for several years.

While he travels the country giving talks on astronomy, he would eventually like to just be a tourist. Jerusalem is first on his list of tourist destinations.

“I would like to walk where Jesus walked,” he said. “That would be a fascinating trip.” 🌸



A Lovely Little Adventure

by Peter Boltz

People love stories about loved ones being reunited, be they lost family members or even lost pets. But what about lost trunks?

Apparently people are interested in stories about lost trunks too, or at least that is what Thornton and Sue Burns have discovered. And we are not talking about lost luggage either. This story has nothing to do with the airline industry. Thornton's trunk went missing nearly 60 years ago, but today it is back with him in Forsyth, Ga.

The story begins with Thornton Burns buying a trunk for \$2 at an estate sale of his great uncle's property when he was about 13. "I thought it would be a good place to keep teenage treasures," he said.

"When we moved across town from my grandmother in Barnesville, I left the trunk at her house," he said. It was still at her house when he graduated from Gordon Military College in 1949 and later when he entered the U.S. Military Academy. While he was at West Point, his grandmother passed away.

"When I came home," he said, "everything had been taken care of. The will was probated and the property distributed. I asked about the trunk, but nobody knew anything about its whereabouts."

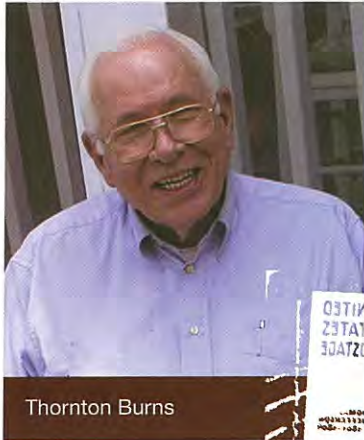
He said he was disappointed, but there was nothing to be done about it. He returned to West Point and thought the trunk was lost forever, until he received a call from Gordon College in February

2010. He was told a woman in Gainesville, Ga., had a trunk that contained papers that had his name and Gordon Military College on them. Did he know anything about a missing trunk?

Pat Scroggs is an amateur historian. She has no formal training, but she has the passion. In her retirement she takes pleasure in teaching school children about the history of Gainesville, going into their classrooms and taking them on walking tours. She also has an interest in family histories, which she satisfies by going to estate sales.

She is too young to have bought anything from Thornton Burns' grandmother, so there isn't a direct link between Scroggs and Burns. According to the Burns, as best as they can piece together, the trunk went to his aunt in Monticello. Apparently she used it for storage, leaving it in a barn where it weathered and rusted. When she died, his cousin inherited it, having it a long time before his wife sold it in a yard sale.

It is not certain, but it may be that this is when Scroggs bought the trunk, owning it for about eight years before she decided to restore it. During those years, the Burns trunk and a second trunk stayed in the background of her life. Her children married and had children, she and her husband bought and



Thornton Burns

remodeled old homes, and the family moved several times. With every move, the trunks went with her even though there were times she thought about getting rid of them.

“I was in real estate for a while,” she said, “but with the economy as it is, I decided to back off and stay at home and help my children and their children.” With time on her hands, she turned her energy toward the two trunks stored in her basement. She chose to leave the Burns trunk alone and work on the other one first, a barrel-backed steamer trunk.

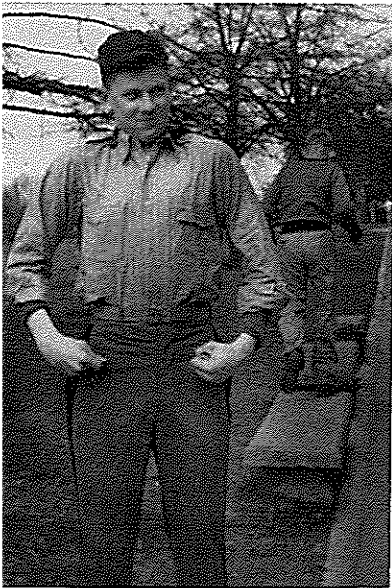
She was so pleased with the end result that she then moved the Burns trunk out of the basement and into the house. She moved it into her shower on a dolly, where she scrubbed it with soap and water. Once it dried, she vacuumed it, and while it aired out, she decided to go through its contents, which she had set aside earlier.

Among other things, like photography and miniature camera magazines from the '50s, she found something from West Point – several sheets of paper stapled together, instructions for cadet candidates

She wondered if he was still around and went to the Gordon Web page to investigate. As it turned out, she quickly found his name listed among the donors to the Gordon military memorial plaza, and almost as quickly, she wrote a letter to Gordon's advancement office looking for Burns' contact information. In turn, the advancement office notified Thornton Burns, who then contacted Scroggs.



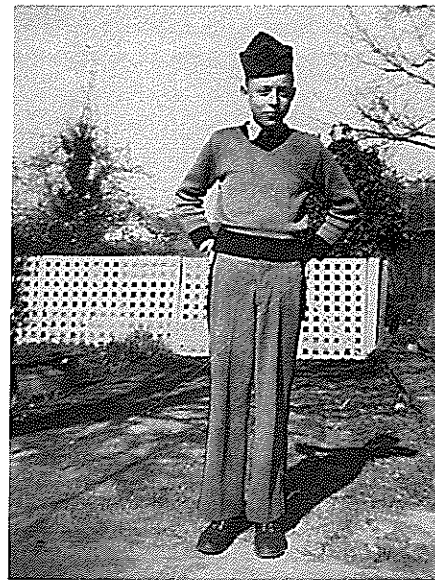
Ed Harrelson and
Lambdin Hall, circa 1948.



Larry McCloud, circa 1948



Wilson Mitchum, circa 1948



Glen Lindsey, circa 1948

authorized to report for admission to the United States Military Academy. She also found a Gordon Military College report card with the name Thornton Burns on it.

She wondered if he was still around and went to the Gordon Web page to investigate. As it turned out, she quickly found his name listed among the donors to the Gordon military memorial plaza, and almost as quickly, she wrote a letter to Gordon's advancement office looking for Burns' contact information. In turn, the advancement office notified Thornton Burns, who then contacted Scroggs.

On March 7, Thornton, his wife Sue and their son-in-law Craig Basel drove to Gainesville. According to Basel, they talked about how they thought things were going to happen. "I guess we were building up the anticipation, the excitement," he said. When Pat arrived at the meeting place and opened the back of her van, there was the trunk.

"That's it," Thornton said.

"That's it. That's all he said," according to Basel. "No fireworks."

Although there were no fireworks, the Burnses were excited about the trunk. When they got home, the trunk made it only as far as the back porch before they opened it up and began examining the contents. Thornton said he was "keen" on discovering lost and forgotten objects.

One of the first things Thornton looked for was a chalk box. "Everybody had a chalk box to put little treasures in," he said. One of those treasures was a medal that belonged to his great grandfather. The United Daughters of the Confederacy had given the medal to all Confederate veterans. Unfortunately, the chalk box and the medal were missing.

A fair amount of the trunk, which was stuffed, contained things that were not his and that he didn't recognize: magazines, books, and "things." But, Thornton said, "a surprising amount of it did belong to me": letters, old postcards, and an uncounted number of negatives. "It brought back a lot of memories," he said.

Scroggs said she was glad to help him find that part of his history and that the Burnses were not the first she has helped regain a piece of family history she has found in a yard or estate sale. "This is not the first time I've returned things to a family," she said, "but it is the first time I have been thanked for it."

"I was supposed to find that trunk and get it back to him," Scroggs said. "This has been a lovely little adventure." ❁



George + Ernestine Barrett



Sheroid Barrett All Star Player For Gordon.



Bruce Barrett '90

"I HAVE FOND MEMORIES
OF ATTENDING GORDON
AND FEEL THE TIME SPENT
THERE HELPED MOLD
ME INTO THE PERSON
I AM TODAY."

— STANLEY RAWLS BARRETT



Stanley Barrett '66-67

GETTING THE BEST FOR THEIR CHILDREN



The Barrett Legacy

by Peter Boltz

IT WASN'T THAT LONG AGO that Gordon Military High School and College was segregated from the black community, as was Booker High School segregated from the white community. This was the way things were.

And when the law mandated the integration of the school systems, many people, black and white, did not want to change..., change being the difficult and disorienting thing that it is.

Ernestine Barrett will tell you she embraced the change for the sake of her children, and her husband George will be standing right next to her telling you with his eyes that they are one on the matter.

The school sent letters home asking parents if they wanted to keep their children in Booker or have them go to Gordon. Ernestine said she later heard through others that when some staff at Booker opened the returned responses, they would say, "Fool," for every student and parent who declared to go to Gordon.

Forty years later, her voice still conveys a defiance she must have felt then. Her children told her they were afraid of what both the black and white communities would do to them, and they told her they didn't want to go, but they changed their minds after she spoke with them.

"They didn't want to go, but I taught them to be tough. I told them, 'We're doing this for you.'" Having only a high school education, she was not

going to see her children without a college degree.

She and George have been a couple since they met in Barnesville's segregated black high school, Barnesville High and Industrial, located where the A.P. Roberts Community Center now stands. After they graduated in 1951, he went into the Air Force and to war-torn Korea. "And I was having babies," Ernestine said.

HER children told her they were afraid of what both the black and white communities would do to them, and they told her they didn't want to go, but they changed their minds after she spoke with them.

When George returned from Korea, he worked in Warner Robins at the Air Force base. Over the course of the next several years, he boarded in Fort Valley, commuting to work during the week and returning home to Ernestine in Barnesville on the weekends. If this didn't keep him busy enough, he enrolled in Fort Valley State College in a still-segregated Georgia higher education system. He completed his Bachelor of Science in secondary education in social science in 1960.



*Faye Barrett in high school
and the third grade*

"I didn't even attempt to get into UGA," he said. "To do so, I would have needed two alumni to sign for me, and I didn't know two white people who would risk signing."

But, he said, "when the doors flew open, my children walked in."

"This was a time when blacks boycotted the desegregated white schools," Ernestine said, "but our children attended them, and they were criticized and ostracized."

"We didn't have role models for education," George said. "I believe I am the first in my family to get a college degree."

"Previously in the black community," he said, "to do some things was seen as a community affair of praise, but not with education. In the black community, education drew comments like 'she thinks she is better than I am,' rather than 'she did well, let's help her.' In Japan, a whole village would help a child who shows promise in education." He said he was so glad times had changed.

The Barrett children didn't lack for praise from their parents. The Barrett living room is filled with

the educational, athletic and military trophies of their children. Their academic degrees and military commissions are on the walls; their athletic trophies are on every flat surface.

"The children had a competitive spirit," George said. "They didn't want one to do better than the other, so if Faye got a good grade and praise for her good work, Bruce was determined to get as good a grade or better. In high school, they were all interested in athletics, but when they got to college, they were all interested in academics." All the Barrett children made the dean's list during their college experiences, and now the grandchildren are also making the dean's list.

"We told them that if they finished at Gordon, we'd send them wherever they wanted to go," George said. "It was tough, but we did it."

"Gordon was great to have, a great savings. Our children lived at home and went to school," he said. "When they graduated from Gordon, they were prepared to complete their four-year degrees."

"Having Gordon here is a great way for kids to find out if they have a talent for learning, to see if a college degree is for them."



*Cassandra & Sheroid with
Shantelle, Ashley & Angela*

Antonio Sheroid Barrett

Antonio Sheroid, 56, is the eldest of the Barrett children, and he entered Gordon Grammar School in the eighth grade. He still remembers that at the approach of the first day of school, he was concerned about being hurt, and not just his feelings. He did not put it past someone to shoot him. It was a time of fear, anger and defiance so intense that even today, memories are close and raw.

Despite his fear, he went to school where a “peaceful” protest was taking place across the street. He could see racial epithets on their placards and hear their slurs. Asked if he was hassled by any of the students once inside the school, he said, “No, I’m a pretty big guy.” Furthermore, not every white person was of the same mind as those with placards.

As Sheroid put it, “There are good people and there are bad people... black and white.”

As much as he excelled in academics, his forte was sports – football, baseball, track and basketball. He said he readily made friends with his teammates except for only one fellow, who just could not overcome his prejudice.

Sheroid suspects prejudice was one of the motivations for Gordon Military High School going private in 1970 – there were some who did not want

to see a black child in a graduation class. But the Barretts were fortunate in that their father had a well-paying job in Warner-Robins and the family could afford the cost, and not just of one son. Sheroid’s brother Bruce joined him at Gordon, the one a senior while the latter was a freshman.

Bruce recalled a particularly outrageous display of prejudice in 1970 that reflects positively on the Gordon and Barnesville of today. It happened at a football game in Trenton, Ga. The Trenton team and fans did not like the idea of playing a team that had blacks on it, and they made this known in the common manner of racial insults. Trenton players made it known by going after Sheroid.

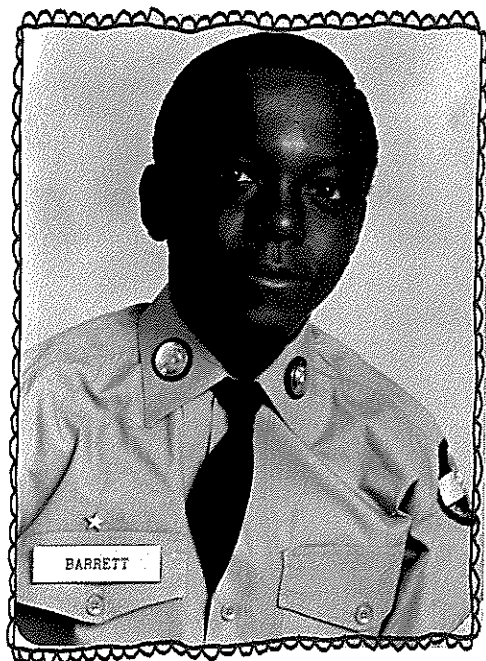
The acrimony grew so bad that a fight broke out, both benches cleared and the game was over.

The Trenton side was outraged and focused their anger on the two Barrett boys and their parents who had accompanied the team. “They wanted to lynch us,” Bruce said. “However, the Gordon parents stood up to the evil and helped us out of a very desperate situation.”

They and the Gordon team surrounded the Barretts to shield them on the way from the locker room to the school bus. The Barrett family car was driven home by white parents, and the bus was “bricked” on its way out. “The Gordon parents could have walked away, but they didn’t,” Bruce said. “That’s what I like to remember about that night.”

By the time Sheroid graduated from Gordon Military High School in 1971, he was an all-state football player, winning a football scholarship to Western Kentucky University where he was selected as an all-American lineman his senior year. Today he is retired from the Ford Motor Company and living in Riverdale, Ga.

He has twin daughters, Angela and Ashley, the first has an elementary education degree and the other a degree in cosmetology. He also had a son, Lamonte, who died at age 32 after suffering from kidney problems since the age of 4.



Bruce Barrett '70

Looking back at the sacrifice and energy it took for him to go to Gordon, Sheroid said that his parents believed in education and what Dr. King died for..., a belief that one day a man would be judged by his character and not his color.

Bruce Jerome Barrett

Bruce, 54, is the Barrett's second child.

He doesn't remember being asked if he'd like to go to Gordon Grammar School; he just remembers his parents telling him he was going because he would get a better education. He'd also get something else, as he reflected decades later. "It was truly a test of our Christian faith."

"My dad taught school for a short time after he graduated from Fort Valley State College," Bruce said, "and he realized that blacks were getting hand-me-down books in the segregated school system." To get a better education, Bruce and his siblings needed to go to Gordon.

When asked if he saw himself and his family as activists, among the few blacks to attend Gordon in the early '70s, he said that if they did think of themselves as activists, it was an activism for a better

education. "We had heard from our parents and other black leaders all of our lives, 'to get a good job you have to get a good education.'"

Nor did he think of himself or his family as pioneering a new South. "It didn't occur to me then," Bruce said, "but over the years, after reading others' accounts of living through that time, I can see how we actually were pioneers. We lived through it, and some of the change happened because of my family. We believed Dr. King's dream that one day we would live in a nation where we would not be judged by the color of our skin but by the content of our character."

Before his parents decided to send him and his siblings to Gordon, Bruce said he thought of Barnesville as one side of the tracks or the other. The stores that lined Main Street, a sight he and his siblings saw outside the car window, were owned by people who were on Gordon's board of trustees.

"It was their kids we were going to school with and playing sports with. This was definitely a landmark from our perspective," he said. "The whole idea of going to school on the other side of the tracks was exciting."

Bruce's experience at Gordon ended in 1972, when Gordon Military High School went out of existence, and he transferred to Lamar County High School. He finished his last two years of high school there, no longer a cadet. He re-entered the ROTC program when he went to college, graduating from Gordon Junior College in 1976. While attending Gordon, he earned a three-year ROTC scholarship, which he used by spending a year at Georgia Tech and then finishing his chemistry degree at UGA. From there he fulfilled his ROTC scholarship obligation by entering the U.S. Army Chemical Corps.

Today he lives in Hawaii, with his wife of 29 years, Teresa, a graduate of South Carolina State University and the Medical College of Georgia. He retired from the Army as a lieutenant colonel and now works as a defense contractor in the countering weapons of mass destruction (WMD) industry. Bruce's eldest son, Bryan, has a degree in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech and works for GE. The company paid his way through graduate school

at Ohio State University. His second son, David, has a degree in economics from the University of Hawaii. After graduation, he volunteered to serve this nation in the U.S. Army Special Forces.

Wanda Faye Barrett O'Neal

Wanda Faye Barrett O'Neal, 52, started at Gordon Grammar School with the third grade and graduated from Gordon Junior College in 1978.

One of the things that she remembered about starting at the grammar school was the prejudice she experienced from both sides of the tracks of Barnesville – “the blacks on one side calling us honky-lovers and whites on the other side calling us niggers. Our parents wanted us to know that name-calling didn't make us and should not break us..., just ignore.”

In an ironic twist, her personal name was also a matter of which side of the tracks she was on. She went by her middle name, Faye, and not her first, Wanda, but her third grade teacher didn't know that.

“When my teacher introduced me as Wanda, I was afraid to tell her that I wanted to be called Faye,” she said. “My next few years of name-calling were again divided by the tracks.”

Speaking for herself and her brothers, she said, “After our classmates realized that we were as smart or smarter, that we could run faster, and that our black did not rub off, we were accepted by most other students.” But this was just in the small world of the school, and they soon learned that acceptance did not necessarily extend past the school grounds.

“I cannot forget a reality check in the third grade when a classmate (my best friend) brought back her class pictures. When questioned by our teacher as to why, she did not hesitate or attempt to whisper that her daddy said that he did not want any pictures with her sitting with a nigger.”

Since she knew who it was, “this was especially powerful and hurtful,” Faye said. “It was also instructive, since my siblings and I learned that our classmates may ignore us when away from the school and especially in the presence of their families.”

Despite the barriers and prejudice that she and



Faye & her daughter Teresa

her brothers faced, she said that “Gordon brought about a lot of positive changes for us.”

For one thing, the experience strengthened the Barrett family. “Our parents instilled in us the importance of God, family, and education,” she said. “We knew then as we know now that we always have each other.”

For another, being in a white-dominated educational system early in their lives acclimated them for future educational experiences. Faye, for example, was the only black in her class and had only white instructors while attending the Medical College of Georgia. “This was no problem,” she said, “because this was something to which I was accustomed.”

Furthermore, going to Gordon honed the siblings' competitive nature. “We did not become competitive just because we were going to Gordon,” she said. “We were taught to strive for our best in all areas of our lives.”

“We attended and graduated from Gordon with no regrets. Our parents always told us that no one could take anything away from us unless we allowed it.



Ben, Teresa + Faye '98

But no one will ever be able to take our education.”

After graduating from Gordon College, Faye went on to earn a B.S. in medical technology from the Medical College of Georgia in 1980. She worked in the laboratory for 29 years at Houston Medical Center in Warner Robins, with the last six years as the laboratory manager. She is currently transitioning from being a health care professional to an educator. She and her husband, Ben, have been married for 30 years and reside in Kathleen, Ga.

Her daughter, Teresa, is a graduate of UGA with a bachelor of science in psychology. She works for Carolina Medical Center as an information technology consultant in Charlotte, N.C. Her son, Eric, a star running back, is on an athletic scholarship attending Coastal Carolina University in Myrtle Beach, S.C., pursuing a degree in recreation and sports management.

Stanley Rawls Barrett

Stanley Rawls, 51, started attending Gordon Grammar School in the second grade.

“I remember my parents explaining the ‘situation’ would be different, but we would be okay,” Stanley said. “They stressed we were going for an education. They were not opposed to us making friends but wanted it clearly understood that our mission



Kevin, Stanley, Bonita & Kimberly '97

was to obtain the best possible education.”

Of course he still made friends, lots of them, despite an initial wariness other children had for him.

“There may have been a few times during group work that a few students may not have wanted to be in a group with me,” Stanley said. “As each group I worked with excelled, it became less of an issue, and students would want to be grouped with me.”

He said that some teachers and students had this initial expectation that as a black he was incapable of academic excellence. This was something all his siblings ran into.

“They often seemed shocked that our grades were high in all subject areas,” he said, “but it was not unusual to be at or near the highest average each year in multiple subjects. My parents had high expectations for grades and oftentimes found any grade below 80 unacceptable. This helped me to strive to keep my grades high.”

Another thing that helped ease him and his white classmates into the new world of integrated education was his and his siblings’ athletic ability. “We played football and baseball on recreational teams that were previously all white. This helped us develop relationships outside of school and the friendships made in the athletic world transferred to the classroom.”



*Teresa & Bruce with
David & Bryan '92*

Certainly it wasn't all smooth sailing. He said he remembers a few students who would cause problems or make comments, "but oftentimes these kids were from another grade or another class. I have few if any memories of classmates causing problems."

He said he had no memories of a negative experience with any teacher. He described them as "caring and generally concerned about my welfare." He said some of his teachers met the issue of race head on: "They explained the obstacles I would face in life, and at times, things would be tougher for me because of race."

Stanley said that throughout his educational career, from grammar school through graduate school, he was always among a minority of blacks in the classroom and that having this experience early prepared him for his future. "In settings that others may have found quite different," he said, "I felt very accustomed to them."

"Overall, I have fond memories of attending Gordon and feel the time spent there helped mold me into the person I am today."

Stanley graduated from Gordon Junior College in 1979 and went on for a bachelor of science in education with a concentration in political science from the University of Georgia in 1982 and a master's in public administration from Troy State University 1993. Today he's a school teacher and head coach of

the junior varsity football team at Sumter High School after separating from the U.S. Air Force as a captain after almost 13 years. He and his wife, Bonita, have been married for 25 years and reside in Sumter, S.C. His eldest, Kevin, is attending the College of Charleston and working on a degree in corporate communication. His daughter Kimberly has just graduated from high school and will attend the University of South Carolina, Sumter, where she has already completed 12 hours of dual enrollment.

The Legacy

When George Barrett decided to go to college, he didn't bother to apply to the University of Georgia as much as he would have liked. He knew his entry was blocked by a prejudice whereby people were judged by their color and not their character.

So when the opportunity came to show what he and Ernestine believed in, what better proof than their children? They believed in the power of education; they believed in the power of their family's character; and they believed in the power of their faith.

Were it not for George and Ernestine and their children, and other black families, Gordon would either be still segregated or many years behind where it is today.

Gordon played an important part in the life of the Barrett family, but it could just as easily be said that the Barrett family played an important part in the life of Gordon College.

This is what constitutes legacy. 🌸

Sheroid Barrett At Western Kentucky University



Sheroid Barrett
Former Gordon Military Academy football star Sheroid Barrett is in his third year with Western Kentucky University's football team, which currently has a 5-1 Ohio Valley



Sheroid Barrett

Leading a Fulfilling Life

By Tamara Boatwright



When Israel Ingle was hired at Gordon College three years ago, he was presented with a daunting task. Re-develop and grow the men's basketball team and when that task was completed, get a women's team going.

Re-develop was the key word. There had not been a basketball team on the campus of 5,000 students in almost 20 years. He wasn't sure about the interest or what kind of talent lay within the student body. And he was only 23, not too much older than the young men he would be coaching.

So he turned to the one person he has turned to time and time again for advice, his dad.

Tony Ingle had coached the Highlanders from 1985 to 1988, and Israel remembers playing in the gym of Alumni Memorial Hall as a child.

"My dad came with me the day I was offered the job," Ingle said. "That made it special. Almost like a full circle."

He gathered some students who had played basketball in high school and they cobbled together a

nonsanctioned intercollegiate team that went 17-12 its first season. His dad was courtside for the first game.

The next year the team joined the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), went 13-18 for the season and made it to the region playoffs. The next year, his third year of coaching, the team again made it to the NJCAA region playoffs.

Ingle, the youngest of five children, comes from a close-knit family, most of whom are basketball oriented. His father has had a long career coaching basketball and is currently the head coach at Kennesaw State University. His brother Tony Jr. is an assistant coach at Kennesaw. Brother Golden is in sales and was a standout "b-ball" at KSU. The only two siblings who aren't involved in athletics are his sister Sunshine – a mom and daycare operator in Utah – and brother Elliott who is in banking. His mother, Jeanne, had the full-time job of keeping her brood together as the family experienced the ups and downs of a coach's life.

"I just grew up as a coach's son," Ingle says. "I have been on a basketball court since before I could walk."

Matt Williamson, who played on the Highlanders '09-'10 team and who will return this season as an assistant coach, recalls the first time he met Ingle.

"When I first came here I knew he had been a stand-out at Kennesaw," Williamson said. "And because of that I expected to see a big, tall guy greet me. I was very surprised."

At 5'10" Ingle is certainly not the tallest player, or coach, one will encounter.

"But once you start playing for him and facing him on the court during practice, he seems a lot larger," Williamson said. "He can be intense, but he knows what he is doing; he is a workaholic and would do anything for his players."

Ingle is a fan of the late John Wooden, the legendary coach of the UCLA Bruins. Wooden was as much a mentor as a coach and often a father figure to his players.

"I am inspired by my dad, Coach Wooden and very much by my players," Ingle said. "My players have come from some of the craziest life backgrounds you can imagine. I hope I have been able to help some of them. I know they have helped me grow as a person."

A huge music fan, Ingle says he would probably be playing in a band if he weren't coaching. He was a

member of The Armory – a band that is growing in popularity with the recent release of a CD – until his job responsibilities took over most of his spare time.

When he does have some precious downtime he likes to read. The works of philosopher James Allen, in particular, *As a Man Thinketh*, are a favorite as are the books Wooden has penned. There is a theme among his favorite authors, he admits, something his mom and dad have promoted to all the Ingle children: lead an optimistic, disciplined, productive and fulfilling life.

"That's also what I want to impress on the players here," Ingle said. "Things may not always go your way, and you may not always have material things, but you can still be a good person and live a good life."

"But," he added with a wide grin, "winning is good too. I hate to lose more than I love to win." ❀



"Things may not always go your way, and you may not always have material things, but you can still be a good person and live a good life."

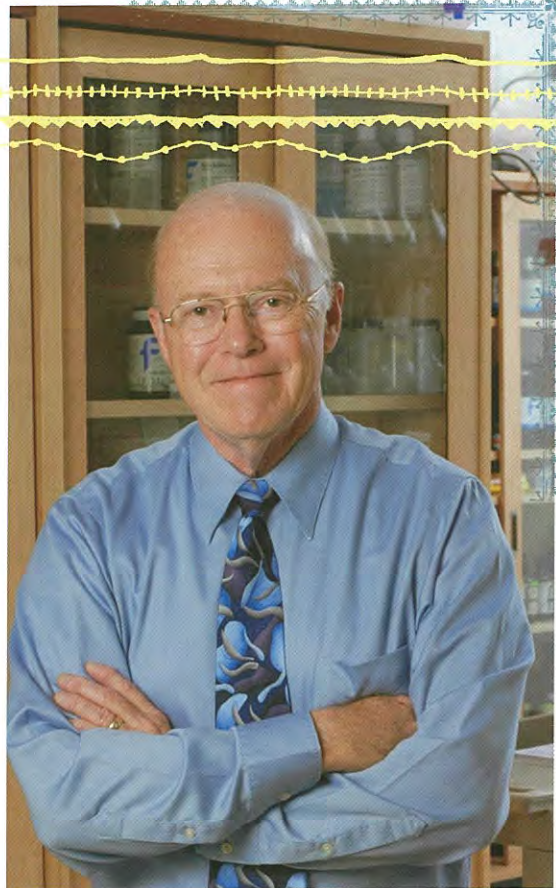
Top: Gordon College, 1987, (l. to r.) Tony Ingle Sr., Elliott, Sunshine, Golden, Tony Jr., Israel and Jeanne.

Bottom left: Izzy at the 1987 Red Lobster classic in Orlando, Fla.

Bottom right: Gordon College, 1988 (l. to r.) Elliot, Sunshine, Golden, Tony Jr. and Israel.

Gordon's Pre-Pharmacy Program

by Peter Boltz



Dan Jackson, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus

When Dr. Dan Jackson reflects on all the pre-pharmacy students he's advised, the words drive, motivation, determination and focus are words that spin out of him.

"I can tell if a student has what it takes after one semester," he said, and what it takes is the desire and academic ability to be at the top of the class. He likened the demands of pharmacy school to the demands of medical school, where students need a "can-do attitude and the ability to overcome hurdles to achieve an ultimate goal."



Students who enter the path to a pharmacy doctorate, or a Pharm.D., can expect to take the core courses that all Gordon students must take, no matter their degree path, and a lot of science and mathematics. Students must take two levels of chemistry, two levels of biology, and math-heavy courses like statistics and physics. This course work is needed to prepare them for the dreaded PCAT, or Pharmacy College Admission Test.

According to Jackson, the test has gotten more difficult over the years because of the increased demand on pharmacy schools, but even if this were not so, the test would still be demanding with questions about grammar, reading, writing, calculus, chemistry and biology. Furthermore, as a nationwide test, the PCAT rates students from Barnesville next to the very best of the nation. It is no wonder students anticipate this test with dread.

It is a fine moment when a student is accepted into a pharmacy program. When he was the adviser for the program before his retirement, such news was “the ultimate highlight” of his day.

Jackson said successful pharmacy candidates have “a hunger for what they want to do in life.” This is the story of two Gordon students who have “the hunger.”

This is the story
of two Gordon
students who
have “the
hunger.”

An Important Person

by Peter Boltz

Nour Herzallah uses an unusual turn of phrase when she talks about the motivation behind her studying to become a doctor of pharmacy. She says she wants to be “an important person.”

Not being a native speaker, it is understandable that she might choose and combine words that native speakers would not, but native speakers might want to use her phrasing once they learn where this young woman has come from and where she intends to go.

Herzallah, a name which means “people devoted to God,” is a Palestinian who came to the United States (Griffin, Ga.) in the fall of 2006. Her parents were displaced to Jordan after one of the Arab-Israeli conflicts and eventually settled in Kuwait. When she entered Gordon College, her English was such that she had to take learning support English, but in the two years she attended Gordon, her command of the English language grew to one that many native speakers would envy.

Today, she is a graduate of Gordon with her associate of science in pre-pharmacy, a wife, a mother and a Pharm.D. candidate at South University in Savannah, Ga. After this degree, she wants a Ph.D. and to eventually teach pharmacy at a university.

Her parents thought for the longest time that they could not conceive a child. For 10 years they

tried everything they knew but to no effect until Nour was born in Kuwait City 25 years ago. Her father was so overjoyed, he named her Nour, or “light,” because, “When she came, she brought the light to me.”

According to Nour, her education was his vision. “As their only child,” she said, “I am their hope. They see their future through me.”

She said the pursuit of education is strong among Palestinians, and since her father’s education was curtailed by war, he is anxious to have her continue hers. This pursuit almost ended before it began when Iraqi President Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait in 1990 when Nour was 5.

As Nour tells the story, her family knew the invasion was coming because Hussein was always broadcasting his intent. When it finally came, it came in the early hours and her father, Nasri or “victory,” was up listening to the news. Trying to protect his



Nour Herzallah, Pharm.D. student

Continued on page 46

A Real Test of Determination

by Peter Boltz

Patty Wilmoth remembers watching a video of Julie Moss tortuously crawling across the finish line in the 1982 Ironman Triathlon in Kona, Hawaii. Wilmoth was about to participate in the 2009 Ford, Fla., Ironman event and Moss's effort made such an impression on her that she remembers what she was thinking then as clear as if it were today.

"I would have crawled too," Wilmoth said. "I understand the need to finish, no matter what."

It is this kind of determination that has brought her to where she is today with a Pharm.D. degree and working as a pharmacist for WalMart in Griffin, Ga. She is a woman with options for herself and her family.

By the time her five elder siblings had moved out from their home in Iowa, she and her parents moved to Georgia when she was 14. The change of culture and schools did not sit well with her, and she ended up a high school dropout and a mother in a doomed marriage. While the marriage lasted only four years, the trial of it sparked something in her, a quest for education.

She first completed her general equivalency diploma (GED), and then she set her sights on an associate in education at Gordon. She started in 1993 and finished four years later. "I was a working mother," she said, "so I took whatever was available at night."



Patty Wilmoth, Pharm.D.

When she completed the A.A., her son was 12, and she had just bought a house. She said she wanted to continue with a four-year degree, but she went on hiatus instead. "I needed a break. I was just tired," she said. "So I just became a mom, a wife and a produce trader."

She remembers starting off doing secretarial work for \$5 an hour, eventually moving into the position of produce trader. The job was to find produce sellers on the West Coast for produce buyers on the East Coast, finding the best prices and arranging cross-continent deliveries.

Even though she needed a break from school, she continued taking classes, and it was fellow student Kane Brown who put the bug in her ear about becoming a pharmacist. They were taking precalculus, a Gordon night class, at Griffin High School, and Brown "thought pharmacy was the best thing ever, and he inspired me to go into it. He told me to go talk with Dr. Dan Jackson."

Continued on page 47



Dr. Miriam Chambless

Harris County's Beloved Doctor

by Peter Boltz

If television gives a fair depiction of what's in fashion, it can be seen that the style of the "ideal" doctor has changed over the decades.

Where once we had Dr. Kildare, Marcus Welby, M.D., Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman and Cosby, we now have House and a slew of hospital dramas packed with different doctors' personalities. The trouble with these depictions is just what the star of Marcus Welby, Robert Young, said in a commercial, "I am not a doctor but play one on television."

As attractive as these actors are, no one in their right mind would go to them for medical treatment. However, a patient might want the bedside qualities depicted by actors like Bill Cosby or Jane Seymour – things like compassion, a sense of humor, knowledge and kindness. And don't forget humility, something seriously missing in the character of Dr. House.

Such a doctor could be found at one time deep in western Georgia in Pine Mountain Valley. Dr. Miriam Clair Walker Chambless no longer practices medicine, but her bedside manner is still active. When she

slipped off her white lab coat for the last time, her manner did not go with it.

Her daughter, Edie Wessel, drew the following portrait of her when the Olympic committee was looking for torch bearers for the Atlanta Summer Olympics in 1996:

“Her quiet caring manner puts a child at ease as well as comforts the spouse of a demented patient and brings hope to the parent of a rebellious teenager.”

“Her systematic approach to the whole patient and her astute diagnostic abilities come together, resulting in excellent patient care. When a patient needs referral to a specialist, she follows him until she feels confident that he has found the help which was needed.”

In a 1996 article in *The Harris County Herald*, she is described as “a very special Harris County Citizen,” “our beloved Dr. Miriam” and a “gracious lady.” The article was a call to readers to contribute to a memory book “to help thank Dr. Miriam for her gift of love for the people of Harris County.”

Such testimonials did not end when she closed her clinic in 2005, and likely will never end. Peggy Allen, a nurse at the Harris County Health Department, remembers Dr. Chambless as someone who regularly forgot to ask for payment from her poorer patients. They suffer from her not being around anymore.

Dr. Chambless started her education in Barnesville at Gordon. Her mother, Mattie Sue Berry, was a Gordon Military High School graduate of 1913, and her father, William Olin Walker was a graduate of DePaul University in Chicago. When he died, Miriam was just 13 months old, and she and her little sister were sent to live with her maternal grandparents who owned a general store in Barnesville called T.J. Berry and Co. Her mother Mattie, a school teacher, went to work in Atlanta and visited over the weekends. She worked in Atlanta because it was one of the few school systems at the time that had a retirement plan.

According to Miriam’s daughter Edie, her mother’s family originally lived in Monroe County. Because “an outstanding education was vital to this family,” Miriam’s grandfather Thomas Berry moved the family to Barnesville in the early 1900s so his children could attend an accredited high school, Gordon Institute.

Miriam entered the Gordon system in the first grade and one of her earliest memories was of her teacher Nettie Lee Grace who started class every day by having her students recite the following in unison: “I will not drink tea or coffee before I am twenty.”

“Mrs. Bush taught my mother seventh-grade math,” Edie said. Her son, Reynolds, had just earned his master’s at Emory University and taught her high school chemistry. Between

“Her quiet caring manner puts a child at ease as well as comforts the spouse of a demented patient and brings hope to the parent of a rebellious teenager.”

Edie Wessel, daughter



Miriam Chambless worked as a lab technician at Crawford Long Hospital after graduating from Agnes Scott.

“Her systematic approach to the whole patient and her astute diagnostic abilities come together resulting in excellent patient care. When a patient needs referral to a specialist, she follows him until she feels confident that he has found the help which was needed.” Edie Wessel, daughter

classes, he had to race across campus to get to the high school building from the college building. “If he was running late, he would enter his classroom by climbing through the window instead of coming in the door.”

Miriam said that Bush prepared her so well in chemistry that when she went to college at Agnes Scott, she found she already knew the material. Since she had such a strong background in chemistry, this is what she majored in.

“Marion Bush taught my mother English her senior year,” Edie said, “and Marion’s mother taught my mother piano.”

Then there was Homer Bush who taught Miriam Latin.

According to Miriam, “Every time we had a test he would say to me, ‘You aren’t the student your mother was.’ He had an unusual grading system. He would make a mark on your paper, instead of giving a number or letter grade. If the mark were standing straight up, you got 100. The more it leaned, the worse it was.”

With her chemistry degree from Agnes Scott, Miriam went to work as a medical technologist, and this is when she decided to become a doctor. She said Dr. George Corry of Barnesville was instrumental in getting her into medical school when the competition with GIs returning from World War II made it more difficult than usual. She said he called the dean of the Medical College of Georgia so often to recommend her that the dean is reported to have said, “Hell

George, just send her over.” She was one of only six women in her class.

It was during her time in Augusta, 1946 to 1950, that she met her husband, Bill Chambless, also a student in the Medical College. After their graduation, they interned at the University of Alabama School of Medicine, where they met an ophthalmologist from Columbus, A.C. Hobbs. He is the one who told them about the availability of a clinic in Hamilton, Ga.

According to *The Harris County Herald*, “The clinic had been built and equipped as a public service to the citizens of Harris County by the Ida Cason Callaway Foundation.” In 1950, Miriam and her husband “agreed to rent the Hamilton clinic for a trial period” and in 1951, it became the Chambless Clinic.

Bill Chambless developed Parkinson’s disease and had to retire from practice in 1984. He died in 1986.

Miriam continued the practice with the assistance of a physician’s assistant, Ray Ball, who saw those male patients squeamish about having a woman doctor. She said she was very fortunate to find Ball.

Today, five years since she closed her clinic and after 54 years of practice, her friend and former nurse Ellen Walton remarked that Dr. Chambless never turned a patient away. “When the clinic closed,” she said, “the books closed too, and there is no telling how much money was still owed her.”

And this, Ellen said, is why she was inspired to go to nursing school, to work for a doctor like Miriam Chambless. 🌸

In Appreciation... for Bringing Down Walls

The magazine you have in your hands is but one of former President Larry Weill's efforts to reach out to Gordon alumni. Another was his establishing an alumni association to welcome back all alumni of Gordon. Still another was founding Alumni House.

There are countless other ways that Larry Weill worked to preserve the legacy of Gordon, including establishing historic displays and programs. But, probably chief among them all was his welcoming handshake and reminder that this campus belongs to you.

The faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends will miss his leadership. After stepping down from his position at the end of June, he returned to his home in Kentucky for a year's sabbatical. He plans to return to Gordon to teach philosophy in 2011 before retirement.



Highlanders Take Region XVII Tournament

This was a banner year for the Gordon College baseball team, ending its season 41-23 and winning the National Junior College Athletic Association Region XVII tournament championship.

But despite heroic efforts, the Highlanders lost the last of a three-game series in the NJCAA East Central District playoffs to Chattanooga State Community College.

While there was no trip to the Junior College (JUCO) Baseball World Series, several Gordon players were honored for their play. Five were selected to the GJCAA All-Region baseball team including first team outfielder Kelly Williams (14) and pitcher Casey Shiver (20), while Andy Almonte (1), Aaron Dobbs (9), and Chase Raffield (7) earned second team honors. Sophomore pitcher Pat McGowan (4) was selected for the Rawlings Gold Glove Team.

I'm Going to College

Laura West is keeping her promise.

Six years ago, West visited Gordon College as a Lamar County Middle School student participating in the first "I'm Going to College!" event.

She is now attending Gordon, working on a degree in biology.

In the Gordon archives is a photo of West standing in line to speak with Gordon President Lawrence Weill and receive a mirror which reads, "Turn over to see a future Gordon College graduate."

"I still have that mirror," West laughed when shown the photograph. "But I don't like that photo of me."

"I'm Going to College!" annually has given local students an opportunity to experience college life for a day by attending class, touring the campus and enjoying lunch in the dining hall.



Laura West and President Larry Weill.

West was her class valedictorian and was named the 2010 STAR (Student Teacher Achievement Recognition) student. She would eventually like to combine a degree in biology with elementary education and her love of diving.

"Working at the Georgia Aquarium and teaching people who visit would be a dream job," she said. "But I'll see how things work out."

She is the daughter of Jimmy and Tina West of Barnesville.

GORDON BEGINS ITS BSN PROGRAM

Jeff Kinney decided to become a nurse after his youngest son was born a month early and experienced health problems as a result.

"I was a manager at Home Depot at the time and knew nothing about nursing," he said. "The care he received was so amazing that it inspired me to make a career change and go into nursing."

His son is fine now and Kinney, 39, is currently a nurse in the pediatric intensive care unit at the Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon. He is also a member of Gordon's first BSN program.

Unlike the three-year associates program, the BSN program completion program is compressed into one year, and students complete a week's worth of classes in one eight-hour session per week. The first class will graduate in May 2011.

Members of the class include: Kim Barney, Joi Felder, Jeff Kinney, Jamice Gresham, Sabrina Simokaitis, Amanda Cates, Jean-Marie Blasingame, Christopher Bryce Barnes, Regina Norton, Jennifer Boland, Starla Brown, Melinda Broxon, Sandra Cherry, Quavardes Barkley, Rebecca Johnson, Constance Takang, Adesina Olqulwva, Donna Hartpence, Samuel Worsham, Katie Clark, Katina Brown, Alicia Small, Jodi Tallman, Allison Rogers, Ashley Sanders and Don Brunton.





Honors House Opens Fall Semester

Honors students at Gordon College have long had living space dedicated for their use, but now they also have a study space.

The Gordon College Honors House – at the end of Georgia Avenue on the west side of campus – contains a study lounge and reading room, a computer lab and a seminar room for honors courses and other meetings.

There also is space for three faculty offices.

Local businessman Lance Toland made a donation to furnish a portion of the house. In honor of his generosity, a room has been named The Toland Study Room.

Honors student Onica Matsika said she appreciates that space has been dedicated to the honors students.

“This is light and open and very cozy,” she said. “I will enjoy studying here, and I like the fact that some classes can be held here.”

“We are very fortunate to have this resource for our students, and I am very appreciative for the support we have received,” said Dr. Mark Milewicz, director of the Honors Program.

The building is expected to be fully functional by start of school this fall. For more information on the Gordon College Honors Program, visit www.gdn.edu/honors.



Honors student Rebecca Sinoway, left, joins Mark Milewicz, director of the Honors Program and associate professor of Political Science, and fellow honors student Anni Skurja in the house's seminar room.

The 350

Donors Start the Work of Building a Military Memorial

The Military Memorial Project is an effort to build a memorial plaza to honor both those who have served and died in military service as well as a place to commemorate Gordon's history.

The Gordon College Memorial Plaza will contain three major elements. One is a memorial wall where the names of those who died in service will be placed. The second is a monument that replicates the front portico of Lambdin Hall. This monument is a tribute to Gordon Military High School and College, and to those students, faculty, and staff who contributed to the foundation of today's Gordon. The third element is a fountain that will be placed at the opposite end of the plaza walkway from the memorial wall. The fountain will have multiple jets that arc together to form a single jet that rises above the rest. The smaller jets represent the different eras of Gordon's past and the central jet of water represents the future of Gordon College.

Along the brick pathway 10 larger paving stones will be randomly placed on which quotations will be carved.

These quotations are from Gordon's "story" and are to be memorable quotes that will inspire students who travel this walkway to better understand the people who worked so diligently to build and support Gordon.

The area will be landscaped with low maintenance plantings and there will be benches along the pathway.

Just inside the tunnel by which students will access the plaza from the older side of campus, there will be a plaque inscribed with the names of the 350 people who gave at least \$1,000. These donors are known as "The 350."

Gordon College is seeking 350 people to make a gift to this project of \$1,000 to be paid in lump sum or increments between now and the end of 2012, the estimated start date for construction.

The donors listed on this page have already pledged or made a donation to the project. Gifts of any size are welcomed. Class groups or others may join together to raise funds to become a member of the 350. Donations may also be made in honor or in memory of someone.

Detailed plans for the site preparation, landscaping, and construction of the memorial are in the Alumni House on Stafford Avenue for public viewing. Questions about the project may be directed to Rhonda Toon at rhondat@gdn.edu or 678-359-5124.

"When I arrived at Gordon in 2002, one of the first requests I had from an alumnus was to build a memorial to the military. I heard that again and again and again until in 2007 we were able to start work on this effort," said Toon.

"This design by Bob Smith of Watkinsville is the result of his meeting with alumni who were interested in seeing such a memorial built. The concept was revealed at alumni weekend in 2008, and in 2010 we entered Phase 2 when we contracted with Mr. Smith to complete the detailed construction plans. We still need people to help by donating. This will only happen if alumni make it happen. This design is not a small thing, nor is it inexpensive. But it is a monument worthy of its purpose—to mark the military history of this campus."

Supporters of the 350 Project (in order of date of gift through June 30, 2010)

Kike Seda (A-1 Postage Meters)

Gordon Military Survivors, Inc.

Peter Banks

Joe Boggs

Thornton Burns

Rick Hahn

Zack Hinton

Charlie Christian

Jimmy Matthews

Wayne Leverett

Keith Abernathy, '67

Class of 1949

Rhonda Toon

Don Neuner

Tommy Torbert

Manchester C. Paget

Oliver G. Halle

Van R. Baker

Mary Ann Congleton Lewis

John D. Burnette

Charles H. Van Rysselberge

The Berry Brothers

Clinton Dale Melton

Margaret R. Melton

James E. Ethridge Sr.

Jackie L. Daniel & Frances P.

Daniel

William M. Alexander

Dick Tieken

Gordon Outstanding Scholar

Amanda Tooley

Amanda Tooley has been selected the University System of Georgia Outstanding Scholar at Gordon College.

Better known as Kate, she will graduate after the fall 2010 semester and plans to continue her education at the University of Georgia double majoring in cognitive science and English.



Outstanding Scholar Kate Tooley with Academic Dean Ed Wheeler (left) and Associate Academic Dean Richard Baskin.

Amanda Tooley has been selected as the University System of Georgia Outstanding Scholar at Gordon College.

Better known as Kate, she will graduate after the fall 2010 semester and plans to continue her education at the University of Georgia double majoring in cognitive science and English.

In a letter notifying Tooley of her honor, Erroll Davis, chancellor of the University System of Georgia wrote, "Let me congratulate you on this honor, encourage you to continue your educational quest, and ask that you use the knowledge you have gained to create results that benefit society."

"This means a lot to me, and it is something to live up to," Tooley said of the honor. "It also means a lot to me to be nominated by one of my professors, that they thought so much of me."

Tooley also acknowledged the support she has received from the faculty.

"The faculty has been incredible to me," she said. "They have always been supportive and available to me,

always kind. That means a lot when you come from a home school background and are not accustomed to how things work in a true academic setting."

Ed Wheeler, vice president for academic affairs, said Tooley has not only been brilliant in the classroom but has immersed herself in campus activities also.

"She is a joy to have at Gordon College," Wheeler said.

Tooley has served as editor of *The Gordon Press*, participated in the Gordon Theatre production of *Hamlet*, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and maintains a 4.0 average.

Her scholastic honors include being named to the 2010 All Georgia Academic Team as well as being nominated to the All-USA Academic Team for Community Colleges which is presented by the American Association of Community Colleges, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and *USA Today* newspaper.

She is the daughter of Susann and David Tooley of Hampton.

A Dog A Midwinter's Dream The End of the World A Spelling Bee

Gordon College Theatre is presenting a mature, thought-provoking and comedic look at life for its 2010-2011 season.



The Gordon College Theatre presented *Hamlet* at the end of its 2009-2010 season.

Shep, one of the bartenders, is a writer who has just sold his first book. Shirley, the other bartender, is trying to finish her list of "things I've never done but wanted to do." Willie, the town hothead, is on a shooting spree, while Virginia, a local gym teacher, is trying to get to Colorado to see her family one last time. Bullard is an aluminum siding salesman, desperately seeking refuge with one of the families he sold bomb shelters to back in the Cold War era. Roy, the local mechanic, is on a looting spree and wants to visit Disney World. And then in walks Joe, a stranger with a calm, pleasant demeanor who seems to know everyone's name and the details of their lives, promising Shep immortality if he will write a new Bible and get it right this time.

Sylvia

By A.R. Gurney

Sept. 29 – Oct. 3

Greg and Kate have moved to Manhattan after 22 years of child-raising in the suburbs. Greg's career as a financial trader is winding down, while Kate's career as a public-school English teacher is beginning to offer her more opportunities. Greg brings home a dog he found in the park — or that has found him — bearing only the name Sylvia on her name tag. The dog offers Greg an escape from the frustrations of his job and the unknowns of middle age. To Kate, Sylvia becomes a rival for affection. And Sylvia thinks Kate just doesn't understand the relationship between man and dog. After a series of hilarious and touching complications, Greg and Kate learn to compromise, and Sylvia becomes a valued part of their lives.

Almost, Maine

By John Cariani

Nov. 17-21

On a cold, clear, moonless night in the middle of winter, all is not quite what it seems in the remote, mythical town of Almost, Maine. As the northern lights hover in the star-filled sky above, Almost's residents find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and often hilarious ways. Knees are bruised. Hearts are broken. But the bruises heal, and the hearts mend in this delightful midwinter night's dream.

Early One Evening at the Rainbow Bar and Grille

By Bruce Graham

Feb. 16 – 20, 2011

The setting is a bar in small-town Pennsylvania. Nuclear bombs have destroyed much of the United States and various denizens of this working class bar are trying to decide what to do.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Book by Rachel Sheinkin, music and lyrics by William Finn

April 20 – 24, 2011

The competition is intense. The words are hilarious. Let the spelling begin! This musical centers around a fictional spelling bee in Putnam County, N.Y. Six kids face off in the battle of their lives. They compete against each other as well as members of the audience. Three adults help adjudicate the proceedings: a nostalgic former spelling bee winner, a mildly insane vice principal and the official comfort counselor completing his community service to the state of New York.

Start Planning for **Alumni Weekend 2011** April 15 and 16

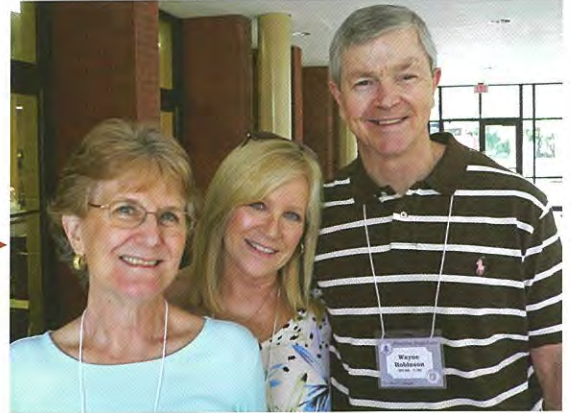
Alumni Weekend is a time for you and your classmates. It is a time for Gordon Military graduates and USG graduates. It is a time for all of Gordon to gather and remember and build.

Start planning your Alumni Weekend 2011 now with alumni coordinator Lynn Yates. E-mail: lynny@gdn.edu. Phone: 678. 359. 5073.

NOW PLAYING exclusively on www.gdn.edu/alumni

- Photo galleries
- Slide shows
- Video postcards

www.gdn.edu/alumni



Janet Sammons (left), Gay Kennedy Robinson and Wayne Robinson

News of Robert Simmons

From time to time, alumni call one of the staff of Gordon's Advancement Office and ask after a former faculty or staff member. Robert Simmons is one of those recently asked about.

Simmons, now Dr. Simmons, was recently in e-mail contact with Lynn Yates, the alumni coordinator for the College, and he wrote that retirement suits him and his wife Janice.

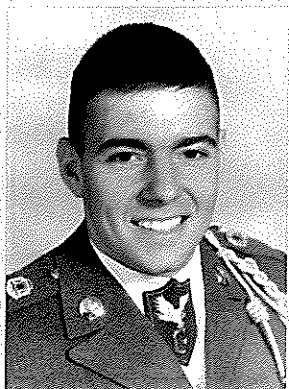
"We have been able to travel to Mexico, Ireland, Egypt and Alaska and have also spent a lot of time in Charlotte, N.C., where we are babysitters for our new granddaughter, Natalie."

Simmons, who served as a business faculty, dean of students and director of admissions for the College, worked at Gordon when it was still a military college and after when it became part of the University System of Georgia. He ended his academic career two years ago as a professor of business at Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, N.C.

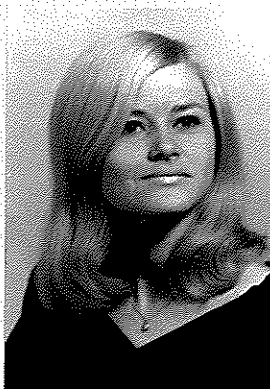
The caption in the 1970 *Taps* was:
"Mr. Simmons working long and hard."

With this Ring

by Rhonda Toon



Porter Caughman
(HS '68)



Sue Conger Roberts
(HS '68 C '70)

On a Saturday afternoon last June, Sue Conger Roberts (HS '68 C '70) and Porter Caughman (HS '68) exchanged vows on the porch of the Caughman family summer home in North Carolina. Though the wedding took place more than 250 miles from the Gordon campus, Gordon played a role in the story of their union that Sue likens to a "fairy tale."

When Sue and Porter were classmates at Gordon they never dated, though Porter certainly thought about it. To hear him tell the story, he was dazzled by Sue's beauty and waited for the right opportunity. When he finally got up his nerve to ask her out, he found her sitting on a bench in front of Lambdin Hall. He resolutely walked toward her only to have another cadet sit down beside her. As he walked away he remembers looking back over his shoulder and meeting her eyes for a moment before going on, but the moment had passed them by.

So by 1968, each had walked across the stage in cap and gown, accepted their diplomas and went on

to their futures—Sue on to Gordon Junior College and the University of Georgia, later marrying the late Georgia Sen. Sam Roberts and becoming the mother of Amber and Beau and working in the solicitor general's office as victim witness coordinator—Porter on to Spartanburg Junior College and then to Vietnam and after as president of his own construction company and ramrod for Tomlin and Company.

Fast forward to 2008 when they each flip through their mail and discover an invitation from Gordon College to return for alumni weekend. The old photos on the envelope brought back memories—there was even a photograph of Sue as a cheerleader and one of her aunt in a white dress—but Sue wasn't sure she was up to a social event. A widow since 2000, it took some convincing from her aunt Betsy Conger Shiver ('57) for her to attend.

"Aunt Betsy said, 'Come on, I've already got us a room,' and so I finally gave in and told her I would go," she said.

Porter never hesitated, but he knew he didn't want to go to the event alone—an event he envisioned as being made up of mostly happily married couples. So he asked a date to accompany him.

In the Student Center atrium amidst all the noise of classmates reconnecting over lunch, Sue approached the Gordon staff and suggested that posters be placed around the room with decades at the top, so people could sign them and find each other.

"I was writing the decade across the top of the posters, and Rhonda (Toon) was putting them up around the room. I remember when I did my decade that I went ahead and wrote my name right at the top," Sue said.

Later Porter approached the poster to add his name and saw Sue's signature. He determined that he would find her this time and that no matter who was sitting beside her, he would speak to her. When he

did they talked briefly about their memories of high school—teachers and friends—and both learned that the other was now single.

Later that night at the evening reception and dance, they danced. According to Sue it was the dip in that dance that sealed her certainty about the strong connection she had felt upon meeting Porter earlier that day. They both went back to the people they had come with after the dance, but neither stopped thinking about the other.

Before the party ended that night, Sue enlisted longtime friend Marcia Whittington Knight (HS '64) to help her find out more about Porter. "I talked her into getting up and walking around to check out his date," said Sue. "Marcia was my partner in crime."

The phone rang in the alumni office soon after the alumni weekend with Sue saying how much she had enjoyed the event and how much fun it had been to talk to old friends, and then asking if the alumni office could give her the contact information of one classmate she especially would like to see again.

Gordon's policy on sharing private information about an alumnus is such that it will only give this information if the other party agrees. In Sue's case, a quick survey of staff in the office determined that Porter had also contacted the alumni office looking for her, so it was an easy decision. Armed with his contact information, Sue pondered what to do. Because she had photos from the alumni weekend that he might be interested in seeing, she decided that would be the purpose of her call. This time, Porter

did not lose his courage. There was no one else on the bench. He asked her out.

The rest, as they say, is history.

"It really does seem like a fairy tale because so many things were perfectly aligned—the posters, the timing," said Sue. "Porter's family and friends have welcomed me and my children into their lives, and we've welcomed them into ours. We are retired and have time to spend with each other. It truly is my fairy tale."

In Sue's case, a quick survey of staff in the office determined that Porter had also contacted the alumni office looking for her, so it was an easy decision. Armed with his contact information, Sue pondered what to do.

They now spend their time on Lake Murray in Chapin, S.C., or in the North Carolina mountains. "Forty years is a long time to wait," said Porter, "but our advice to anyone thinking about attending an alumni weekend at Gordon is to go. You never know what can happen!"



Class Interrupted

Mike Alexander was almost
in the **Class of '73** by Peter Boltz

Col. Mike Alexander, U.S. Army retired, likes what he sees of Gordon College's efforts to reach out to alumni from its military past. As a cadet who would have graduated from Gordon Military High School in 1973, Alexander's feelings about Gordon's military past are especially acute, because he would have graduated but couldn't.

By 1973, Gordon Military no longer existed. The high school and grammar schools were taken over by the county and the college became a part of the University System of Georgia.

He said he felt cheated. "I had a '73 class ring, but I didn't have a '73 class."

of 30 years and rose to the rank of colonel in the infantry. His different assignments took him all over the United States, Germany, Japan and South Korea, where he lives today with his wife of 30 years, Misuk.

When he looks back on his time at Gordon, he thinks of his mentors and is quick to rattle off a list: "Paul MacFadyen, Bobbie Hooks, Doris Watson, Linda Gift Akins, Sgt. Maj. Davis, Maj. Cavender. ... I could go on and on."

"Those are people who made a difference, not just in my life but all the students' lives they touched," he said. "In those rough seas of teenagers growing into men and women, they helped us mature and learn about life, and that's so important. It's what made Gordon so unique and what brought people here from all over Georgia and literally all over the world."

Alexander encouraged Gordon's veterans to tell their stories whether they are veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq or Afghanistan.

"Tell your story, tell your family, tell your friends. Don't lose it," he urged. "Tell your children, tell your grandchildren."

He congratulated Gordon on its efforts to get these stories to reclaim its military past. He said it was very important to get veterans to tell their stories and that the College was doing a great thing.

Alexander was in the United States for an Army museum training conference and



Alexander at his retirement ceremony.

"The selfless service of all Gordon veterans and their families is one to be proud of," he said, "and their willingness to go in harm's way speaks volumes of the patriotism from those who have served and continue to serve from Barnesville and the surrounding area."



Alexander, in the white hat, while at Gordon.

Despite this break in his military education, Alexander went on to North Georgia College and graduated with a bachelor's in history and a commission in the U.S. Army. From there he built a career

Please visit the 2nd Infantry Division at:

www.2id.korea.army.mil/sites/museum/

Alexander, left, with his wife Misuk and youngest son Clifford at Alexander's retirement on March 27, 2008. Alexander can be seen wearing the Legion of Merit medal, and Misuk wearing the Commander's Award for civilian service.



a symposium on the 60th anniversary of the start of the Korean War at the Harry S. Truman Library in Independence, Mo. He was also here to visit his 91-year-old mother, Aline, who lives in Barnesville.

In South Korea, he is the director and historian of the 2nd Infantry Division Museum in Uijongbu, where artifacts and historical photos tell the story of the division from its formation through its service today. Alexander can describe each exhibit in detail and it is easy to see that his work is a blending of his love of history and his military background. Listening to him talk about the museum's holdings, like the finely crafted silver Liscum Bowl, it is easy to forget that his museum – and his wife and sons for that matter – are not much more than 20 miles from the largest mass of artillery to be found in the world today. If that were not danger enough, an “800,000 man army in the last Stalinist dictatorship in the world” isn't that much farther away than the artillery.

Being in harm's way isn't some abstraction for Alexander. As a young officer, he was sent to South Korea, eventually serving five tours in the country. Although major hostilities ended between the two Koreas in 1953, tensions and bloodshed were still common along the border where he was stationed with the Second Infantry. Given the chance, North Korean soldiers killed American soldiers.

He understood the dangers of military service from a young age. His father, a Lamar County native, joined the Army at the height of the depression and ended up serving in World War II, the Korean War, and Vietnam. His three Purple Hearts are testament

to the danger he was in and the danger Alexander was in of losing his father.

Like many children in Army families, Alexander had lived in numerous cities and attended many schools by the time his father moved the family back to Barnesville. Despite the dangers he had felt from his father's service, he had already determined that he, too, wanted a career in the military. The move not only brought the family to a more settled existence, but it allowed Alexander the opportunity to attend an honor military school.

Gordon also gave Alexander another opportunity to have a shared experience with his father. When Gordon became part of the university system, Alexander took several courses as a transfer student in the summer while home from North Georgia College. Alexander's father used the last of his GI Bill benefits to earn a degree from Gordon Junior College in the bicentennial class of 1976. Alexander proudly pointed to a faded photograph of his dad posing in his academic regalia – “We are both alumni.”

Continued on page 44

Alexander's father, Clifford, on graduation day at Gordon Junior College in 1976.



2010 Alumni Weekend

Alumni Weekend is a time for you and your classmates. It is a time for Gordon Military graduates and USG graduates. It is a time for all of Gordon to gather and remember and build.



Alumni House courtyard

This year's

Alumni Weekend, held on April 16 and 17, started with the faculty and staff reception at Alumni House on the first day and ended with the alumni reception the evening of the second day. In between was more time for visiting, the most important part of any reunion, and once again, the Alumni House with all its amenities provided the perfect meeting place.

In addition to these events, which were open to all Gordon classes from the oldest to the youngest, the Class of 1970 and the Gordon College Pharmacy Alumni Association held their own reunions on Saturday.

The faculty and staff reception officially opened the weekend with current and past members of Gordon's faculty and staff mingling with alumni in the courtyard of the Alumni House. Besides the socializing, the event provided a showcase for the tenure and promotion achievements of the faculty. It also was a time to say thank you to Dr. Lawrence V. Weill who retired from the Gordon presidency at the end of June 2010.

A series of speakers honored the president, including Kenyatta Hines, president of the Gordon College Student Government Association; Sue O'Neil, representing the Gordon College Staff Council; John Barnard, chair of the Gordon College

Faculty Senate; Don Neuner, president of the Gordon College Alumni Board; George Hightower, chair of the Gordon College Foundation; and Peter Banks, mayor of Barnesville.

The theme of their remarks points to perhaps the number one accomplishment of Weill, removing barriers that had gone up since 1972 between the college and the city of Barnesville, and the alumni from Gordon's years as a military school.

Alumni Board President Neuner presented Weill with a drawing of Lambdin Hall by local artist Virginia Cherry Legg, herself an alumna.

Neuner thanked the president for bettering relations between the college and Gordon's military alumni, the city and "everyone" so that the Gordon Alumni Association could be up and active again.

Barnesville Mayor Peter Banks read a proclamation by the Barnesville City Council honoring Weill for many things, including "literally and figuratively breaking down many of the walls that separated the college and this community."

President Weill had the opportunity to speak to alumni again the next day at the picnic lunch in the Student Center Atrium.

"This is what Alumni Weekend is all about," he said. "It is the opportunity to come back to a place

Digging through the Past

Jennie Woodlee, HS '60, and Natalyn Daniel Livingston, HS '59, look through copies of class prophecies, last wills and testaments and *Reveillies* in the music room of the Gordon Alumni House during Alumni Weekend, April 16 and 17.



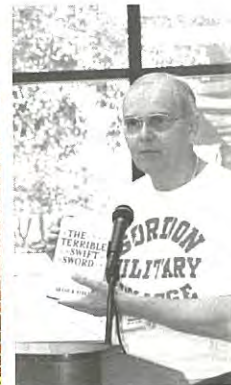
Virginia Cherry Legg, Larry Weill and Jenny Weill



John Miller



George Hightower



Robert Melvin

that was important to you, and still is important to all of us today, and to have fun, rekindle old friendships and to make new ones."

As an example of the bonds made at reunions, Weill mentioned Archie Ray and Mike Sweat, two alumni who have camped together for the last several Alumni Weekends. This year Ray traveled from Pensacola, Fla., and Sweat traveled from Pine, Ga. After finding each other at the Alumni House, they set up camp at High Falls State Park and, with a hint of mischief in their voices, dubbed it "Camp Bullring."

Also during lunch, John Miller (Class of '72) and Robert Melvin (Class of '59) made presentations to the College. Miller donated his saber, and Melvin donated a copy of Arthur Steuer's *The Terrible Swift Sword*. The book was purchased by Melvin's friend and Gordon roommate Jan Green (Class of '58), who died before he could present the book at the 2010 Alumni Weekend. Steuer, who graduated from Gordon Military High School in 1947, wrote about life at a "Georgia military academy."

The weekend ended with three major events: the reunion of the Class of 1970, which segued into the alumni reception, and the pharmacy alumni reunion. The pharmacy reunion was the first time this group of all Gordon pre-pharmacy majors gathered with

the help of Dr. Dan Jackson. Jackson, recently retired from his chemistry professorship at Gordon, was the central force behind the inception and development of the pre-pharmacy program. He is also the central force behind the development of the pharmacy alumni association under the auspices of the Gordon College Alumni Association.



The Howard High String Trio played for guests of the faculty/staff reception. Garrett Knighton (l.), Will Hammet and Aaron Odom.

A Great Big Softie *Continued from page 5*

did and made sure Davis was commended for it.

The Army gave him the choice of three assignments when he got home. He could be stationed at Ft. McClellan in Alabama. He could go to Georgia Military Academy in Milledgeville, Ga. Or he could go to Gordon Military College in Barnesville.

He and his wife visited the different locations and compared the pluses and minuses, and they chose Gordon and Barnesville. The job at Gordon suited Davis, and the family loved the looks of Barnesville, which to this day Davis says he enjoyed more than any other place they had lived up to that point. Almost 40 years after moving away from Barnesville, he still remembers it as "a fine little town."

He became chief instructor of military science teaching the high-school level cadets. "We taught them discipline, morals, military history and military culture," he said.

And how did he teach discipline? He "discharged demerits," which means he had cadets walk off demerits on the bullring. In a couple of more difficult cases, he had cadets edge sidewalks with their mess-kit knives. "The purpose of this," Davis said, "was that the cadet knew he was being seen." This not only taught him to be more disciplined in the

future, but it also encouraged other cadets to behave.

Both of his daughters attended Gordon. Kay, the eldest, graduated from Gordon Military High School in 1969 and Gordon Military College in 1971. Karen graduated from Gordon Military High School in 1971, the last year the family lived in Barnesville.

Davis himself graduated from Gordon Military College, at one point taking a math class alongside his daughter Karen, whom he helped through the course by acting as her tutor. Davis would later go on to earn a bachelor's in finance and accounting from Florida State University, a degree he put to full use when he became an IRS agent, a job he held for 15 years.

When asked about the cadet to coed ratio at Gordon, Karen unequivocally said it was "great, wonderful," but that it was difficult to get a date "when my dad was the cadets' disciplinarian." As Kay put it, "We were the Sgt. Maj.'s daughters. That's how we were known."

She said that when she or her sister did have a date, the young man would have to come into the house for a visit where her father would "pin them down." That is, according to Davis, he'd have the young man sit down next to his daughter and then make a

show of giving his daughter a dime.

"If there is something urgent that comes up," he'd say to his daughter in front of the young man, "I want you to stop, find a phone and call me." Then he'd look at the cadet and say, "Do yourself a favor. If she says stop, stop."

At their weddings, he gave his daughters necklaces from which hung Mercury-head dimes. The message to them, and their husbands, was unstated but quite clear.

Today, Davis is retired... from the Army, from Gordon Military College and from the IRS. He has had two bypass surgeries, has an artificial heart valve, has stents in both legs and suffered head and intestinal injuries in a car accident two and a half years ago. But you'd never know it to look at him and enjoy his company.

He is active in his church, the First Baptist of Quincy, Fla. and when afternoon thunderstorms are distant, he tends his beautifully landscaped yard hidden away in a 17-acre enclosure of thick woods. He also likes to travel in his motor home to the Northwest and Alaska.

So it's hard to tell if he's a great big softie, or if there is nothing soft about the man. But he'll tell you jokingly, "I'm just as happy as if I had good sense." ❀

Class Interrupted *Continued from page 41*

Not long after Sept. 11, 2001, Alexander once again experienced the anxiety of having a loved one in harm's way when his two sons both enlisted. Alexander's son Clifford served four years in the Navy and his eldest, Michael, an Airborne Ranger, has served two tours in Iraq and two tours in Afghanistan.

Thinking about his own family led him to think about all military families and those serving, especially those with a connection to Gordon.

"The selfless service of all Gordon veterans and their families is one to be proud of," he said, "and their willingness to go in harm's way speaks volumes of the patriotism from those who have served and continue to serve from Barnesville and the surrounding area."

When Alexander speaks about the Second Infantry Division, you will hear him use the word "warrior" and the expression "tip of the

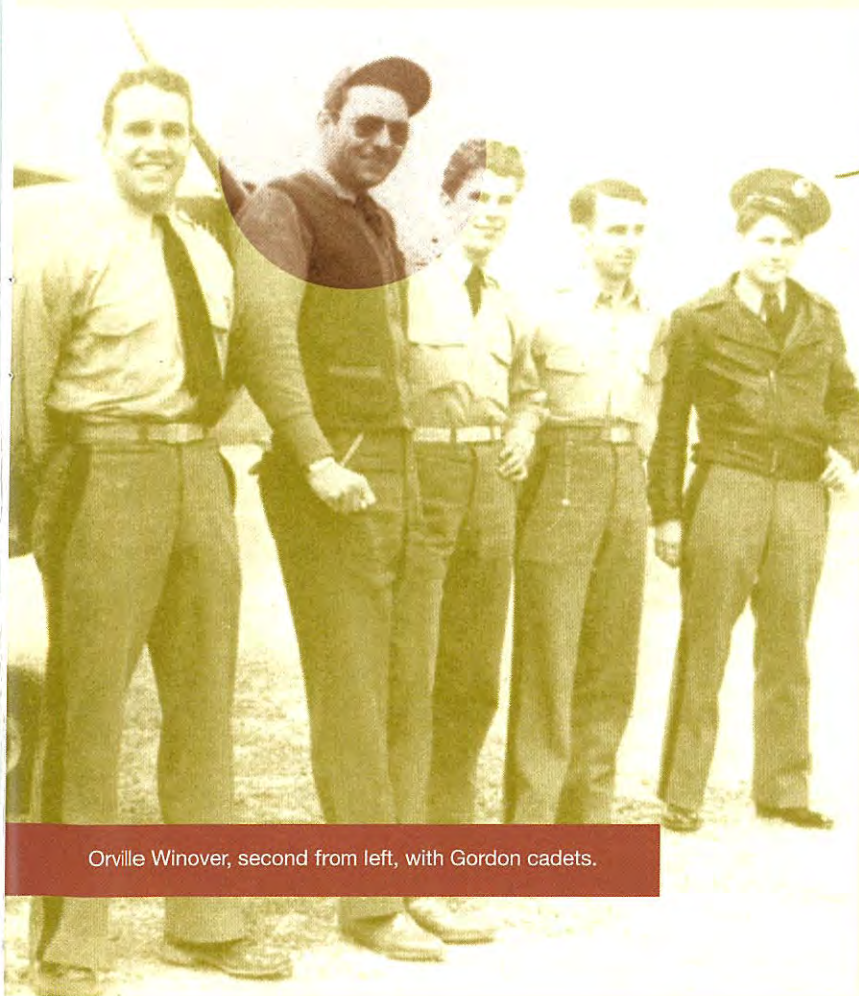
spear." This is not vainglory, but the simple truth of the matter. The soldiers of the 2ID are where they are because they are expected to be the first to engage the enemy should it ever invade. A statement of the division's mission in the museum's brochure makes this clear: "The division's primary mission is to deter war on the Korean peninsula; if required, the division will fight tonight and win."

This is what Alexander helps visitors to the museum to understand, that if necessary they will go into battle at a moment's notice. There is no one else. Alexander's teaching the history and traditions of the 2ID helps these visitors understand who they are by showing them where they've come from.

And this is why honoring the past is so important; it helps us understand who we are by showing us where we've come from. ❀



The Griffin Airport terminal, early 1940s.



Orville Winover, second from left, with Gordon cadets.

Remembering

"Chief" Winover

At one time, Gordon College offered a course in flying at the Griffin Airport. The Civilian Pilot Training Act of 1939 prompted the program's beginning, and the man in the right place at the right time to teach the cadets was Orville Winover, father to Jack W. Winover (Class of '67 and '69).

According to Jack, his father came to Griffin, Ga., in the mid-1930s to be the city's first manager of its brand new airport and to open a flight training school.

"He had previously flown through South Georgia in the late '20s as a barnstormer and had established some contacts in Griffin. One of those contacted him about the airport position," Jack said. "He obtained a Civilian Pilot Training (CPT) contract and began teaching the Gordon cadets primary flight training."

The Gordon Military College catalog for 1940 includes a description of its CPT program, authorized by the Civilian Pilot Training Act of 1939. The course had a \$25 laboratory fee, and cadets were expected to get themselves to and from the airport, 17 miles from campus. Cadets had to be 18, had to have parental approval, and had to pledge to apply for flight training in the Army or Navy if pilots were needed.

Gordon's CPT program was short-lived, since World War II began for the United States in 1941, and the Army Air Corps took over the primary training of pilots. Orville Winover enlisted in the Civilian Air Patrol (CAP), according to his son, "where he flew mostly submarine patrol in our inland waterways and coastal areas."

"Once while flying a Staggerwing Beechcraft off the coast of Savannah," Jack said, "he spotted an enemy submarine and was able to photograph it. Communications being what they were at the time, the sub was long gone before our military could respond."

"In 1963, when I started at Gordon, I eventually met several of my dad's former flight students, men who went on to fly during World War II and returned to their hometown of Barnesville," Jack said. "As a student pilot, you usually never forget the person who taught you to fly. Easy for me and my older brother, as my dad was also our flight instructor." 🌸

1930s

Nannie C. Haygood '31 was the subject of an article by Richard Dumas in the *Monroe County Reporter* on June 16, 2010. The name of the article was "At 96, Haygood Is Still Culloden's Peach Lady." She recently donated her cousin Allie Abercrombie's 1898 Gordon Institute diploma to the College. It is on display in the Alumni House.

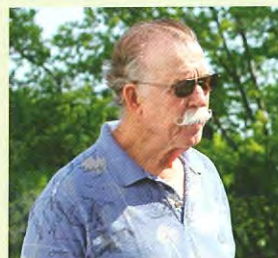
Jeanelle Frances Keadle Collins '36 celebrated her 91st birthday on May 19.



Bill Barber '48, '50 is retired and living in Niceville, Fla., across the bay from Destin. He plays tennis quite a bit and works in the yard with his wife Dot.

1960s

Jenny Woodlee '60 was the salutatorian of her high school class, captain of cheerleaders and graduated from UGA in '63 with an A.B. in Spanish. She taught high school Spanish and English until 1970 and then worked in business, retiring from Coca-Cola in 2000. She stays busy with Goodwill of North Georgia, the Cathedral Bookstore, and various other civic clubs and organizations like the High Museum of Art and the Atlanta Botanical Garden.



Ed Owen '60 is retired and now lives in Tampa, Fla., with his wife of 42 years, Bev. He played football in Gordon's college prep class in '61 and left for the University of Tampa in December '61. He received his M.A. from New Mexico Highlands University and was a teacher and coach for 36 years, teaching biology, physical education and drivers' education and coaching football and some track and wrestling. He likes to fish and dive.

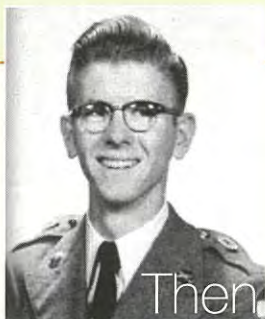
1940s

Raymond Hieber '44 joined the U.S. Army in July 1944. He went to Germany with the 17th Airborne Division as an interpreter for the Army. He met his wife Helen in Oberzell, Germany, and they were married in 1947. After an honorable discharge from the Army in 1948, he went to work for the U.S. Post Office until his retirement in 1983. He wishes to express special thanks to the memory of Miss Marion Bush who did so much for him during his time at Gordon. He resides in Schererville, Ind.

1950s

Betsy Shiver '57 enjoys traveling, camping, fishing and spending time with family and friends.

Natalyn (Nat) Daniel Livingston '59 graduated in 1963 with a B.S. in education from the University of Georgia. She received her master's from Mercer University. As a career educator she taught middle school math and science. Nat served on the state science testing standards committee. She was appointed by Gov. Roy Barnes to the state personnel board. She was also appointed to the Georgia Employee Investment Council. After she retired in 1996 she was employed as a hospital homebound teacher. She volunteers as a GED instructor for the Toccoa Adult Literacy Council.



Al Yeomans '55 came to Gordon by way of the little town of Register, Ga. His school, which included grades 8 through 12, had just 90 students. He was in the 10th grade when he learned his school was about to be consolidated into the county system. This meant that if he stayed where he was, he would be moved to a new school for his senior year.

He knew about Gordon because he had a cousin a year ahead of him who attended the school. Yeomans heard about living in barracks, the food and the classes and liked what he heard about the routine. Soon thereafter, Capt. Sonny Paget visited and recruited him for Gordon.

"I was 16 and ready to do something else," Yeomans said. "I kind of liked the uniform, which meant I wouldn't have to worry about clothes or being in fashion."

He suffered from homesickness for the first six weeks of his junior year, but he settled down. "I was a pretty well-organized kid and didn't mind the regimentation. Gordon taught me independence and respect at an earlier age than I would have."

After Gordon, Yeomans transferred to North Georgia College where he continued his military training and earned a bachelor's degree in physics and math, and a commission in the Army. He served as an infantry officer for 20 years, serving two years in Vietnam.

He worked as a certified public accountant for 17 years with his wife and earned an M.S. in computer science from Georgia Tech. He and his wife are retired and have been living in Blue Ridge, Ga., for 12 years.

Owen Zellner '62 lives in Sugar Land, Texas, where he is employed by Lowe's Home Improvement and enjoys being a grandfather.

Tom Price '65 served in Vietnam, '69-'71, as a first lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers. He earned his Ph.D., M.S. and B.S. in mathematics from the University of Georgia. Since his retirement in 2006, he has remained active in mathematical research and writing. He and his wife, Judy, and Richard B. Darst published the book *Curious Curves* in 2009. He published another book in 2009 with friend and business partner, Lance Carnes, titled *LaTeX Quick Start*. He started a small company (www.sitextools.com) that specializes in technical training and software development. He and Judy are active volunteers, tutoring mathematics for GED candidates and working for various Christian ministries.

Wayne Robinson '66, '68 is a retired assistant superintendent of the Fayette County school system. He is currently a trainer and fitness director at Sun City Peachtree in Griffin, Ga.

Lynda Lee '67 has retired and moved home to Barnesville, Ga., after living in Tennessee and Florida. She is involved in the Lamar County Humane Society and is the activity director for Villas on Forsyth and Church. She is enjoying renewing friendships with old classmates now that she is back in Barnesville.

Luke (Larry) Marsh Jr. '67 is retired from the Charlotte County School Board in Port Charlotte, Fla., and has been helping out with oil spill preparations. He graduated with a B.S. in business administration from the University of Richmond in Richmond, Va., and earned a degree in computer science from Strayer University in Washington D.C. He would love to hear from some of his roommates from T-Street barracks. His e-mail address is lam9@earthlink.net.

Kenneth Morgan Markham '68, '69 is retired as chief of police of Greensboro, Fla., with 31 years of service. He served two tours of service in Vietnam.

Pam Pulliam Swift '68, '70 retired in 2008 and moved to Flowery Branch, Ga. She and husband Walter enjoy traveling, outdoor

activities, Lake Lanier, and time with their grandchildren. All five of their grandchildren are within 15 minutes of their home.

1970s



George and Cindy Corley

George Corley '70 is a retired lieutenant colonel from the Army Corps of Engineers after serving for 21 years.

Sharon Kennedy Akins '70, '72 graduated in 1974 from Georgia Southern with a bachelor of science in home economics, with a focus on interior design. Upon retiring from Macy's after 24 years, she and her husband, Joel, traveled for 5½ years, seeing all of the lower 48 states except North Dakota, and Kansas. They recently came "off the road" and bought a house out in the country in Gibson, Ga. They still go camping occasionally, and have replaced the kids with three minidachshunds.

John Bankston '70, '72 earned a bachelor of science in business administration from Georgia Southwestern in 1974. He is a general manager for The Lehigh Group in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, where he has lived for four years. Prior to that he lived on Lake Oconee for 13 years and worked as a plant manager for Wellington Leisure Products. He and his wife have three children and eight grandchildren. He is presently going to school to learn Spanish.

Mary Joy Weldon Kingsley '70, '72 was a full-time wife and mother while enjoying being a "military wife." She completed her B.S. in human relations in 2002 from Atlanta Christian College. She worked for two years with the state of Georgia in family services. She is owner and office manager at Traditions Realty. Joy and her husband, Kent, have been married for almost 39 years and have two children.

Kent Kingsley '70, '72 spent 20 years traveling the world while serving in the Army, which included Desert Storm, Panama, Korea and Germany, as well as many posts stateside. He retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1996. He received his master's in political science from Mississippi State. He and his wife, Joy, returned to Barnesville in 1996. He's taught high school and served as chairman of the Lamar County Commission from 1999-2002. In 2003 began working in real estate as broker/owner at Traditions Realty in Barnesville, Ga.

Clay R. Kleckley '70 graduated with a B.A. in political science from Georgia Southern University in 1972, received a master of education in student personnel services from University of South Carolina in 1974, received a specialist in education degree from the University of Georgia in 1976, and received an Ed.D. in counselor education from Mississippi State University in May 1981. Dr. Kleckley has been employed with Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania since age 23. His role has always been faculty, and he is a full professor. Currently, he serves as professor/director of counseling and advising at Lock Haven University's branch campus in Clearfield, Penn. He has taught over the years a variety of courses related to teacher education, reading education, career development, and freshman experience. His plans are to retire to his home in the Columbia, S.C., area later this year. He enjoys fishing and camping.

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Military Memorial Plaza

Walter (Flip) Leach '70 entered the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs then transferred to Georgia Tech and graduated in 1974. He retired in 2008 and today he and his wife spend half of their time in Charlotte and the other half at their beach house on Isle of Palms, S.C. He and his wife enjoy international travel and hope to do more of it now that he has retired.

Don Neuner '70 earned his bachelor's and master's in industrial management from Georgia Tech. Don works as a partner with Synergy Solutions Group, which helps retail companies with their distribution operations. Don and his wife Karen live in Fayetteville, Ga. He has been to all 50 states and spent two summers backpacking in Europe. They are active in the First United Methodist Church in Fayetteville and the Boy Scouts of America. Don has served on the Gordon College Alumni Advisory Board for five years.



John D. Miller '70, '72 earned a B.S. in health and physical education at Georgia Southwestern in 1976, and his M.S. in broadfield science from Georgia College. His career has been teaching science, coaching football, baseball, and track at the high school and junior high school level. He retired from teaching in 2008 but continues to substitute teach science. He likes woodworking and playing golf. He and his wife Vickie live in Perry, Ga., and enjoy traveling.

Gay (Kennedy) Robinson '70, '72 transferred from Gordon to Tift College where she earned a bachelor of science in education and then earned her master of education and physical education from Georgia State University. During her career she has been honored as the J.W. Arnold Teacher of the Year, Clayton County, and Physical Educator of the Year. She worked for Clayton County for 23 years and is

now retired. She has her Silver Sneakers certification and has just completed the ZUMBA Gold certification.

Janet Sammons '70 completed her B.S. in business at Centenary College in Shreveport, La., then lived in Kentucky for several years before moving back to Georgia. She is currently living in Lilburn, Ga., and working as director of bank taxation at Porter Keadle Moore, LLP. Her hobbies include walking, reading and tennis.

Linda Dorsey Anderson '71, '72, and James Anderson '69, '71 have been married 37 years. She begins her 35th year in the Lamar County school system this fall. James recently retired from the Barnesville Post Office after 32 years of mail delivery in Barnesville. They have one daughter and enjoy traveling.

Edgar Figueroa '71 became a physician and is retired from the U.S. Army. He and his wife currently live at Fort Meade and she works at Walter Reed. Upon her retirement they plan to return to Valdosta, Ga. where they have a home. He may be reached on Facebook or through drefigueroatorres@hotmail.com.

Vickey Vaughan '72, '77 is employed by the Medical Center of Central Georgia, as RNC, Family Nurse Practitioner, MSN. She received Clinical Ladder Level IV Award, the highest level for a clinical nurse. She was awarded a HEAT Community Grant for First Nurse-First Book Program she initiated in the Labor and Delivery Unit at MCCG. She and her husband Winfred have been married 35 years and live in Barnesville, Ga. They have two daughters and six grandchildren. She enjoys medical mission trips to Mexico twice a year, reading, and gardening.



Kenny Burth '74 earned his associate in business while playing baseball for Gordon, then earned his bachelor's in business management from Georgia State in '76. He retired as branch manager from Sun Trust in '92, then spent the next five years helping to straighten out the business affairs of a church. In '97 he was hired by the U.S. Postal Service, which he works for today.

Stan Greene '76 is the administrative director of the Rose Community Theater in Forsyth, Ga. Stan would love to gather Gordon alumni who participated in choral and theatrical performances at Gordon in the 1970s.

Pam (Scoggins) Robertson '79 earned her B.S. in nursing from Clayton State University and an M.B.A. in health care administration from the University of Phoenix. She is a member of the Emergency Nurses Association and the Air and Transport Nurses Association. Spalding Regional Medical Center named her director of surgical services in 2009, overseeing the operations of the main operating room, holding room, post anesthesia recovery unit and central sterile processing.

1980s & 1990s

Michael Stephens '89, '95 recently founded Stephens & Associates Health Care Consultants in Johns Creek, Ga. He received his B.S.N. from the Medical College of Georgia on the Gordon campus in 1997. He is currently enrolled in an M.S. program at North Georgia College and State University and is in the process of establishing an assisted living facility in Dawsonville, Ga.

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Connie Peace Coleman '90 is employed by the Ga. Dept. of Natural Resources in contract management. She enjoys Ga. Tech football. She graduated from Ga. Tech in '92 majoring in physics. She also enjoys scrapbooking and travel.



Virginia Carter '99 earned her A.S. in pre-pharmacy from Gordon and then earned her Pharm.D. from UGA in '03. In '08, she was named Career Woman of the Year for Lamar County. In 2010, she will finish up a four-year stint serving on Gordon College's Alumni Advisory Board.

Melody (Bradley) Hart '99 graduated magna cum laude as a doctor of pharmacy from the University of Georgia in 2003. She was a member of Rho Chi Honor Society. She works at the Navy School Pharmacy in Athens, Ga.

2000s



Jenni Bryant '01, '09 is currently enrolled in the doctor of pharmacy program at Georgia Southern University and expects to graduate in 2013. She has two children. Her first degree from Gordon is an A.A. in teacher education; her second is an A.S. in pre-pharmacy.



Amy Grimsley '02 graduated summa cum laude in May 2006 from the Mercer University doctor of pharmacy program and works for Kroger in Macon. She is completing her second year of post-graduate oncology residency at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.

Ashley Renfroe Landers '03 graduated 2007 summa cum laude with a doctor of pharmacy degree from Mercer University. She and her husband Andy have a daughter. They live in Williamson, Ga.

Chandra Moxon '03 graduated from Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine in 2010. Dr. Moxon has joined the Barnesville Animal Clinic as an associate veterinarian. She will be practicing both large and small animal medicine, with an emphasis in equine medicine.

M. Robin Phillips '03 graduated from Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in 2007 with a doctor of pharmacy degree. She was selected to attend the 2008 New Practitioner Leadership Conference sponsored by the Georgia Pharmacy Association. Robin is employed by Rite Aid Pharmacy in Thomaston, Ga.

Christina Obob-Bugh '05 is twice a winner of the 2009 Strawberry Service Excellence Award at the Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon. The award is given to recipients who have gone beyond the call of duty in customer service and patient satisfaction. Obob-Bugh works at the Luce Heart Institute at the Medical Center.

Mindy Crowel Daniel '06 is in graduate school at the University of Georgia.

William Tyler Landers '06 graduated magna cum laude May 2010 from UGA with a doctor of pharmacy degree. He is employed by Walmart pharmacy in Griffin, Ga.

Raj Sayed '06 earned his bachelor's degree at University of West Georgia in 2008. He then began his graduate work. He is an intern for the planning and development department for the city of Griffin, Ga.

2010s

Tiffany Cadenhead Hammons '10 graduated summa cum laude from Gordon with an associate in pre-pharmacy. She is a member of Phi Kappa Theta and has been accepted by South University School of Pharmacy in Savannah, Ga.

Heather Cadenhead '10 graduated summa cum laude from Gordon with an associate in pre-pharmacy. She is a member of Phi Kappa Theta and has been accepted by South University School of Pharmacy in Savannah, Ga.

Cindy McCard '10 earned an associate in business administration. She is employed by Gordon College in the business office. Her husband, Robert is also employed by Gordon College. They reside in Thomaston, Ga. Cindy plans to spend her time relaxing with her grandchildren and doing yard work.

Get More

Tell us what's new with you.

We would like to stay informed about what's new in your personal and professional activities so we can share your news with other alumni and friends in our Class Notes section in next year's magazine. Please send your items to Lynn Yates, Advancement Office, Gordon College, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, GA, 30204, email her at lynny@gdn.edu or call her at 678-359-5073. You may also fax information to 770-358-5738. We want to know your news!

The annual Honor Roll of Donors includes the names of those whose gifts were received between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010. In preparing this document every effort has been made to ensure accuracy and completeness. If a mistake was made in the way a donor is identified or if a donor's name was omitted from a gift list, we sincerely apologize. Please report any corrections to the Office of Advancement at 678-359-5124 or rhondat@gdh.edu. Thank you.

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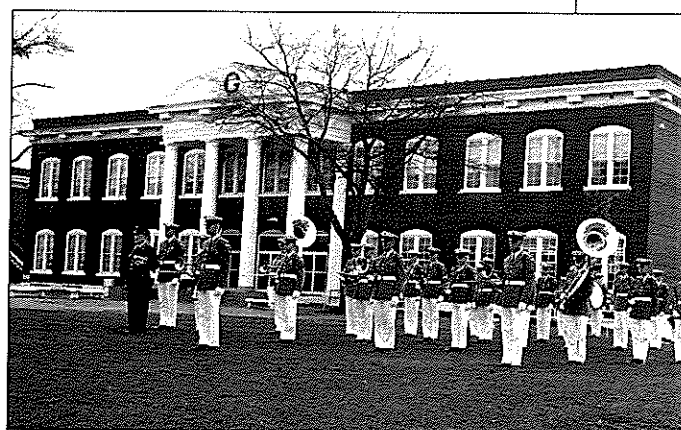
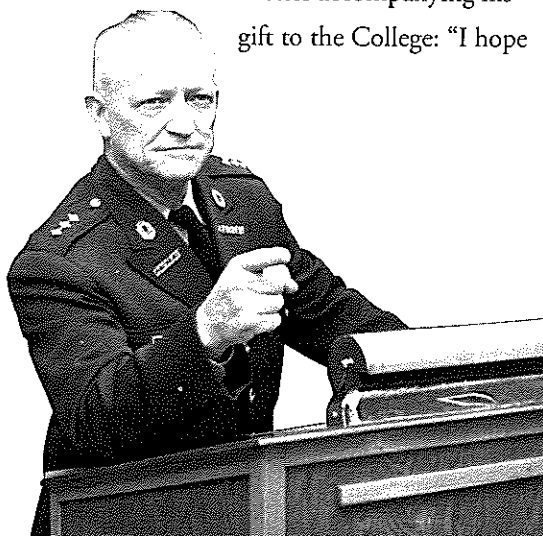
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Alumnus Donates Rare Photo Collection

James S.W. Harris donated his collection of Gordon Military College photographs taken during the years his father, Col. C.T.B. Harris was president from 1953 to 1963. Col. Harris, pictured below, is one of the most respected and admired presidents from Gordon's military days.

His son, a retired Army lieutenant colonel who served in Vietnam, wrote the following in a letter accompanying his gift to the College: "I hope



these pictures will be useful in stimulating fond thoughts and memories of the proud period of Gordon as a military school."

The photos have been placed in the archives of Gordon's Hightower Library; a selection have been posted on the Gordon College Alumni Association Facebook page.

A Donation of History by Frances Bray

Frances Bray paid a visit to Gordon College's Alumni House last fall to donate memorabilia that she and her husband, the late Joseph P. Bray, had collected. He was the last president of Gordon Military College before it became part of the University System of Georgia. With her (right) is Lynn Yates, the alumni affairs coordinator for the college.

Among the many gifts was a copy of Marion Bush's *Character, Culture, Scholarship: Gordon Military College, 1852-1972*, with the following inscription in the author's hand: "To Joe and Frances Bray, who made the transition from active to emeritus pleasant and easy and who facilitated the change from Gordon Military to Gordon Junior for everyone involved – Sincerely, 'Miss Marion.'"

Her donation included 10 successive years of the Taps yearbook (1963-1972), a folder



containing historical documents and clippings from Gordon Military College, the last U.S. and Georgia flags to fly over Gordon Military College, a red athletic jacket presented to her husband by the Gordon baseball team, the Gordon Military College seal and a collection of 54 books.

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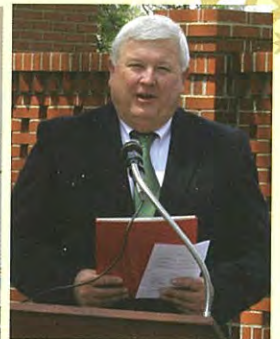
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From left to right, first row: James Basil Gore, Joy Weldon Kingsley, Sharon Kennedy Akins, Gay Kennedy Robinson, Kathy Andrews Dangar, Ray Bone and Lee Covin. **Second row:** Kent Kingsley, John Miller, Mary Beth Pearman Stone, John Bankston, Saralyn Peters Fountain and Janet Sammons. **Back row:** Bo Childs, Don Neuner, Frank Abbott, Julie Caldwell Sykes, Walter Leach and Worth Andrews.

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