

C O U R A G E ★ L O Y A L T Y ★ H O N O R

# GUIDON



SPRING 2014

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A NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI OF THE OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Bill Ramsay

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your OMA Alumni Association President these last three years. I did not know what I was getting myself into when I said I would do it, but it has been challenging, rewarding and extremely satisfying. I have learned lessons along the way that I probably learned as a rabbit, but maybe forgot – due to being 70-something.

I want to thank all of you for your involvement and your support—of both our Association and also RSU. So please

stay active and involved—as I plan to do. As OMA Alumni, we all have much to be thankful for, but for me, the biggest thanks goes to Dr. Danette Boyle, who has done more for our Association than any of us really know.

As you probably know by now, this next reunion will be a very special event. A movie premiere only happens once, and the OMA documentary – *Oklahoma Military Academy: West Point of the Southwest* – will be an experience you will never forget. Don't miss it.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Ramsay".

Bill Ramsay, '61  
OMA Alumni Association President

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## OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY: WEST POINT OF THE SOUTHWEST

The OMA Alumni Reunion is scheduled for June 6 and 7, and this is a reunion that you need to be “present and accounted for!” This is the reunion where you will have cold chills and goose bumps! This is the reunion that will bring tears to your eyes and the hair on your arms will be standing at attention! This is the reunion that you will never forget, because this is the reunion that will have the magnificent and remarkable story of the Oklahoma Military Academy on the BIG SCREEN.

The scriptwriter of the documentary is John Wooley, veteran writer, historian, journalist and documentarian from Bushyhead, Oklahoma. His more than 30 books include *Voices from the Hill*, the history of Oklahoma Military Academy.

The Executive Producer and Director is our own Shawnee Brittan, OMA Alumnus from the class of 1953. He has been proclaimed “the foremost motion picture producer and director in the Southwest” by *Variety*. He has received international acclaim in a career spanning many years in film and video production.

The Co-Executive Producer is Royal Aills, one of Oklahoma's leading broadcast executives. He is General Manager of RSU Public Television at Rogers State University. The OMA Alumni Association is partnering with the Emmy Award-winning team at RSU Public Television to produce, *Oklahoma Military Academy: West Point of the Southwest*, a made-for-television documentary to chronicle Oklahoma Military Academy's distinguished history.

The story of OMA in this documentary is a powerful and emotional tale. From the beginnings of OMA in 1919 with cadets living in tents to the final lowering of the flag for the last time in May 1971, this film has it all. Hear stories from actual alumni who attended from the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s and 1970s on what life was really like on the Hill!

Report to the Hill June 6 and 7. You can complete the registration form enclosed and mail in the postage paid return envelope.

This is the one OMA Alumni Reunion that you and your family will not want to miss.

To access a “teaser” for the documentary, visit:  
**[www.rsu.edu/oma/reunion](http://www.rsu.edu/oma/reunion)**

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Dr. Danette Boyle

During the last few weeks, I have spent a lot of time working on the plans for the 2014 OMA Alumni Reunion and thinking about the many years that I have had the honor and the pleasure of working with each one of you. I pretty much get up in the morning thinking about the OMA Alumni and end my day the same way. So I have decided to start sharing some of my thoughts with you in each issue

of the *Guidon*.

As all of you know, Oklahoma Military Academy, known as the "West Point of the Southwest," operated on The Hill for 52 years. During those many years, thousands of you enrolled here as young boys and left as men, as well as leaders. The stories of your lives and the success you have had are extraordinary and it goes without saying the impact of OMA was so far reaching.

Just one example is that 80 percent of all OMA Alumni served their country in times of war and peace. This was, and still remains, the highest percent of any institution in Oklahoma. You have become lawyers, doctors, pharmacists, CEOs of large and small companies, military men serving in all branches of the armed forces, and 10 of you achieved the rank of general. General William E. Potts '41 achieved the rank of a three-star general and was an outstanding, wonderful person. In fact, he was very instrumental in helping RSU get our own full-powered television station. It would literally take weeks to write about all of you and your accomplishments.

I hear from so many of you about how proud you are that you attended and/or graduated from OMA. I hear from you about your careers, your lives and the exceptional positive impact of OMA. But, what I hear more than anything is about the relationships and lifelong friendships you made at OMA and continue to have.

I can only think of one word to adequately describe what OMA meant to you -- and it is WOW!

I am sure many of you know now that OMA's remarkable and magnificent story is in production as a made-for-television documentary that will premiere at the upcoming OMA Alumni Reunion, June 6 -7, 2014. This documentary will show how "Courage, Loyalty and Honor" and OMA's core values were instilled in each of you during your time as a cadet. The documentary is being made for all of you to share with friends, family, children and grandchildren. This film will allow future generations to experience life at OMA, including special stories from former cadets that will be seen and heard for the first time.

You do not want to miss this reunion! It will absolutely without any question, be the best alumni reunion we have ever had. The Premiere Showing of the OMA Documentary -- *Oklahoma Military Academy: West Point of the Southwest* -- will be held immediately after lunch on Saturday, June 7. Please complete the OMA Reunion Registration form in this copy of the *Guidon*. Bring your family and friends.

**Report To The Hill June 6 and 7!**

With All Good Thoughts,  
Danette Boyle  
Executive Director, OMA Alumni Association

### 2014 OMA ALUMNI REUNION SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Special recognition will be given to the high school and junior college graduating classes of 1944, 1954, and 1964 to commemorate their 70th, 60th, and 50th year graduations.*
- *The OMA High School and Junior College Classes of 1954 will be hosting a special get together this year during the reunion! Contact the OMA Alumni Office for details.*



## SON RECALLS REMARKABLE OMA 'WOUNDED WARRIOR'



Lee F. Gilstrap, circa 1927

With the recent interest in the Wounded Warrior Program, OMA alumnus Hays Gilstrap ('63) shared the remarkable story of his father, Lt. Col. Lee F. Gilstrap.

There is a lot of interest in the Wounded Warrior Program. It is a wonderful organization doing good and we should all support the "Wounded Warrior."

Let me take this moment to tell you a story about a "Wounded Warrior." To do so, we must go back to 1918 during the Meuse-Argonne offensive near Etienne sur Marne, France when Company B of the 142nd Regiment of the 36th Infantry Division was trying to advance under heavy resistance from German machine-gunners firing from dugouts along the reverse slope of a hill near St. Etienne, France.

Many U.S. soldiers were screaming in pain, wounded by the machine-gun bullets and from mustard gas.

The Company's seventeen-year-old Bugler dropped his bugle and went to their rescue. On his first trip he learned that all of the regiment's litter bearers had been killed. In spite of the danger, he made several more trips into the fire zone.

A sniper's bullet knocked the young soldier briefly unconscious. When he came to, he armed himself with a rifle and sought out the sniper, preparing to kill him. The sniper, however, surrendered, and our private put him to work helping carry the wounded Americans to an aid station.

With no Allied litter bearers available, our private decided he needed more help- and got it - in the form of several German soldiers he found in shell holes and dugouts.

As he tells the story years later, he said "I tossed a grenade into a dugout and German Soldiers came out. I did not know if they had me or if I had them. They were able to think faster and dropped their arms."

Then persuaded by his rifle, they joined him in transferring the injured. Two of the drafted helpers were killed by German gunfire. The sniper, his first draftee, died the next day from mustard gas burns he suffered while he was pulling a U.S. soldier from a gas pocket.



Gilstrap first joined the military at 16 as a Bugle Boy for the Oklahoma National Guard during the Punitive Campaign on the Texas/Mexican border, where he took this photo with his father, Major Harry Gilstrap (right) and Major General Markham. In the photo below, he is the little boy at the far right of the regiment.

His feat climaxed after a day of assisting wounded comrades and carrying messages from battalion to regimental headquarters, all the while braving heavy enemy fire. At one point, his pack was ripped apart by an enemy bullet rendering his gas mask inoperable.

According to reports of the incident, our private calmly declined the urgings of both commissioned and non-commissioned officers to seek cover.

Our "Wounded Warrior's" day ended when he was badly burned by gas shellfire.

The commander of the 142nd Infantry, Col. A.W. Bloor, said of our private's bravery: "The indomitable heroism, contempt of enemy fire, and superb devotion to duty displayed by our Bugler served as an example of soldierly bravery and conduct to every man of his regiment and inspired them to the greatest endeavor."

Our private was to spend the next five months in Army hospitals in Great Britain recuperating from his wounds, which included head injuries.

Lee Gilstrap received the Distinguished Service Cross, our second highest military award, the Silver Star the third highest, the French Croix de Guerre with Palm, and Purple





Lt. Col. Lee F. Gilstrap

Heart, for his bravery and actions on the battlefield that 8th day of October 1918. To this date, he is the youngest recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross.

After World War I, he became a charter member of the Oklahoma National Guard which was commanded by Maj. Gen. Baird H. Markham. Also upon his return to the States, he enrolled at Oklahoma A&M where he received a degree in

marketing and commerce. He was President of his fraternity, President of Student Senate, President of the Junior Class, played baseball and was a trainer for the football team.

After graduation and a period of time as coach and principal of Putnam City High School, our private - now a

Captain - joined Oklahoma Military Academy as instructor and coach.

With the oncoming of World War II, he volunteered for duty with the 45th Infantry Division. In 1940, he was transferred to the office of the European Theater, Provost Marshal and the Executive Officer under Lt. Gen. William S. Key. He served in England and Iceland for 27 months.

Now a Lieutenant Colonel, he returned to OMA in 1946 as athletic director and commandant. Lt. Colonel Lee F. Gilstrap was a member of the OMA faculty from 1927 through 1947 with the exception of the five years he was in campaigns during WWII. He served OMA in several capacities: instructor, Commandant and coach for football, boxing and polo.

My father, Lt. Colonel Lee F. Gilstrap, died at his Claremore home in 1987. As an OMA alumnus, it is my honor to tell the story of one of the finest members of our Academy – Wounded Warrior Lt. Colonel Lee F. Gilstrap.

## OMA ALUMNUS CONTRIBUTES MAJOR BOOK COLLECTION TO OMA MUSEUM AT RSU



Dr. William Daugherty

Recently, the OMA Museum received a significant contribution of books from alumnus Dr. Bill Daugherty '65. Workers from the RSU Physical Plant constructed beautiful oak shelves to house the books along the east side of the OMA Boardroom.

Consisting of more than 700 books on Military Intelligence and Military History, this generous gift was gratefully

received and deeply appreciated by the OMA Alumni Association and RSU. Military History students especially will be encouraged to utilize the collection to further their educations.

Dr. Daugherty graduated from OMA High School in 1965, where he was an outstanding OMA Cadet and Honor Student. He was nominated by OMA to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and served eight years in the U.S. Marine Corps, completed flight school and flew combat missions in Vietnam.

After receiving a bachelor's degree in social science from the University of California and his doctoral degree in government from Claremont

Graduate School, he was recruited by the CIA. It was during his first CIA duty tour that he was taken hostage while stationed at the American Embassy in Iran in 1979. He and 51 other hostages were held prisoner for more than 444 days. This experience is the subject of his book, *In the Shadow of Ayatollah: A CIA Hostage in Iran*.

He authored another book entitled *Executive Secrets: Covert Action and the Presidency*, along with eight journal articles and book chapters on Iran and intelligence. His awards include the State Department's Medal of Honor, the CIA Exceptional Service Medal, the Foreign Service Association's W. Averill Harriman Award and has twice received the CIA Exceptional Performance Award.

Dr. Daugherty was named an OMA Distinguished Alumni in 2009 and the OMA Museum features a display case of memorabilia dedicated to his life and career.



Carlos Calvez '60, Chuck Bullock '51, RSU Professor Dr. Ken Hicks, Jim Elder '67 and Gene Little '56.



## OMA ALUMNI PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS

As a group of OMA Alumni worked to update the flash drive and find new alumni, they have discovered more OMA Alumni who received Purple Hearts during service. We salute the brave OMA Alumni whose courage, loyalty and honor earned them a Purple Heart:



Albin L. Adams, '40  
J. F. (Buddy) Albright, '38  
Stephen C. Beals, '64  
Timothy Warren Berryhill, '43  
John E. Black, '66  
Beverly G. Bowman, '41  
Bradley D. Bowers, '65  
Col. Benjamin F. Boyd, '43  
Paul M. Brewer 1937  
Adelbert W. Bruce, '42  
William A. Burke, '41  
Larry Burton, '63  
Nolan B. Cargile, '39  
Michael D. Casey, '66  
Lloyd F. Cathey, '42  
John S. Channell, '39  
Wayne Wells Christian, '37  
Delbert Lloyd Crouch, '64  
LaVerne William Collier, '65  
Edward E. Davis  
Dean Reade DeMerritt, '43

Glenn E. Dill, '38  
Leslie Vincent Dixon, '43  
Aubrey K. Dodson, '22  
Walter E. Downs Jr, '40  
John C. Egger Jr, '50  
Robert W. Ferguson, '65  
Glen Edward Fields, '39  
Roger L. Fife, '45  
Bob Jerald Fink, '59  
Eugene B. Fitch, '40  
William C. Gates, '45  
John Archibald Getty Jr, '36  
Perry L. Ground, '49  
George M. Hale, '37  
Donald O. Hartman, '68  
E. Robert Heatley, '43  
John M. Higbee, '65  
Jack D. Hodgden, '43  
Lee Roy Howard, '43  
Frank C. Howk, '40  
Harry H. Hoyt, '67  
Robert B. F. Hummer, '42  
Charles William Hunter, '40  
Michael D. Hyatt, '66  
Arthur Blaine Imel, '41  
Jerry S. Ingram, '47  
David Ray Jennings, '63  
Glen C. Johnson, '31  
Robert B. Jones, '53  
Charles C. Kegelman, '34  
Johnnie W. Kimbrell  
Larry Leibrock, '66  
Robert B. Lewis, '41  
Howard F. Liddell, '41  
Charles W. Locke, '34  
Oscar Logan, '43  
Carmi David Long, '40  
John E. Lovell, '42  
John G. Mathews, '66  
George W. McDonough, '67

Daniel McKinney, '47  
William Sidney Merliss, '41  
Thomas E. Murray, '58  
Roger M. Nicholson, '46  
Miles H. Nabors, '39  
Richard Burke Noonan, '51  
George Henry Orcutt, '42  
Robert B. Osborn, '47  
William Theodore Pancoast, '65  
Lionel E. Parsons, '69  
Harry A. Patterson, '36  
Joseph S. Peddie, '36  
Jack C. Perritt, '67  
Harry Poarch, '53  
William E. Potts, '41  
Jess H. Powell, '40  
Edwin P. Ramsey, '37  
Charles D. Raper, '65  
Fred R. Reinauer, '43  
John T. Resler, '40  
William D. Reynolds, '52  
Dale Robertson, '42

Jeff Ray Ryker, '64  
James D. Scott Sr, '32  
Drew D. Shipley, '64  
John B. Stizza, '59  
John R. Stockdale, '66  
John T. Swais, '39  
Paul Ray Tatroe 1943  
James S. Trimble, '45  
Jim S. Trimble, '45  
Sam R. Trizza, '63  
Bob F. Unverferth, '43  
Richard E. Vensel, '39  
George R. Walker, '39  
Theodore D. Ward, '67  
Richard L. Warren, '40  
Elmer C. Weinrich, '29  
Victor D. Westphall III, '58  
Lyndall C. Williamson '43  
William R. Wilson, '67  
Craig M. Yancy, '68  
Daniel W. York, '65



*Pictured is Barry Grabel '64 (taken in 1970 and featured in the Tulsa World) giving a Broken Arrow KIA Vietnam soldier's son his father's medals. Barry was on active duty at the time and this was one of many Survivor's Assistance cases that he handled.*

## EVERYTHING THAT YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT OMA NOW AVAILABLE!



Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Charles Emerson '56, everything that you wanted to know...and more, is now available on the OMA Alumni Association Flash Drive. This flash drive can fit into any USB port on any computer or device and holds wealth of OMA information and history for your perusal such as:

- Every OMA yearbook scanned from 1920-1971 (except 1922 & 1926 which we do not have)
- Index of all OMA Students 1919-1971
- Index of all OMA Faculty and Staff 1919-1971
- Index of all OMA Presidents 1919-1971
- Index of known deceased OMA Alumni and obits
- Guidons and other publications from 1920-1971
- History of OMA
- OMA Hall of Fame and Distinguished Alumni information
- OMA Cadets to Generals
- List of OMA cadets that graduated from the service academies
- List OMA cadets who were KIA and listed on the OMA KIA Memorial
- List of OMA cadets who have received a Purple Heart
- Father-son connections with OMA
- History of the Saber Society
- OMA band information from 1921-1971
- Cadet Manual
- Maurice Meyer memorabilia
- Lt. General William E. Potts, OMA'41 memorabilia
- Cadets to Faculty
- Information and pictures of OMA Reunions 2004-2013

There is more but we did not have enough room to list everything! This piece of OMA history can be yours for only \$15.00! Simply contact the OMA Alumni Office at 918-343-6889.

## OMA'S LAST GRADUATING CADET IS GLAD TO BE FOUND



OMA's effort to locate lost Alumni has been an ongoing success, and one of those success stories is that of Ronald Young '71.

"There's not a day goes by I don't think of my days at OMA," Young recently related to Dr. Danette Boyle, Executive Director of OMA Alumni Association. "I came to OMA the second

semester of 1970 and got early recognition as a rabbit, one of the first positive accomplishments of my life."

Young remembers his Rabbit Period well and shares this recollection: "The Platoon Sergeant steps to the middle of the barracks hall looking very proper and formidable. He then hollers in a very loud and distinctive voice: 'Stand to, Rabbits!' after which you hear and see all of the young boys moving as quickly and properly as possible out of their rooms and placing themselves at attention against the wall with their right arms tucked against their sides and bent at exactly 90 degrees with their hands flat, palm up. If you had a hat, it was lying on your hand in exactly the proper position. If you were afraid or nervous, you were doing your best not to show it. The sergeant, in the same formidable voice, would then say, 'Sound off!' after which you tried in the same voice to answer, 'New Cadet Recruit Young, R.J., Company D, sir!' It is one of those special things you never forget."

Young graduated in 1971 and was the last OMA cadet to walk across the stage and receive his diploma, as the school closed that year. He is delighted to be one of the newly found alumni in the last year.

"Thank you for finding me!" he says. "God bless and keep you!"



*1970 Vedette Yearbook: Woody Wood helps Ronald Young gather up his cadet uniforms during second semester enrollment.*

# OMA REUNION 2014 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 6, 2014

Number of Persons \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

### Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Golf Classic and 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

☐ \$20 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 7, 2014

### Morning and Afternoon Reunion Activities

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. • OMA Alumni Office and OMA Museum in Meyer Hall

☐ \$30 per person **NO CHARGE FOR ANY ALUMNUS ATTENDING HIS FIRST REUNION.**  
(includes coffee, donuts, lunch, packets, ice cream social)

### Reception and Dinner

5:30 p.m. • RSU Centennial Center

☐ \$40 per person

☐ I would like to make a contribution to support the production of the *Oklahoma Military Academy: West Point of the Southwest*. All gifts for the documentary above the \$60,000 goal will be used for scholarships for students enrolled in the RSU Guard Officer Leadership Development (GOLD) Program.

☐ 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 2014 registration refunds will be made only if the OMA Alumni Office is notified no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, May 30, 2014. For additional information, please call the OMA Alumni Office at 918-343-6888, 918-343-6889 or email dboyle@rsu.edu.*





# OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION

JUNE 6-7, 2014 | ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY | CLAREMORE, OK

## FRIDAY | JUNE 06

- 8:00 a.m. **REUNION REGISTRATION**  
Meyer Hall, OMA Alumni Office and OMA Museum
- 9:00 a.m. **ALUMNI GOLF CLASSIC**  
Heritage Hills Golf Course 18 Hole Tournament
- 11:45 a.m. **Shotgun Start Begins**  
**Golf Lunch**  
*Lunch is also available for alumni and guests not participating in the Golf Classic.*
- 11:30 a.m. **LADIES' LUNCHEON**  
*Hosted by RSU First Lady Peggy Rice*  
President's Residence, RSU Campus  
*Reservation required with maximum 40*
- 3 - 4:30 p.m. **POOL AND PING PONG TOURNAMENTS**  
RSU Centennial Center
- 5:30 p.m. - **REUNION OPENING RECEPTION**  
7:30 p.m. RSU Centennial Center Ballroom

## SATURDAY | JUNE 07

- 8:00 a.m. **REUNION REGISTRATION**  
Meyer Hall, OMA Alumni Office and OMA Museum  
*Coffee and donuts*
- 9:30 a.m. **MORNING FORMATION AND CEREMONY HONORING OMA'S RECENTLY DECEASED ALUMNI**  
Will Rogers Auditorium
- 10:00 a.m. **RSU GUARD OFFICER LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (GOLD) PROGRAM**  
Will Rogers Auditorium
- 10:15 a.m. **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AND HALL OF FAME CEREMONY**  
Will Rogers Auditorium
- 11:30 a.m. **ALUMNI LUNCHEON**  
*Premiere showing of **Oklahoma Military Academy: West Point of the Southwest***  
**ICE CREAM SOCIAL AT OMA MUSEUM**  
Meyer Hall, OMA Museum
- 5:30 p.m. **RECEPTION AND DINNER**  
RSU Centennial Center Ballroom

## LOSHBAUGH FAMILY INCLUDES RSU IN THEIR ESTATE PLAN



*Alva Loshbaugh*

For generations, the Loshbaugh name has been synonymous with getting an education on College Hill.

The family name will live in perpetuity on the Hill thanks to the generous support of Dr. Dean Loshbaugh, who will be including Rogers State University in his estate plans. This generous gift furthers his family's commitment to making

education a priority for future generations.

The Loshbaughs have been involved with RSU since the early 1940s when the school was Oklahoma Military Academy. Dean's father, Alva Loshbaugh, was a legendary chemistry professor at OMA who challenged and inspired a generation of cadets. Loshbaugh Hall, which today houses RSU's science classrooms and labs, is named in Alva's honor.

Born in 1903 in Indian Territory near Welch, Alva's education began in a nearby one-room schoolhouse and continued at a boarding school in Altamont, Kan., near Coffeyville. Upon graduation, Alva started teaching, first in Welch then later on in Vinita.

With the outbreak of World War II, Alva used his talents in the war effort as a chemist at the DuPont plant in Pryor, turning nitric acid into nitroglycerine from 1941 until 1943.

In fall 1943, the Loshbaughs moved to Claremore when Alva joined the OMA staff as a science professor. Alva's son, Dean Loshbaugh, was just 12 at the time and fondly remembers the daily bugle calls coming from atop the hill. Those bugle calls triggered Dean's desire to later play the trumpet in the Claremore High School band.

Never one to rest on his laurels, Alva taught at OMA while also earning a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma. The elder Loshbaugh spent 25 years teaching at OMA and he was known to work a slide rule faster than most people can work a computer today, his son said.

Alva Loshbaugh's commitment to OMA didn't end with his retirement in 1968. In 1983, Loshbaugh and his wife Ethel donated a pair of houses to Rogers State College, which was a successor institution to OMA. That generous donation started the very first scholarship endowment at the school.

"It was such a special day when Mr. Loshbaugh called to let me know that he and his lovely wife Ethel were giving the RSU Foundation some property that we could sell to establish the first Scholarship Endowment ever at the college," said Dr. Danette Boyle, Executive Director of the OMA Alumni Association.

Since then, the Alva N. and Ethel M. Loshbaugh Endowment has granted tens of thousands of dollars to dozens of students in the School of Mathematics, Science and Health Sciences.

Dr. Dean Loshbaugh credits his parents' passion for education for fueling his desire to continue the family's tradition of supporting RSU. He and his wife, Elizabeth, continue to make regular donations to the Loshbaugh Endowment, and those gifts are now matched by Elizabeth's former employer, Williams, through its matching gifts program.

Loshbaugh says it is "quite satisfying" to see how his family's endowment has made a difference in the lives of students. He said he wants to see that tradition continue, and he has willed a portion of his estate to RSU to ensure that the Loshbaugh legacy lives on for generations to come.

"This endowment has helped so many young men and women over the years with their education," said Boyle. "I was overwhelmed at the generosity of Dr. Loshbaugh's decision to include Rogers State University Foundation in his estate and thought, 'If only your dad could see you now!'"



*Pictured left to right: Mrs. Ellen Woodring, Mrs. Elizabeth Loshbaugh, Dr. Dean Loshbaugh and Dr. Linda Goeller.*

## ENDOWMENT HELPS RSU STUDENT FINISH STRONG

At the 2014 RSU Scholarship Banquet on March 13, OMA Alumni Executive Director Danette Boyle was pleased to sit next to Darla Bell, recipient of the Dorothy Carr Memorial Scholarship Endowment.

Darla, who will graduate from RSU in May with a Bachelor of Science in Medical/Molecular Biology, found out that very day that she has been accepted into OU-Tulsa's Doctorate of Physical Therapy program.

To be accepted into this challenging and competitive program is both an honor and testament to excellence on both Darla's and Rogers State University's behalf.

According to RSU President Dr. Larry Rice, who spoke at the banquet, more than 90 former RSU students have been accepted into some type of medical school during the last few years.

Darla is grateful to be among this number and attributes part of her success to the fact that she is a Dorothy Carr Memorial Endowed Scholar. The Dorothy Carr Memorial Scholarship Endowment was established by OMA Alumnus

Hugh Miller '53 and his wife Angela in memory of Hugh's aunt. This is one of more than 40 RSU Scholarship Endowments established by OMA Alumni or friends and families of OMA Alumni and Faculty.

The Dorothy Carr Memorial Scholarship Endowment was established for the purpose of providing support for RSU students majoring in Medical/Molecular Biology, a program with which the Millers have continued to be impressed, as it has placed so many students in medically related graduate programs.

"All of us OMA Alumni have had our lives enhanced by the experiences we had on 'The Hill,'" Miller said in a 2012 interview with Dr. Danette Boyle. "Establishing a Scholarship Endowment through the RSU Foundation is an excellent way to share that enhancement in

a continuing way with future generations."

Darla Bell is a living testament to Miller's statement. "I deeply appreciate the support and funding I received through the Dorothy Carr Memorial Scholarship Endowment," she said. "It has helped me to continue my education, finishing strong at RSU."



*Dr. Danette Boyle and Darla Bell, Dorothy Carr Memorial Endowed Scholar.*



## DON'T LET THIS PICTURE FOOL YOU

Alexa Gift may seem relaxed as she waits for the 2014 RSU Scholarship Banquet to start, but she is the model of industry and efficiency on the job as a student worker at the OMA Alumni Office four days a week. Alexa is a Foreman Faulkner Endowed Scholar, is finishing her sophomore year at RSU, and has been accepted into RSU's Nursing Program for next year.

"I'm grateful to be a Foreman Faulkner Scholar," says Alexa. "Not only does it help with my finances because it's something that I don't have to worry about paying back, but it means that they believe in me that I can succeed in my chosen field."



# RSU SCHOLARS BANQUET

MARCH 13, 2014

OMA Alumni, Friends, and Family are responsible for over 40 scholarship endowments available to worthy students at Rogers State University. Photos provided by York Events Photography.



*Norma and Jim Morrison, founders of the Jim and Norma Morrison Scholarship Endowment with one of this year's receiving scholars, Ryan Mercer (middle).*



*Recipients of this year's OMA Troop 40 Scholarship were Maurice Johnson, Jadica Piela, Dustin Cook, and Dakota Pruitt. Also pictured is RSU Scholarship Coordinator Michelle Harper (second from right).*

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

APRIL 17, 2014



*Oklahoma City area Alumni enjoy their annual Mini-Reunion at Rococo's.*



*Jim Morrison '52, Sue and Bill Harris '54, Dr. Danette Boyle, Shawnee Brittan '53, Joanna Champlin and Gerald Breeding '55*



*The 60's were well represented in Oklahoma City: Tom Simpson '66, Randy Vierling '63, Tiny Stallings, Jon Stallings '62, Harry Simpson '65*

## RSU UPDATE

### DECORATED ARMY GENERAL SPEAKS AT RSU



A decorated U.S. Army general discussed how military history applies to both the classroom and the battlefield during his April 1 talk at RSU.

Brig. Gen. Peter "Duke" DeLuca currently serves as commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Mississippi River Valley Division, which is responsible for a \$2 billion civil works program that

protects the water resources along the river and surrounding areas. He also is president-designee of the Mississippi River Commission.

Entitled "The Uses of Military History in the Classroom and on the Battlefield," DeLuca discussed how the topics important in military history and its modern study have practical applications beyond the battlefield. During his time on campus, he also met with RSU students, faculty and OMA alumni.

In his current assignment, DeLuca commands the Mississippi River Valley Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, responsible for managing its operation in a 370,000-square-mile area extending from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico and encompassing portions of 12 states along the path of the Mississippi River.

RSU assistant professor David Ulbrich served under DeLuca while both men were stationed at the U.S. Army Engineer School at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. "I served as a member of his special staff as historian, instructor, author, and advisor. In that time, Gen. DeLuca proved to be a big supporter of history," Ulbrich said. "He leveraged historical examples during many of his talks and activities at the Engineer School."

### RSU STUDENTS, EMPLOYEES GIVE BACK TO COMMUNITY

A recent survey by Rogers State University shows that roughly a third of all its students and employees give back to the community through volunteer work in its service areas.

During the 2012-13 academic years, more than 1,000 RSU students were involved in community service, volunteering or civic engagement activities, with an

additional 350 students taking part in service-learning experiences.

"The university places a strong emphasis on community engagement, and these numbers show that our students are actively contributing to the improvement of our community," said RSU President Dr. Larry Rice. "These numbers become all the more impressive when you realize that the majority of our students work at their jobs for 20-30 hours a week, take classes at RSU and still find time to give back to their community."

### RSU DINING HALL CONSTRUCTION ON SCHEDULE



Construction of the RSU Student Dining Center is continuing on schedule and should be ready for a fall opening.

When it opens in fall 2014, the 17,300-square-foot, two-story building will include an open dining space with capacity to serve up to 1,000 students, kitchen facilities and a basement/storm shelter that can provide protection during inclement weather. The facility also includes a generator to power the building during electrical power outages.

The university is appreciative of the OMA Alumni who have generously given to support the construction of the dining hall. The OMA legacy continues to live on through the works of its alumni.



## RSU FACULTY NAMED OMA HONORARY CADET



*Dr. Ken Hicks*

At the OMA Alumni Board of Directors meeting on Feb. 6, 2014, the board presented Dr. Ken Hicks, Department Head and Professor for RSU's Military History and Political Science Department, a certificate honoring him as an Honorary OMA Cadet and officially excusing him from the Rabbit Period.

Dr. Hicks has been instrumental in the recent establishment of the Oklahoma National Guard's Guard Officer Leadership Development Program at RSU and he had this to say upon receiving the award:

"I want to express my gratitude to the OMA Alumni Association for what I consider to be a great honor. As the son of two U.S. Army officers, I have tremendous respect for the discipline, honor, and sacrifice that OMA Cadets made for this country, as well as for the many good works the OMA Alumni Association have bestowed on the community and on RSU. My wife and I always look forward to attending the annual OMA Reunions, and we feel so fortunate to have been included in their camaraderie. I want to thank Danette Boyle for initially 'recruiting' me to address the OMA Alumni Association's Executive Board in our campaign to bring a military training program back to RSU, and in seeking support for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Military History. We have gotten generous support for the military history bachelor's degree, and we have secured the Guard Officer Leadership Development (GOLD) program from the Oklahoma Army Reserve National Guard. I believe that in the process we have forged much closer ties between the Association and Rogers State University."

Dr. Hicks is happy to see the culmination of the efforts involving his department, RSU, and the OMA Alumni Association to bring "boots back to the Hill," and further expresses these thoughts.

"The GOLD program will prepare aspiring National Guard officers with the leadership and tactical training necessary to be efficient and effective officers. Given the close location of the Oklahoma Army National Guard (OKARNG) Armory on Blue Starr Drive, and the fact that there are no other GOLD

programs east of Tulsa, we feel that we are ideally situated to act as a recruitment resource for the Oklahoma Army National Guard's officer program. We are also hopeful that students signing up for the GOLD program will be attracted to our Bachelor of Arts degree in Military History, as well as the National Security Studies minor offered through the Department of History and Political Science."



*Dr. Ken Hicks is named an OMA Honorary Cadet.*

## RSU OBSERVES FIRST MILITARY HISTORY DAY



*OMA Alumni Association Vice President Phil Goldfarb; Guest of Honor, Brigadier General Peter "Duke" DeLuca; RSU President Dr. Larry Rice; OMA Alumni Association President Bill Ramsay.*

### GUIDON

*GUIDON* is a newsletter published for alumni of Oklahoma Military Academy by the OMA Alumni Office at Rogers State University.

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## DR. KEN HICKS, HONORARY CADET, RSU MILITARY HISTORY DEPARTMENT, AND THE GOLD PROGRAM



John Kyle Fields

Dr. Hicks feels that RSU's Military History and Political Science Degree helps to keep alive the tradition OMA began on College Hill while still yet offering change for the changing trends in education. He explains:

"Higher education has been moving away from the classical generalist Liberal Arts Education. Today's students want degrees that provide specialized bodies of

knowledge. To that end, RSU has been at the forefront, providing focused bachelor's degrees that enable students to immediately pursue careers in their chosen fields. In light of the increasingly chaotic and dangerous world in

several of the two-year military preparatory and junior colleges throughout the country (beginning with Valley Forge Military Academy and College in Pennsylvania, and the New Mexico Military Institute) in the hopes of attracting graduates of those institutions to complete their educations here at RSU. We especially hope that those students completing their ROTC training at those institutions will find our Military History degree to be an attractive degree choice. We plan to begin outreach to the remaining two-year military institutions in the coming academic year. "

In spring 2013, John K. Fields became the first graduate to receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in Military History from Rogers State University. Dr. Hicks had this to say about this milestone event:

"John Kyle Fields is in many ways an exceptional young man. He has taught himself three languages in addition to his native English, and hopes to pursue a graduate degree at Oklahoma State University in the near future, where he plans to pursue a degree in either History or Museum Studies. RSU is lucky to be able to count someone like Kyle as one of its graduates.

which we live, the Department of History and Political Science proposed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Military History, both to capitalize on the academic specialties of its faculty members and to provide students with a unique degree that would facilitate careers in the burgeoning national security establishment, or to provide an excellent foundation for graduate study. We have begun outreach to

This year we should see another two graduates: Anna Petross and Ryan Simmons. Anna intends to pursue a graduate degree while continuing work with the J.M. Davis Gun Museum, while Ryan intends to pursue a career in the national security profession, with the possibility of a graduate degree at a later date."

## LAIR NAMED 2013 SERTOMAN OF THE YEAR



*Congratulations* to George Lair '55 for recently being named 2013 Sertoman of the Year by the Sioux Falls (South Dakota) Noon Sertoma chapter of Sertoma International. Those who bestowed this honor on George said, "George has volunteered so much over the years ...we have lost track of his hours ... always in a good mood and always with a story to tell, he is one of our favorite Sertomans."

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



## **GOLD PROGRAM TO BEGIN AT RSU IN FALL**

Major General Myles Deering, Adjutant General of Oklahoma, signed an agreement on April 29 to bring the Oklahoma Army National Guard's Guard Officer Leadership Development (GOLD) program to the RSU campus starting this fall. OMA alumni and board members were in attendance to show their support for the initiative. During remarks at the signing ceremony, OMA Alumni Association President Bill Ramsay said, "Thank you for bringing boots back on the ground on College Hill once more." Pictured at the event are, from left: Harry Simpson '65, Jim Elder '67, Bill Ramsay '61, Don Hill '54, Major General Myles Deering, Tom Simpson '66, Gene Little '56, Barry Gabel '64, Carlos Galvez '60 and Phil Goldfarb '69.