

COURAGE LOYALTY HONOR • YESTERDAY TODAY TOMORROW



The OMA KIA Memorial has 101 names of OMA Alumni who were killed in action in World War II, the Korea War and the Vietnam War

OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY REUNION 2013 WILL BE EXTRAORDINARY!

Each and every year since 1973, OMA Alumni gather on "College Hill" in June for their annual alumni reunion. Prepare to "Report To The Hill" is the call that is sent out to all returning alumni, including many who have not been back since they left OMA.

The OMA Alumni Association has made a concentrated effort to help identify "lost" alumni, however recent efforts have helped make this a record year. Through the leadership efforts of Phil Goldfarb '69 and Gene Little '56,

Continued on page 6

OMA CHEERLEADERS' COLORFUL HISTORY

When the term esprit de corps came up in the mid to late 1960s, there was always one name that emerged for the cadets and that was: Cheerleaders! The OMA Cheerleader squad began in the fall 1961 and lasted until 1969...only eight years out of 52 years on the Hill.

Alumni from the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s never could believe that we had cheerleaders on the Hill, but it is

absolutely true. In fact, during the early days of the cheerleaders, they also did double duty as the Color Guard as well as firing and maintaining the cannon for reveille and retreat. These special cadets wore white jeans and either a blue or gold t-shirt with the proud OMA insignia at the games.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Bill Ramsay

Spring is in the air, and planning is underway for what promises to be an outstanding 2013 OMA Alumni Reunion scheduled for June 7th and 8th. In addition to honoring our Hall Of Fame and Distinguished Alumni, as we reunite this year we will honor all those of you who served in the Armed Forces with a very nice memento. I am also very pleased to report that RSU President Dr. Larry Rice will be presented with the Lt. General William E. Potts Award of Excellence. Mr. Ken Colley, '69, who has been named a Distinguished Alumni, will be serving as our Adjutant this year.

Although many of you have made the Reunion event an annual tradition, I expect to see more new faces this year as first-time Alumni Reunion attendees will get free lunch and dinner on Saturday. As always there will be golf, pool and ping pong, a ladies luncheon hosted by RSU First Lady Peggy Rice and much reminiscing and story-telling. Also check out what is new (and old) in the OMA Museum. So--get yourself registered, and get your plans finalized to "Report to The Hill" once again. I look forward to seeing you in June.



Bill Ramsay, '61
OMA Alumni Association President

NEW BOARD MEMBERS FOR OMA ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Three new members have been appointed to the OMA Alumni Association Board: Bill Harris, MG Michael Kuehr, AUS (Retired) and Bob Wallack.

Harris attended high school and junior college at OMA, graduating in 1954 and receiving the "Best Drilled Cadet" award for the 1953-54 school year. While attending Oklahoma A&M (now OSU), he served as the Cadet Adjutant in the rank of Major and graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate and earned a bachelor's degree in Geology in 1956. He spent the next 37 years in Oklahoma, working for such well-known oil companies as Cities Service and Schlumberger. He also served as president of the Society of Professional Well Log Analysts in 1988. He has remained active in his retirement years, maintaining membership in the Oklahoma Geological Society and the Society of Petroleum Engineers, serving as vice president of the Sooner Model "A" Club, and working tirelessly on behalf of the OMA Alumni Association, where he was named a Distinguished Alumnus in 2003 and inducted into its Hall of Fame in 2008. He and his wife, Sue, reside in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Kuehr graduated from OMA in 1968 and went on to obtain a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida, a master's degree from the University of Southern California, and a law degree from St. Mary's University in Texas. He also is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College. He served in

a wide variety of important command and staff positions both on active duty and as an Army Reserve Officer. Among his numerous awards and decorations are the Army Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (one oak leaf cluster), Meritorious Service Medal (three oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (four oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal, Senior Parachutist Badge and Pathfinder Badge. As a civilian, Kuehr is a semi-retired attorney living in San Antonio, Texas with his wife, Dr. Wanda Kuehr, a psychologist for the U.S. Army at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Kuehr was inducted into the OMA Alumni Hall of Fame in 2006.

Wallack, a 1953 OMA graduate, has long been involved with the OMA Alumni Association, serving as Board president in 1960-61. He also was instrumental in setting up the OMA Museum at Meyer Hall. Now retired, Wallack spent his 40-year career in law enforcement and security in the Tulsa area, where he worked for such companies as Boeing and Rockwell and received awards such as Security and Fire Protection Citizen of the Year at Boeing International and Reserve Officer of the Year for the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office.

These three gentlemen will replace departing board members Dale Covington, Jack Harris and Maj. Gen. Timothy Malishenko, USAF (RET).

WOOD NAMED TO OMA HALL OF FAME



Brigadier General Preston Wood, USMC, Retired **Hall of Fame Posthumous**

When Brigadier General Preston Wood retired from the Marine Corps in 1957, he returned to his native Oklahoma a highly decorated veteran with a list of military accomplishments to his name. But according to his stepdaughter, Jan

Bartlett, he never forgot his years at OMA. As a matter of fact, she relates that he mentioned them often and that she remembers him being actively involved in trying to keep the school going.

"OMA was a really important part of his life," says Jan. "When he retired from the military and moved back to the Tulsa area, we were always running into people he knew from OMA."

Even though the general became a career military man, it was his years of playing polo at OMA that formed the fondest memories for him. An avid horseman and polo player, he lettered in polo during his last year at OMA and remembered when Will Rogers took an interest in OMA's polo team. After finishing at OMA, Wood went on to get a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration at the University of Oklahoma and played on their polo team, as well.

While at OU, Wood participated in the ROTC program and was an honor student, just as he had been at OMA. His OMA and ROTC training served him in good stead as he received his commission as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps after graduating from OU in 1936. From there, he began a highly successful and illustrious Marine Corps career that would span over two decades and take him far from his birthplace in Poteau, Okla.

Wood served on the Pacific front in WWII in the campaigns of Guadalcanal, New Guinea, New Britain, Pavuvu and Peleliu. Following the war, he served for a time in China. By the time he retired in 1957, he had risen to the rank of brigadier general and had amassed a host of medals and decorations, including three Bronze Stars (one with Combat "V"), the Navy Unit Commendation, the American Defense Service Medal with Base Clasp, the American Area Campaign Medal with one silver star, the World War II Victory Medal, the Navy Occupation Service Medal, the China Service Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

Following his military retirement, Wood worked for several companies engaged in the development, manufacture and sale of a patented line of punch card trays, files and data processing equipment. He served as vice president and production manager for Ray Myers Co. of Endicott, NY from 1957 to 1958. He was product manager of data processing accessories with Diebold, Inc. of Canton, Ohio from 1958 to 1961, where he designed several improvements and held a patent for the tabulating card file tray.

He resigned from Diebold in 1961 in order to become eligible for an active duty assignment in the Marine Corps – which proved to be a year of short duration, in which his (USMC) service was not required. He retired fully from his business career at this point and returned to his home state of Oklahoma.

He married Dorothy Irwin, a teacher in the Bixby Public School Systems, in 1967 and became an involved member of the Bixby community. He was a member of the Bixby Masonic Lodge and the Bixby Chamber of Commerce. He was also a member of the First United Methodist Church of Bixby. He passed away at home on May 8, 1974 and was buried with full military honors at Fort Gibson National Cemetery.

COLONEL STEPHEN M. BARRETT ENDOWMENT



Col. Stephen M. Barrett

When Oklahoma Military Academy's first President Colonel Stephen M. Barrett's granddaughters, Jane Barrett Hill, Jo Barrett Oldham, and great-great granddaughter Hannah Hill visited the OMA Museum in July of 2012, they came bearing a gift: a large scrapbook of their grandfather's memorabilia, which they allowed OMA Museum Curator Gene Little to examine and take pictures of for the education and enjoyment of

museum visitors and OMA Alumni. When they saw the artifacts and history already on display, they were so touched and impressed by the preservation of their beloved patriarch's memory that they soon contacted Dr. Danette Boyle, Executive Director of the OMA Alumni Association, to establish the Colonel Stephen M. Barrett Scholarship Endowment in his honor and for the furtherance of the education to which he dedicated his life and career.

"We established this scholarship in hopes of helping students who want to enter the field of education," says Jane. "Our grandfather had a genuine interest in a good education and many of his children, grandchildren and other family members entered the field of education."

Colonel Barrett's history bears testimony to his granddaughter's words about his interest in higher learning. After serving in various educational positions, he held what would be the last president's position for Eastern University Preparatory School and was the first president of its successor on The Hill, Oklahoma Military Academy. In fact, he was instrumental in the conversion of EUPS to a military school, as he was very interested in both vocational education and military training. Only a serious injury held him back from attending West Point as a young man, and he was honored to accept the title of "Colonel" when the Oklahoma National Guard appointed him the honorary title that would be bestowed on all presidents of OMA. He served as OMA President from 1920-1923 and spent his life educating others, both in teaching and administrative positions and as a writer, authoring several books about Native Americans and being the only author who wrote Geronimo's story that had an actual friendship with the famous Apache. In addition to Geronimo, Colonel Barrett numbered other famous personalities as his friends, like President Taft and President Theodore Roosevelt.

The first edition of *Vedette*, OMA's yearbook, included a passage explaining the curriculum and disciplines and describing the type of citizen Barrett and other school founders would endeavor to produce: "...This type of man is quiet, clear-eyed, modest, and possessed of a magnetic personality that attracts and at the same time permits no undue familiarity. This is the kind of man of whom



THE BARRETT FAMILY

Back row: Cassell, Mable, Dorothy, Bertha, Edith, and Jessie Dee. Front row: Bill, President Barrett, Jack, Mrs. Barrett and Stephen, Jr.



Pictured next to the portrait of President Barrett are (L to R) granddaughters Jo Barrett Oldham and Jane Barrett Hill and great-great-granddaughter Hannah Hill along with RSU President Dr. Larry Rice.

everybody is proud to say: 'He is a friend of mine.'" Those who knew Colonel Stephen M. Barrett might say that he fulfilled this statement personally as well as professionally. Jane Barrett Hill, her sister Janna, and a few cousins were fortunate enough to know Col. Barrett, and they treasure the collection of personal memories made up of childhood visits to their grandfather's home and the rich and colorful stories told to them by their father, Jack Barrett, the youngest of President Barrett's nine children.

"One of my sisters remembers being at his house while he was tending to his garden...in his suit!" says Jane, who relates that this personally doesn't surprise her. "I don't remember seeing him in any work clothes—always with a shirt and tie." Jane remembers her grandfather singing to her while he rocked her on his knee and another granddaughter, Joan, remembers her "Granddad" babysitting her, sitting at the table and singing to her while he crumbled crackers into a glass of milk.

Since Jane, Jo and Barrett's great-great granddaughter, Hannah Hill, visited "The Hill" last summer and opened up their book of memories, more and more descendants of Colonel Barrett have emerged with wonderful stories of their grandfather, and some, like Dianne Barrett Tinnies, have joined their cousins in contributing financially to the

Colonel Stephen M. Barrett Scholarship Endowment. It seems that Colonel's Barrett's passion for education and love of preserving history have passed to his descendants, who are, as Jane Hill says, "all proud of our grandfather's efforts of good citizenship and education."

Dr. Danette Boyle was touched and encouraged to see yet another OMA Alumni or family member of alumni and past educators taking this type of positive, forward thinking step, both toward preserving the history of OMA and helping future RSU students to attain their educational goals. "So many alumni have come forward to establish endowments like this one to help further the legacy of OMA as it helps deserving students complete their education," says Dr. Boyle. "Thanks to the wonderful generosity of Jane Hill, Jo Barrett Oldham, Dianne Barrett Tinnies and other Barrett family members, Colonel Stephen M. Barrett and Oklahoma Military Academy will be remembered and honored in future generations."

For information on how you can ensure the legacy of the Oklahoma Military Academy and establish a scholarship endowment with a gift now or as part of your estate, please contact Danette Boyle, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Association at 918-343-6888 or dboyle@rsu.edu

OMA LAUNCHES OSCAR LOGAN'S DISTINGUISHED CAREER



Oklahoma Military Academy educated many who would later distinguish themselves in military service. Among them was Oscar Logan, Jr. of Pawhuska, Okla.

After graduating from OMA in 1943, Oscar joined the Marine Corps and served in the 5th Marine Division. He was critically wounded in the Battle of Iwo Jima on Feb. 22, 1945, and received a Purple Heart. Upon

his return to the U.S. in 1946, he married Della Morrell of Hominy, Okla.

Della also was a WWII veteran, serving in the U.S. Army on the European war front, where she and a group of women soldiers typed and received top secret cryptographic orders, messages, reports and cables to the Allied Supreme Commander's headquarters.

The couple both worked for U.S. Government agencies following their military service and were involved in the cattle, natural gas and oil industries. The couple raised five children, all of whom received college degrees and two went on to become attorneys.

Oscar and Della are buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va., both with full military honors.



The 2013 OMA Alumni Reunion theme is "Honoring All OMA Alumni Who Served and Protected their County in Times of War and Peace."



Photo by Nate Billings, The Oklahoman, Copyright 2012

David Stenhouse '67, Director of the Oklahoma Information Fusion Center, will be the special guest speaker at the OMA Alumni Reunion.

2013 REUNION

Continued from page 1

the alumni association has identified 939 alumni under the "OMA Alumni Finding OMA Alumni" program. Recently 287 were confirmed as deceased while fortunately we now have addresses for 646 more alumni! There are more than 2,000 active alumni with confirmed contact information.

The theme for this year's reunion is "Honoring All OMA Alumni Who Served and Protected their County in times of War and Peace." In recognition that "Some Gave All and All Gave Some," those alumni who served either on active duty, in the reserves or in the National Guard will receive a special, fun and unique gift on behalf of the OMA Alumni Board of Directors. In addition, we will be honoring the high school and junior college graduating classes of 1943, 1953 and 1963.

So, if there was ever a year that you might want to come back to the reunion and come home to "College Hill," this is the year. You will have the opportunity to reconnect with lost classmates you haven't seen for years and visit with so many more who you may see on a more regular basis but want to see again. If there are particular alumni who you really want to see, please contact Danette Boyle at dboyle@rsu.edu and we will do everything possible to get them here (or find them for you)!

It will be a great Friday and Saturday on College Hill with Mr. Ken Colley, '69 serving as the Reunion Adjutant. A native of Fort Smith, Ark., Ken attended two years of high school graduating in 1967 and then completed two years of junior college, graduating in 1969. He will be among the many other OMA Alumni who will be honored for their military service.

All Alumni who attend the 2013 Reunion for the first time will be special guests of the OMA Alumni Association for the Saturday Alumni Luncheon and Dinner, all at no charge.

During a recent discussion with Ken regarding the 2013 reunion, he commented, "This reunion will be extraordinary as we honor all those who served and have the opportunity to see new alumni that haven't been back to 'College Hill' since they left. I am so honored and excited about serving as the 2013 Reunion Adjutant. I am preparing myself now because I know that this reunion will be very emotional."



Joan Blankenship, David Blankenship '62 and Maj. Gen. Timothy Malishenko, USAF (RET) '63.



Nona Wilson and Dewey Wilson '66.

The importance of bringing back OMA Alumni who have never attended a reunion cannot be measured. It means so much to alumni to come home to "College Hill" and be reunited with former cadets. With this in mind, the OMA Alumni Board has approved a special incentive that will allow all alumni attending their first ever reunion to be a guest at the Saturday luncheon and evening dinner. If you haven't been back, then come home and be the guest of the Alumni Association and have no charges for the Saturday events.

An OMA Alumni is considered to be any student who completed their "rabbit period" and was "recognized" as a cadet. Graduation is not a requirement for Alumni Association membership, which is open to all cadets who attended at least one semester and departed in good standing.

As an extraordinary part of the events, David Stenhouse, Class of 1967, will make special comments at the OMA Alumni Reunion. David currently serves as the Director of the Oklahoma Information Fusion Center, overseeing the state's collection, assessment, analysis and dissemination of terrorism and crime prevention information. David has

the challenging job of operating a state intelligence-gathering center that can be very effective in fighting crime, while being constantly watchful for terrorist plots. This important center was created in 2007 through an executive order signed by then-Gov. Brad Henry. Stenhouse recently commented, "It was created to collect, assess and analyze criminal and terrorist information and provide this important information to law enforcement agencies through the state so they can respond according to all criminal activities." Without question, many OMA Alumni will be interested in hearing Stenhouse's insightful comments.

Dr. Danette Boyle, executive director of the OMA Alumni Association, recently said this year, maybe more than any other year, is the time to come back to the OMA Reunion.

"This is a perfect time to come back and see alumni you haven't seen for 30, 40, maybe even 50 years. It is a time to come back and walk around 'College Hill,' visit the world class OMA Museum and OMA KIA memorial, and reminisce about your years being on campus," she said.

NOW IS THE TIME TO COME HOME!

PRESIDENT RICE TO RECEIVE POTTS AWARD



RSU President Larry Rice

Rogers State University President Dr. Larry Rice has been selected as this year's recipient of the Lt. Gen. William E. Potts Award of Excellence, which recognizes extraordinary service advancing the OMA Alumni Association.

Dr. Rice has been affiliated with the university for more than three decades, including the past five years as its president. Under his leadership, the university has

enjoyed strong enrollment growth, expansion of key academic programs, creation of one of the nation's most competitive small-college athletic programs, and construction of several major additions to our Claremore and Pryor campuses.

A strong advocate for the OMA Alumni Association, Dr. Rice knows first-hand the power of the OMA legacy. His

doctoral dissertation – "Eighty Years of University Preparatory Education on College Hill" – is a detailed history of RSU's predecessor institutions up to that time.

An Oklahoma native, Dr. Rice began his academic career in 1979 as a full-time faculty member at RSU, which was then known as Rogers State College, where he taught classes in criminal justice, psychology and sociology.

During much of this time, Dr. Rice also served as a state representative in House District 8 for 18 years. From 1991 to 2008, he served in various leadership capacities at The University of Tulsa, where he helped lead its governmental relations work, as well as other administrative and fundraising operations.

The selection for the Potts Award is made only by a unanimous decision of the OMA Alumni Board of Directors. Past winners of the Potts Award have included Col. John Horne (2007); Dr. Danette Boyle (2007); Mr. Gene Little (2011) and Dr. Richard Mosier (2012).



The Lt. Gen. William E. Potts Award of Excellence is named for Lt. Gen. Potts, who participated in 15 campaigns, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. A native of Heavener, Okla., Potts was 19 when he completed his military training and was shortly thereafter commissioned as a U.S.

Army Second Lieutenant within six weeks of the attack on Pearl Harbor. After a promotion by Gen. George Patton, he became the youngest field grade officer to lead a battalion in Europe at age 22. He commanded an armored cavalry unit responsible for the East-West German border, the Fulda Gap, and the Frankfurt-Berlin autobahn.

Potts also served on the Army General Staff, the office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the office of the Secretary of Defense, in joint, combined and Allied staff positions, and as the Army representative in the U.S. National Intelligence Community. He was an inaugural member of the Military Intelligence Corps Hall of Fame.

Potts served as the OMA Corps Commander in 1941, and he was the first OMA alumnus inducted into the OMA Alumni Hall Fame in 1984. Following that, he served on the Rogers State President's Board of Advisors and was very instrumental in securing Department of Commerce funding to build the large RSU-TV transmission tower, making it possible for RSU to reach more than 1 million people with their broadcast signal. He passed away in 2005.

OMA REUNION 2013 REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Last date attended _____ ☐ High School ☐ Junior College
☐ First-Time OMA Reunion Attendee I served in the _____ Branch of Service.
Name of spouse/guest(s) _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____
Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2013

Number of Persons _____ Total \$ Amount _____

Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Golf Classic & Registration
Heritage Hills Golf Course • 9 a.m., Shotgun Start (Guests and spouses welcome)
☐ 18 holes - \$60 (includes lunch) ☐ Golf lunch only \$10
☐ Please arrange my foursome for me.
☐ My team members will be: _____

Ladies Luncheon Hosted by RSU First Lady Peggy Rice
11:30 a.m. • President's Residence, RSU Campus
☐ \$15 per person (Reservation required with maximum 40)

Ping-Pong/Pool Tournament
3-4:30 p.m. • RSU Centennial Center
☐ Ping-Pong - \$10 per person ☐ Pool - \$10 per person

Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Reunion Opening Reception
5:30-7:30 p.m. • RSU Centennial Center
☐ \$25 per person

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2013

Morning and Afternoon Reunion Activities
Registration begins at 8 a.m. • OMA Museum in Meyer Hall
(includes coffee, donuts, lunch, packets, ice cream social)
☐ \$30 per person **NO CHARGE FOR FIRST-TIME ATTENDING OMA ALUMNUS**

Reception and Dinner
5 p.m. • RSU Centennial Center
☐ \$40 per person **NO CHARGE FOR FIRST-TIME ATTENDING OMA ALUMNUS**

☐ I would like to make a contribution to help support the OMA Alumni Association.

Total Amount Enclosed

Return the registration form using the enclosed envelope or mail to: OMA Alumni Office, 1701 W. Will Rogers Blvd., Claremore, OK 74017.

☐ **Make checks payable to:** RSUF/OMA Alumni Association.

☐ **Please charge my** ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Account number _____ Expiration date _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____

Refund policy: Reunion 2013 registration refunds will be made only if the OMA Alumni Office is notified no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, June 3, 2013. For additional information, please call the OMA Alumni Office at 918-343-6888, 918-343-6889 or email dboyle@rsu.edu.

OMA ALUMNI HELP RSU BREAK GROUND ON NEW DINING HALL



Pictured at the RSU Dining Hall groundbreaking are, front row from left: Jack and RSU Foundation Board Member Mary Lou Spinks; Sue Hines; RSU Foundation Board Member Bobbye Mooney; OU Regent Vice Chairman Tom Clark and RSU Foundation Campaign Chair Robert Sherrer. Back row from left, Jim Huffman and John Nickel of Sodexo, RSU President Dr. Larry Rice, Randy Vierling of the OMA Alumni Association Board, OU Regent Jon Stuart, Jerry Dickman of the H.A. and Mary K. Chapman Charitable Trusts and RSU Foundation Chairman Chris Lyons.

Rogers State University broke ground April 2 for a new RSU student dining hall that will be a key component to the campus' ongoing growth.

The OMA Alumni Association endorsed the project and challenged its members to raise \$150,000 to support construction, becoming one of the earliest private groups to express support for this important project. More than half of the facility's \$5 million cost was provided through private funds, including the gifts and pledges from OMA alumni.

Fundraising for the OMA Alumni Association challenge is ongoing, approaching nearly 90 percent pledged toward this goal.

"Support from OMA alumni has been crucial to the success of this project, and we are appreciative for the ongoing support for the university and its mission of service to students," said RSU President Dr. Larry Rice.

The Student Dining Hall will be a two-story, 17,500-square-foot facility with a large open dining area with adjacent kitchen to provide healthy dining options. The building also will include a 6,000-square-foot basement/storm shelter that will protect students during inclement weather.

The dining hall site is adjacent to the two existing student apartment villages, as well as the planned site for a third set of campus apartments. University officials said that the dining hall will have the capacity to meet student demand for food service when RSU increases the number of campus residents.

To honor the university's OMA history, the dining hall will have an area that will be outfitted with tables and chairs that are reminiscent of the OMA Mess Hall era, along with pictures and memorabilia from OMA. The university has already started collaborating with OMA alumni to help design and outfit this new facility.

During the groundbreaking event, Dr. Rice and RSU Student Government Association President Philip Jackson thanked the OMA Alumni for their longstanding support of the university's students and programs.

As always, when there is a need, we find the OMA Alumni ready to answer the call.

If you have any questions about this initiative, you can contact Danette Boyle at dboyle@rsu.edu or call 918-343-6888 for more information.

OMA GRID STAR'S STORY FEATURED ONLINE



Stewart "Smokey"
Stover, '56

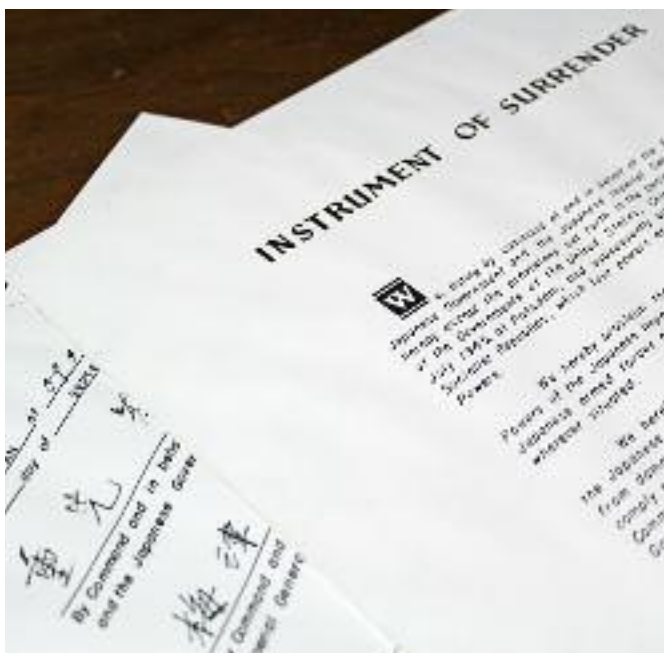
The heroics of OMA gridiron star Stewart "Smokey" Stover, '56 continue to be carried to new generations of football fans.

Stover holds the distinction of being the only person who has played in a Super Bowl and a Grey Cup (the Canadian football championship) in the same calendar year.

Stover of the Kansas City Chiefs (then of the American Football League) played in their 35-10 Super Bowl I loss to the Green Bay Packers in January 1967. He then traveled north to the play for the Hamilton Tiger-Cats in the Canadian Football League.

During the lead up to this year's Super Bowl, Yahoo! Canada sports columnist Andrew Bucholtz wrote a feature story on Stover, mentioning the player's formative years at OMA. For the full article, visit <http://ca.sports.yahoo.com/blogs/cfl-55-yard-line/stewart-smokey-stover-grey-cup-super-bowl-ever-184412470.html>. Stover's story also was featured in the Winter 2010 issue of Guidon.

INSTRUMENT OF SURRENDER



Among the memorabilia and personal effects donated by many prestigious alumni in the OMA Museum is a tribute to a lone cadet named Dallas Meade, '28.

Meade penned one of the most significant documents in U.S. military history – the "Instrument of Surrender" that effectively ended World War II when it was signed. The only known reproduction of the signed copy of this historic document resides in the OMA Museum, thanks to his brother, Robert Meade, '51, who donated it for safekeeping in 1995.

To help museum visitors better understand and appreciate the historical significance of the "Instrument of Surrender," a video about the Japanese surrender is available for viewing via nearby laptop in the OMA Museum. This video includes clips, film footage and news reels from that era. The video will be playing during the 2013 OMA Reunion in June, so attendees will want to be sure to stop and experience this important piece of OMA and U.S. Military history.

OMA CADETS THAT GRADUATED FROM OUR NATION'S PRESTIGIOUS SERVICE ACADEMIES

*In addition to the list published in the Winter 2013
Guidon, we would like to add:*

**Kirk Bell, '71, graduated from the
Air Force Academy in 1976.**

FATHERS AND SONS THAT ATTENDED OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY

*In addition to the list published in the Winter 2013
Guidon, we would like to add:*

**Jess D. Green, Jr., '41
Jess D. Green III, '71**

OMA ALUMNI CLAREMORE RECEPTION

JANUARY 31, 2013



◀ *Phil Goldbarb, '69, Kathi Cordell, and Dan Bolt, '69*

▶ *Gene Little, '56, Dr. Danette Boyle and Alex Adwan, '48*



▲ *June Doran and Dr. C.K. Doran, '52*



▲ *Don Hill, '54 and RSU President Emeritus Dr. Richard Mosier*

▶ *RSU President Dr. Larry Rice and First Lady Peggy Rice.*



▲ *Jim Elder, '67, Charles Taylor, '64 and Jim Tanner, '67*



▲ *Deann Ramsay, Julie Galvez, Carlos Galvez, '60 and Ron Boyle*

GUIDON

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Send correspondence and address corrections to: OMA Alumni Office, Rogers State University, 1701 W. Will Rogers Blvd., Claremore, OK 74017-3252.

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RSU SCHOLARS BANQUET

MARCH 14, 2013

The RSU Scholars Banquet is always a very special opportunity for donors to have a wonderful dinner with their scholarship students and get better acquainted. Photos provided by York Events Photography.



Left to Right: James Heisterburg, Brian Leininger, Dr. Dean Loshbaugh, Elizabeth Loshbaugh, Ellen Woodring, Alandra Smith and Dr. Linda Goeller.



Left to right: Jack Spinks, Mary Lee Spinks, Katelyn Peper, Suzanne Gilstrap, and Hays Gilstrap '63. Mary Lee Spinks and Hays Gilstrap are children of Col. Gilstrap, a faculty member at OMA.

CADETS ENJOYED GREAT FOOD AND MEMORIES AT THE OMA OKLAHOMA CITY MINI REUNION

MARCH 27, 2013



▲ *Dr. Danette Boyle and Tom Carmichael '65. Carmichael purchased the KIA RVN bracelet honoring fellow OMA cadet Sam Trizza for bravery and distinguished service. Trizza was killed in action during the Vietnam War and is recognized on the OMA KIA Memorial. The bracelet is on display at the OMA Museum.*



▲ *Ken Colley '69, Phil Goldfarb '69, Joe Parsons '68, Rob Fisher '68 and Larry Fields '68*



▲ *Jon Stallings '62 and Randy Vierling '63*

OMA CHEERLEADERS' COLORFUL HISTORY

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How many remember the mascot, a mule named "The General?" There were actually several "Generals" over the decades, and B. G. Jones recalls that "after the football games, it (the current General) would be pastured out on the reservation. One year it could not be found. Finally, they found that it had died and was eaten up by maggots. Of course, we would make jokes that Porter Officer was serving it as beef in the Mess Hall."

The piece de resistance for the Cheerleaders was the 1947 black Pontiac hearse that they drove to the games. In 1963, the hearse was found by Barry Grabel '64 in a salvage yard by the police station near the railroad tracks in Claremore. B.G. Jones purchased the car for \$25, which was a fair price as it barely ran because it needed a new clutch, tires, paint job and pressure plates.

At the time, the hearse was used by an old blacksmith to shoe horses! As one of the initial cheerleaders, Jones knew that the junior college football team was going to be great that year and wanted to grab the attention of the OMA fans as well as the opposing team's fans for home and away games.

Initially, the cheerleaders had to clean out a lot of coal and ashes from the back. Once they got it to the Hill, Jones had the idea of selling \$1 raffle tickets to pay for the hearse as well as any repairs and future repairs with the winner getting \$25. They collected more than \$75 and when the winner was announced, it was Maj. Howard Shirk who donated it back to the fund.

George Thompson, the head of campus maintenance, got the clever idea to put a siren on the hearse and got the Claremore Fire Department to donate an old black one that he mounted on the front. In addition, Thompson also had the unique brainstorm of installing a fluid line mounted in a large container on the passenger floorboard. Filled with valve cleaner, this was connected to the carburetor and, when turned on, would flood the engine with cleaner and smoke up the entire stadium!

During most games at half time, the OMA cheerleaders would drive the hearse over to the opposing side (where the cheerleaders were all girls) and ask if they would like to take a ride to the OMA side of the field (which they all did), gun the engine, smoke things up, crank up the siren and drive off.

At times, the cheerleaders would throw a mannequin dressed like a football player out of the hearse with a rope around his neck. At other times, they would park at the end of the field, rock the hearse up and down with the female cheerleaders inside, open the back door and then throw out some "unmentionables" and pom-poms from the opposing team, all to the delight of the cadets and the crowd.

Even the junior college head football coach at the time, Col. Clifford "Red" Rogers and his players, loved the idea of the hearse and the cheerleaders. On the first game at Connors State College in Warner, driving on a two-lane highway, the hearse developed a flat tire. Because of the flat, the hearse and the cheerleaders were late but the team and Coach Rogers refused to start the game until the cheerleaders arrived. The team took two 15-yard penalties before the hearse arrived 10 minutes late, but still handily won the game. That is when OMA President Col. Homer Ledbetter decided to buy the car four new tires.

Imagine the intimidation factor to opposing teams when the cadet corps arrived marching into the stands, with the OMA marching band playing, the color guard bearing the flags, drill team performing and the hearse entering with siren blaring, smoke blowing, cheerleaders on the running boards holding shotguns with blank ammo going off and the OMA mascot "The General" making his appearance. Never before, nor ever since, was there an entrance like this at a football game in the State of Oklahoma.

With OMA discontinuing junior college football and basketball during the 1969-1970 school year, it was decided that the cheerleaders and hearse were no longer needed. OMA closed down in 1971, but the memories of

the cheerleaders and the hearse still remain with many of us from those years.

The final years of the OMA hearse had it being housed on a piece of property between Claremore and Catoosa. The OMA hearse ended its days in 1984 at age 37, when Jim Elder '67 tried to save the hearse (or parts of it) for the newly opened OMA Museum and tracked it down to a scrap yard in Bartlesville. When Elder got there, he was informed that he missed the hearse by just a few hours and all that was left was a chunk of crushed metal. However, recollections of the hearse and the cheerleader antics will carry on in stories destined for future Guidons.

This elite group of enthusiastic and passionate cheerleaders over the years included: B.G. Jones, Joel Mick, Wayne Massad, Herb Burkhart, Bob Gotcher, Jim Eden, John Iglehart, Bill Poteet, Jack Dolman, John Mathews, R.A. Wilson, Jack "Fat Daddy" Wilkinson, Bill Yenny, Jimmy Hahn, Don Dowell, Steve Wood, Bill Adair, Phil Goldfarb, Brack Jackson, Bill Nipper, Rob Frank, J.J. Wilson, Dan Bolt Larry Fields, Darrell Jenkins and Ken Colley.

We are hoping to get as many of the cheerleaders back to this year's reunion for a group picture and one more cheer for the team! – *Phil Goldfarb '69 and B.G. Jones '64*



OMA Alumnus Bunks Again "On the Hill"

RSU President Dr. Larry Rice greets OMA Alumnus MG Michael Kuehr, AUS (Retired), '68 in front of the OMA House. General Kuehr spent the night in the OMA House, the first time he has stayed on the campus in 45 years.



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