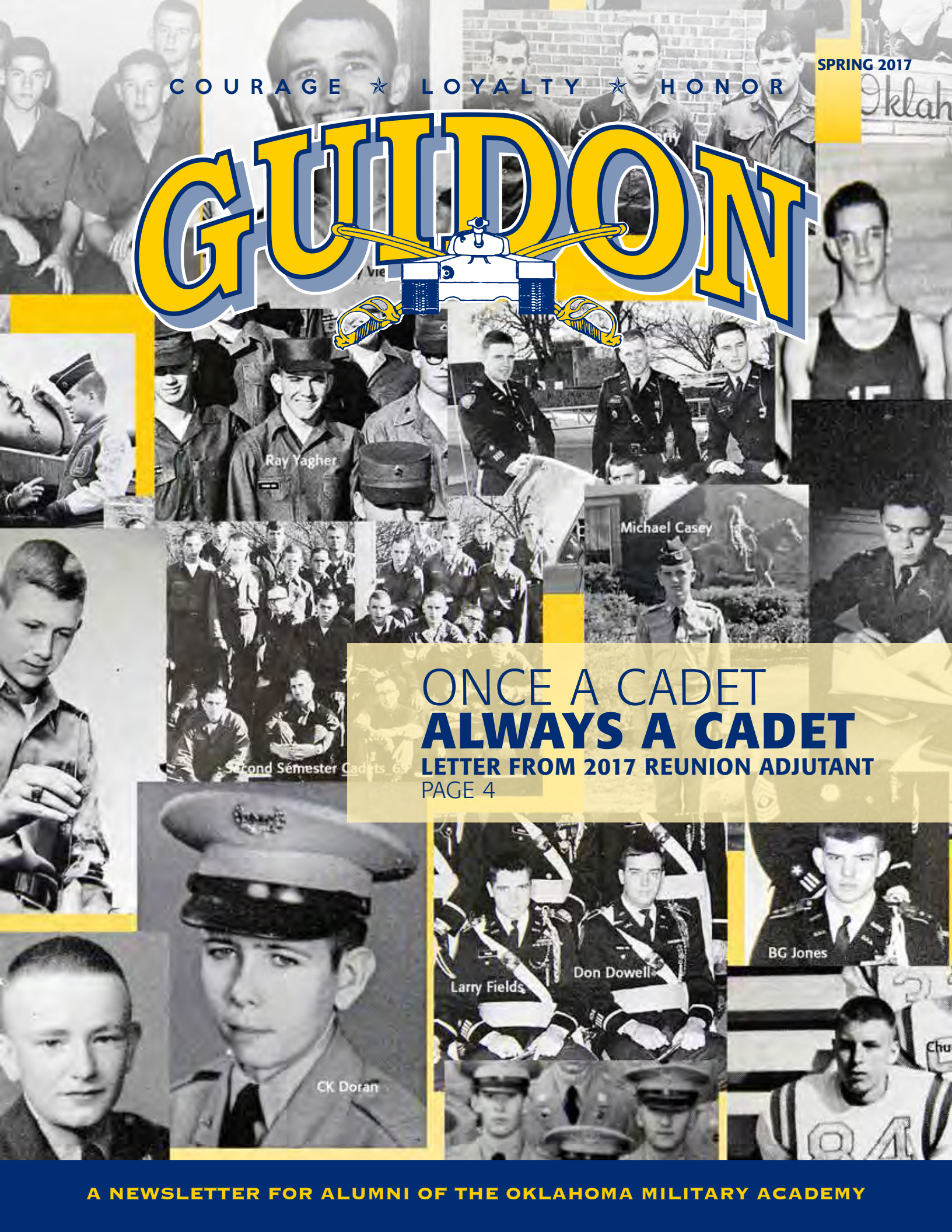


SPRING 2017

COURAGE ★ LOYALTY ★ HONOR

GUIDON



Ray Yagher

Michael Casey

Second Semester Cadets 69

ONCE A CADET
ALWAYS A CADET
LETTER FROM 2017 REUNION ADJUTANT
PAGE 4

CK Doran

Larry Fields

Don Dowell

BG Jones

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Mr. Phil Goldfarb

I would like to dedicate this President's Message to the word **TIME**. Webster's dictionary defines **TIME** as: *the measured or measurable period during which an action, process, or condition exists or continues, a nonspatial continuum that is measured in terms of events which succeed one another from past through present to future.*

As I look back on the history of Oklahoma Military Academy, I realize how quickly the 52 years that OMA existed passed. I can also think back and remember the **TIME** that I spent at OMA and how it made me into the person who I am today. I also realize that **TIME** has flown by in the 46 years since OMA was closed. **This makes me realize that TIME is precious for each of us**

and we need to take advantage of it while we can. While we know just how much **TIME** has passed, we don't know how much **TIME** we have left in the future. Just think the youngest OMA alumnus who was a high school freshman in the 1970-1971 school year is now 60 years old! Our oldest alumnus is 100!

By saying this, none of us know just how much **TIME** we have left to visit with our friends, classmates and old roommates at an OMA Alumni Reunion. In fact, we don't know how much **TIME** is left that we will continue to have a Reunion or an OMA

Alumni Association. Unfortunately, that is the fact and reality. That is the problem with **TIME**... *we really don't know.*

Let's all make the most of the TIME we have left. Enjoy yourself, travel while you can, be happy, stay healthy, meet and greet some old friends, stroll down memory lane with the Grand March, and play the "remember when" game at the reunion. For those of you who can "Return to the Hill," your Board of Directors thanks you. For those of you who have never been back, you could be missing one of the best events of your older years. Bring your spouse. Bring your children and grandchildren. I guarantee there will be someone to talk with and sit by. Check out the OMA Museum, see the OMA KIA Memorial, play a round of golf, engage in all the activities we have planned for you. (I have a feeling the favorite is going to be Friday night's Cadence/Jody calls.)

Don't let TIME pass you by! The TIME to register for the Reunion is now!

With Courage, Loyalty and Honor,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil Goldfarb".

Phil Goldfarb HS'67, JC'69
OMA Alumni Association President

HONORING GRADUATES

At the 2017 Reunion on June 9-10, we will be honoring the Junior College and High School graduates from the years 1947 (70-year Reunion), 1957 (60-year

Reunion) and 1967 (50-year Reunion). The alumni from these classes will be recognized at the Saturday morning ceremony in the auditorium as well as

having a group picture at the Saturday luncheon. If you graduated during those years, make certain that you are attending!



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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Dr. Danette Boyle

Can you believe it is getting so close to the 2017 OMA Alumni Reunion? This is the busiest and most exciting time in our office. We arrive at work early and stay late in order to provide the best possible service to all of our OMA Alumni.

Someone asked me the other day how I could get so excited each year about the reunion and I thought it over for a few minutes and responded by saying, "When it comes to the OMA Alumni reunions, they get better each year. It is an extraordinary feeling to watch OMA Alumni connect

with fellow alumni, some of whom they have not seen for many years. To see an OMA Alumnus come back for the first time since graduating is beyond describing. College Hill is magical and we have so many fun things to do this year."

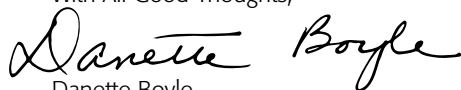
We have a new chef, Mark Powers and he is planning to prove himself at the reunion with the best food ever. One of the most important things we are doing at the reunion this year is focusing on connecting OMA Alumni with other alumni they know, like and trust!

This reunion will be better than any other you have attended!

Make it simple! Pick up the phone and call me at 918-343-6888 to register.

REPORT TO THE HILL

With All Good Thoughts,



Danette Boyle

Executive Director, OMA Alumni Association

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OMA President and Mrs. John Horne.



ONCE A CADET, ALWAYS A CADET

LETTER FROM THE 2017 ADJUTANT



Mr. Randy Vierling

I am very excited and honored to serve as your Adjutant at the 2017 OMA Alumni Reunion. A while back, I came to realize that most of us have completed our careers, served our communities, and some who have served our country with great distinction. Most of us older Alumni are now able to sit back and enjoy the fruits of our labor albeit with some aches and pains. With my flying career and so many other things in my life now in the past, I have come to realize what has been the most important thing in my life all along is still there, YOU! The relationships I have enjoyed with my fellow OMA Cadets are unique in all my relationships and I cherish each one of them.

I believe the best way to renew and celebrate these relationships is to attend our reunion on June 9 and 10, 2017. I keep thinking each year our gatherings can't get any better, but each year they do! And this year is no exception.

We have a lot planned for you, beginning with the OMA Alumni Golf Classic at Heritage Hills Golf Course. Shotgun start begins Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. and lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. for golfers, other alumni and guests.

For ladies interested in attending an elegant luncheon at the President's residence on the RSU campus, hosted by RSU First Lady Peggy Rice, be sure to make your reservations early as only 40 guests can be accommodated.

One of the highlights of the reunion will be the Oklahoma Premiere of "Never Surrender, the Ed Ramsey story." I attended the world premiere of this documentary in Los Angeles in November and, believe me, you are in for an exciting experience. The film will be shown in the Will Rogers Auditorium on the RSU Campus at 4:00 p.m. on Friday and Col. Ramsey's wife, Raqui Ramsey, will be available to meet you and answer questions. This film chronicles the heroism of one of our own, and OMA is featured as a big part of his life story. There will be a Reunion Opening Reception and Buffet beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the RSU Centennial Center Ballroom right after the documentary. After dinner, we will have some fun with a Cadence/Jody Calling contest in the Ball Room. Prizes will be awarded to winners. Can you still "bring it up?"

Activities on Saturday the 10th begin with registration, coffee and pastries at the OMA Alumni office and Museum at 8:00 a.m. At 9:15 a.m., we will enjoy watching the RSU GOLD (Guard Officer Leadership Development) students put on a Drill and Ceremony exhibition between the flagpole and Will Rogers Auditorium.

At 9:30, we will proceed to the Will Rogers Auditorium to remember and honor our recently deceased Alumni and attend the induction of our fellow Cadets as Distinguished Alumni and Hall of Fame members. After that, it's off to the Centennial Center for a delicious lunch prepared by RSU'S new Premiere Executive Chef Mark Powers. The culinary theme for this year will be "Comfort Food."

Special events at the luncheon will be the introduction of our RSU GOLD Program Military Students and the recognition of the 2017 OMA Honorary Cadets. Special honor will be given to the recipient of this year's President's Awards.

2016 REUNION ONLINE

The 2016 OMA Reunion is now available for viewing on the RSU website. You can start with the flagpole ceremony and go to the auditorium events. For those of you who have never been back or have not been back for a while, see if you can spot some old friends or roommates! See what you are missing! For those of you wanting to go directly to the Grand

March, it starts around 1:30 of the video. To find the video, go to www.rsu.edu, on the top left hand side of the home page you will see "Resources For." Then go to Alumni and Friends, OMA Alumni OMA Reunion then scroll down to the Video and Photo Archives". (Or go directly to the page by visiting www.rsu.edu/OMA-Reunion and view the photo

and video archives.) We invite you to join us this year and "march" (as best as you can) with other alumni in the 2017 Grand March! The time to register for the Reunion is NOW!



We will also recognize and honor two very special "Centennial Cadets" both having passed the 100 year mark and both outstanding Alumni, Dr. Worth Gross '35 and Mr. Larry Lantow '38.

Immediately after the luncheon ceremonies, an Ice Cream Social will be held at Chapman Dining Hall.

After a short rest, the Saturday Reception, Dinner and Dance will begin at 5:30 p.m. By acclamation the Grand March, directed by B. G. Jones, is back. This is the best opportunity of the weekend to revisit the grandeur of the good old days and soak up the nostalgia of the past. Don't miss this one! Thanks B. G. for bringing it back.

Music for the dance will be provided by the live band, Rendezvous. We all know the rarer something is, the more valuable it becomes. The simple truth is, The Oklahoma Military Academy Corps. Of Cadets is becoming more valuable each year and the opportunity to come together, renew friendships and have time together have become priceless.

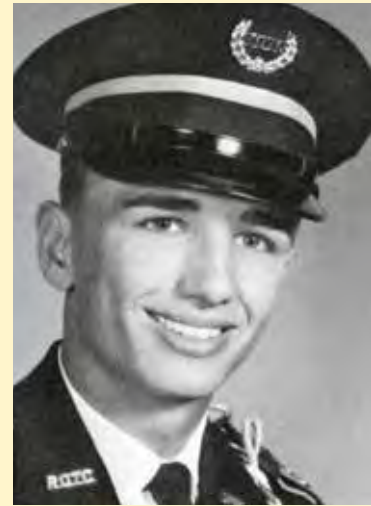
Please join me for the 2017 OMA Alumni Reunion. It just wouldn't be the same without you!

With Courage, Loyalty and Honor,

Randy Vierling, 2017 Adjutant

GETTING TO KNOW RANDY

Randy Vierling, '63 attended high school and junior college at OMA. He graduated in 1963 and then attended the University of Oklahoma. He participated in many activities while at OMA and received an Outstanding Cadet Identification Disc Merit Ribbon, an Athletic Ribbon, and was the Secretary/Treasurer of his junior college sophomore class.



Vierling was a professional pilot for 32 years and retired from American Airlines as an Instructor Captain. Following his retirement, he remained an active pilot serving a number of companies and individuals, including Dorchester Capital and the owner of the NBA's Oklahoma City Thunder. He has served as an accident prevention counselor for the Federal Aviation Administration. He has logged more than 27,000 accident-free hours during his more than four decades of flying.

Vierling served as past President of the OMA Alumni Association and has served on the OMA Alumni Board of Directors for many years.

NEW CADET TERMS

Each of us at OMA started out as a "Rabbit." This term has been used since Colonel Walter Downs in 1927 initiated the name for all year long first year cadets. But what were new cadets at other military schools called?

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| • Citadel: Knobs | • Texas A&M: Fish | • U.S. Merchant Marine Academy: Plebes | • Virginia Military Institute: RAT |
| • Missouri Military Academy: Recruits | • U.S. Military Academy: Plebes | • U.S. Air Force Academy: Doolies (after the Greek term "doulos" meaning slave or servant) | • Virginia Tech: RAT |
| • New Mexico Military Institute: RAT (standing for Recruits at Training) | • U.S. Naval Academy: Plebes | | |

LARRY LANTOW '38 INDUCTED INTO THE CENTENARIANS OF OKLAHOMA



Lawrence (Larry) Lee Lantow was born on February 17, 1917, in Lyons, Kansas, to Harry Dale and Ollie May Lantow. There were six children born to this couple, with Larry and sister, Donna May still living. Larry's dad was a farmer on their Kansas farm that had two years of bad weather, which meant "crop failures" and their source of income was completely wiped out. A family member invited them to come to Muskogee and for this father to work in a lumber yard. His father remained in the lumber business and inspired Larry in that business also. Larry has many memories of his brothers and sisters. One sister died of leukemia and two brothers, who were paratroopers on D-Day in France (World War II), died there.

His high school education was in Bristow and Claremore, graduating from Claremore High School in 1935. He went on to Oklahoma Military Academy in Claremore and later received a degree in Business at the University of Tulsa. That education came in handy when he followed his father into the lumber business, eventually retiring from Hope Lumber in 1983.

Larry was blessed with two long marriages. The first marriage was 38 years to Lena Mae, whom he married while in the army and his second marriage was 30 years to Ola Mae. Both wives are now deceased. He has a daughter, Linda Marshall of Tulsa, three

grandchildren, and two great grandsons.

Besides Kansas, Larry has lived in Muskogee, Okmulgee, Spavinaw, Claremore and Tulsa. Spavinaw was great for Larry and his brothers because they could fish all day and bring home crappie for their mother to cook for dinner. His mother was a wonderful cook, except for one thing – she did not like to cook frog legs because they "jumped in the pan." Another time when he lived in Bristow, a friend grew watermelons and told the brothers to come out and get all they wanted. They took the back seat out of their Buick and filled it up with the watermelon. The family had all they could eat. The "not-so-good" memories were living through the terrible Depression. There was one day he actually saw a woman eating out of the garbage can.

Larry fought in World War II, as did his brothers. He has some ribbons with stars on them that represent "Major Battles." He was awarded the Bronze Star for

taking a group of men into German-held territory to find out their location. He went to Officer's Candidate School and retired as a Captain.

He traveled a lot as an adult. He and his wife took a freighter to Australia on a seven-week trip. It was a nice freighter and they had a steward who didn't want them to clean up a thing – he did all the work. It was a wonderful time, except for the time he had a heat stroke going into Sidney. A nurse there took good care of him.

Larry remembers many good times. He loved hunting and fishing. He is a member of East Side Christian Church and one of his favorite songs is "I'll Fly Away." He was a member of Southwood Club. He also did good work at Project Get-Together, which was a project in downtown Tulsa to feed the hungry.

Larry's advice about living to be 100: "Live a life not too extreme in either direction. Moderation is the best policy."



Harry Simpson '65, Larry Lantow '38, Danette Boyle, President Larry Rice, First Lady Peggy Rice at the 100th Birthday Celebration for Larry Lantow.

DEWEY F. WILSON '66 OMA MUSEUM CURATOR



Dewey F. Wilson '66, was raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He graduated from Thomas A. Edison Sr. High School in Tulsa in 1964, and he then attended Oklahoma Military Academy from

August 1964 until January 1966. Dewey entered the U.S. Air Force in March 1966 and separated in 1969. He attended the University of Tulsa from 1970 to 1973 and reentered the U.S. Air Force in September 1973 with credit for time already served for both active duty and inactive reserve. He retired as a Master Sergeant in February 1990 with 22 years credited time. During his Air Force career,

he worked in Radar Operations (1st enlistment) and Intelligence Operations (the remainder of his career), serving in various assignments (SAC HQ, fighter units, special operations and AWACS), with duty in the Far East, Europe, Middle East and the U.S. During his last assignment at Tinker Air Force Base, he attended Oklahoma City University and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Art.

Dewey has enjoyed working at the OMA Museum both as Assistant Curator and more recently in his latest position as OMA Museum Curator. The job of Curator is very challenging but he is excited to take on the task of making the museum

a showplace for a part of Oklahoma history. One of his goals is to increase public awareness of the museum at RSU. He enjoys working with Dr. Danette Boyle, Tammy Ryan and Steve Smith, Assistant Curator, who along with Gene Little, Retired OMA Museum Curator, have helped him in meeting the challenges of working at the museum.



OMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S 2017 PRESIDENT'S AWARD WINNER NAMED

The OMA Alumni Association's President's Award was initiated in 2015 with Cadet First Captain Dr. Worth Gross '35, selected as the first recipient at the 80th anniversary of his graduation from OMA. The award recognizes special individuals who have contributed significantly either to the OMA Alumni Association or made a substantial impact in their field of choice, local community or in business. The 2017 President's Award honoree will be B.G. Jones '64.

A 2004 Distinguished Alumni inductee, Jones was a cadet captain, President of his Junior College sophomore class and served in the military as an Army armor officer. Not only did he attend OMA for six years, he returned to the Hill to do his student teaching during the 1968-1969 school year and assisted in coaching the high school football team as well. He has been instrumental in getting a live band back at the reunion and was the person behind the Grand March which came

back to OMA in 2016 after a 45-year absence. Finally, as OMA Cheerleader #1, he not only bought the first 1947 Pontiac Hearse which the Cheerleaders used from 1962-1969, but on behalf of the OMA Alumni Association, he purchased and gifted the 1996 Cadillac Hearse which will continue the cheerleader legacy with RSU. Please join us at Saturday's lunch when OMA Alumni President Phil Goldfarb will bestow upon B.G. Jones this deserving honor.

Once A Cadet Always A Cadet

OMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION | JUNE 9-10, 2017

FRIDAY | JUNE 9

8:00 a.m.

REUNION REGISTRATION

Meyer Hall, OMA Alumni Office and OMA Museum

ALUMNI GOLF CLASSIC

Heritage Hills Golf Course 18 Hole Tournament

9:00 a.m.

Shotgun Start Begins • \$65 (lunch included)

11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Golf Lunch • \$15

Lunch is also available for alumni and guests not participating in golf.

11:30 a.m.

LADIES' LUNCHEON • \$25

Hosted by RSU First Lady Peggy Rice
President's Residence, RSU Campus
Reservation required with maximum 40

4:00 P.M.

SPECIAL DOCUMENTARY

Never Surrender – The Ed Ramsey Story
Auditorium on Campus

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

REUNION OPENING RECEPTION & BUFFET • \$30

RSU Centennial Center Ballroom

6:30 P.M.

CADENCE/JODY CALLING CONTEST

RSU Centennial Center Ballroom
Winners will receive prizes



"Never Surrender: The Ed Ramsey Story" is available to purchase for \$20.00. Get yours before the Reunion! Call Danette Boyle.



SATURDAY | JUNE 10

8:00 a.m.

REUNION REGISTRATION • \$35

(includes coffee, pastries, lunch, packets and ice cream social in the new Chapman Dining Hall)

Meyer Hall, OMA Alumni Office and OMA Museum

NO CHARGE FOR ANY ALUMNUS ATTENDING HIS FIRST REUNION.

9:15 a.m.

"DRILL & CEREMONY EXHIBITION"

RSU GOLD Military Students
Front of Campus between Flag Pole and
Will Rogers Auditorium

9:30 a.m.

ALUMNI CEREMONIES

Will Rogers Auditorium

- Honoring OMA's Recently Deceased Alumni
- Color Guard presented by the RSU Guard Officer Leadership Development (GOLD) Program Students
- Distinguished Alumni and Hall of Fame Ceremony

11:30 a.m.

ALUMNI LUNCHEON

Centennial Center
Special Guests: RSU Guard Officer Leadership Development (GOLD) Program Military Students

- Recognition of 2017 OMA Honorary Cadets and President's Awards
- "Boots Back on the Hill" Scholarships for GOLD Students

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING LUNCHEON

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Chapman Dining Hall

5:30 p.m.

RECEPTION, DINNER, GRAND MARCH & DANCE • \$40

Pin-on corsage: \$11 | Wrist corsage: \$15

RSU Centennial Center Ballroom

"Grand March" – Back by popular demand.

7:30 p.m.

Band: Rendezvous

RSU Centennial Center Ballroom

Call Danette Boyle to register today!
918-343-6888 or email: dboyle@rsu.edu

Cash, check or credit card accepted.



OMA President and Mrs. John Horne during the 1970 Homecoming Grand March.



RSU President Larry and First Lady Peggy Rice during the 2016 OMA Alumni Reunion Grand March.

2017 OMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION CLAREMORE HOTEL INFORMATION

(Please make your reservations early to ensure availability)

Hampton Inn & Suites*

Special OMA rate - \$89.00 + tax
1811 S. Scissortail Ave – Claremore, OK
918-965-1360 800-426-7866 (toll free)
www.hamptoninn.com

Holiday Inn Express & Suites*

Special OMA rate - \$79.00 + tax
1400 W. Country Club – Claremore, OK
918-283-4877 800-465-4329 (toll free)
www.holidayinnexpress.com

La Quinta Inn & Suites*

Special OMA rate - \$82.00 + tax
774 S. Lynn Riggs Blvd – Claremore, OK
918-965-1877 800-753-3757 (toll free)
www.LQ.com

Microtel Inn & Suites

10600 E Mallard Lake Rd – Claremore, OK
918-343-2868
www.microtelinn.com

Super 8

1100 E. Will Rogers Blvd. – Claremore, OK
918-341-2323 866-302-6438 (toll free)
www.super8.com

Will Rogers Inn

940 S. Lynn Riggs Blvd. – Claremore, OK
918-341-4410 800-644-9455 (toll free)
www.willrogersinn.com

*New Hotels

BREAKING NEWS

Lt. Col. Edwin Price Ramsey '37

will receive the prestigious

2017 Lt. General William E. Potts Award of Excellence
(Posthumously)

during the OMA Alumni Reunion
Distinguished Alumni and Hall of Fame Ceremony

A full article in the Reunion program will follow.

Elaine Potts, LTG William E.
Potts, and Lt. Col. Ed Ramsey



OMA ALUMNI SELECTS 2017 HALL OF FAME AND DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HONOREES

HALL OF FAME



Perry D. "Bud" Inhofe '50

Perry D. "Bud" Inhofe attended OMA until 1950 and has made notable accomplishments ever since that time. Inhofe began in the insurance business in 1952 as a claims adjuster with Tri State Insurance Company. Inhofe worked his way up in the insurance business gaining increasing responsibility including positions as claims representative, underwriter, assistant vice president, vice president, and executive vice president culminating in being named as president and CEO of the Mid-Continent Casualty Company in 1970.

Bud married his junior high and high school sweetheart Margaret Giddens in 1952. At her insistence, he attended night school at the University of Tulsa, where he earned his law degree in 1958.

Inhofe not only served his company, he devoted time and energy to the insurance industry by serving as a director of the National Association of Independent Insurers, which is the world's largest insurance trade association. He became chairman of the organization's board in 1983. Other business interests include directorship with a local Tulsa bank, a director of the American Cellular Telephone Company and a director of Taft Broadcasting.

Inhofe is a former member, deacon, and elder of the First Christian Church in Tulsa and is a past president of the board of Chapel by the Sea in South Padre Island, Texas, where he continues to serve on the board of directors. He also serves on

the board of visitors for Scott and White, a large healthcare facility in central Texas.

Bud and Margaret have been married 65 years and since his retirement in 1990, they have resided in South Padre Island. Bud has earned the rank of Silver Life Master in duplicate bridge. He is an instrument-rated pilot, and he and Margaret have flown their personal prop jet all over North America.

Bud and Margaret have two daughters, Melinda and Marilyn; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.



Robert A. (Bob) Wright '53

Robert A. (Bob) Wright attended public school in Oklahoma City before enrolling at Oklahoma Military Academy as a sophomore. He graduated from OMA in 1953 with the rank of Platoon Master Sergeant. His platoon, under the command of Lt. Harry Poarch, was the outstanding platoon that year. Having lettered in four sports during his senior year, he was awarded the Outstanding High School Athlete trophy.

Wright enrolled at Oklahoma A&M in the School of Architecture and his freshman year was selected to play on the Oklahoma A&M freshman basketball team under legendary Coach Henry Iba. During his senior year, he taught a design course for freshman students. He graduated in 1958 from Oklahoma State University with a bachelor's degree in architecture.

His first employment was with an Oklahoma City architecture firm, Caudill Rowlett Scott. Transferring to the Houston

office, he was promoted to an associate with large project responsibilities. His work included many of the original space lab buildings for NASA at the Johnson Space Center. He was also responsible for numerous projects throughout the United States including significant projects at Harvard and Duke universities.

In 1966, he returned to Oklahoma City to become principal and shareholder with the firm Locke Smith, which became Locke Smith Wright. The firm today is known as LWPB Architecture and is celebrating its 54th year in business, with offices in Oklahoma City and Norman. Among the many projects he was involved with was the former Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building and numerous educational, commercial, public and financial institutions throughout Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas and Arkansas. He designed projects for Rogers State University in Claremore and Pryor and numerous projects for the Claremore school system, most recently the high school gymnasium and numerous classroom additions.

The Oklahoma State University School of Architecture asked him to develop a course in construction document for the senior class. He developed this course and was the instructor for four semesters while working full time at LWPB Architecture.

He was asked by the OMA Alumni Board to help develop a KIA Memorial to honor OMA Cadets who gave their lives in World War II, the Korean and Vietnam wars. The memorial has become a focal point on this campus honoring former OMA cadets and their sacrifice.

His local Oklahoma activities included two terms as President of the Central

Oklahoma Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), President of the Oklahoma City Downtown Lions Club, Chairman of the AIA fund raising golf tournament, Assistant Coach for the 1st Tee organization of Oklahoma City serving underprivileged youth, and numerous activities at the Methodist Church of the Servant.

Wright was selected as an OMA Distinguished Alumni in 2002 and established the Verna J. Wright Student Academic Scholarship honoring his mother, who sacrificed dearly to send him to Oklahoma Military Academy.

He is very proud of his family, including his wife Carolyn, six children, 21 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Wright said he was deeply honored to be selected for the Hall of Fame and he shares this award with so many OMA Alumni who had a very positive influence in his life.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



Jack A Dolman, Jr. '66

Jack A. Dolman, Jr. arrived on the Hill in the late summer of 1964 to begin school as a college freshman with the Class of 1965 and a member

of the Cadet Corps. He attended OMA for two years, graduating in 1966. He came to the Hill after completing his initial six months of active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps and he joined his younger brother Paul W. Dolman, who was beginning his second year in high school at OMA.

After a Rabbit period of eleven days, Dolman was promoted to corporal in A Company. At semester, he was promoted to Battalion Sargent Major and at the end of the first year was further promoted to

Second Lieutenant and platoon leader. He returned in 1966 as a captain and Delta Company Commander.

Dolman was active on campus as a member of the Ambassadors of Americanism, Outstanding Company, Chapel Foundation, Chevron and Saber Societies, Drill Team, Judge's Bench, Cadet Capers and a cheerleader in 1965-1966. He also received honors including the Military Proficiency Ribbon, Merit Ribbon, Athletic Ribbon and following summer camp the Distinguished Military Student (DMS) designation.

Upon graduation, Dolman attended and graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1969 with a degree in radio and television journalism.

Early in his career, he worked in sales and marketing for real estate properties in central Arkansas and eventually managed a multi-office brokerage in Little Rock, Arkansas along with a start-up multi-office brokerage in Jacksonville, Florida. An opportunity came knocking in 1988 to join the development team that was building the first major continuing care retirement community in Jacksonville, Cypress Village. "That opportunity opened the door to what became a 25-year career in senior living," Dolman said. "It was an immensely satisfying period in my life during which I was giving more than getting and serving more than being served."

"I came to OMA by a circuitous route having done my active duty but wanted to get back into college. When Paul and I could attend OMA together, that really made the Hill, the Corps and the friendships so much more meaningful," he said.

Dolman also had an uncle, Joseph G. Perry, who attended OMA in 1931 and 1932, receiving an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Dolman now resides in Jacksonville with his wife Marietta. Between their merged families, the couple has six children and 10 grandchildren.



**Donald Roy Dowell
Class '66, '68**

Donald Roy Dowell graduated from OMA High School in 1966 and Junior College in 1968. While at OMA, he

received a rank of Cadet Captain and Company Commander of "A" Company. He was a member of the Saber Society, Chevron Society, Honor Court, Judges Bench, Color Guard and was a Cheerleader.

After OMA, he earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma in accounting, economics and marketing in 1973. During this time, he served as president of the accounting and marketing clubs where he received the Floyd Lamar Vaughn Outstanding Marketing Student.

During his career, he has been active in commercial real estate in Dallas for the past 35 years earning the Dallas Business Journal's "2007 Deal of the Year" for the relocation of Comerica Bank Headquarters from Detroit to Dallas. He also has been recognized by the Dallas Business Journal as a Real Estate "Heavy Hitter" several times in his career. Dowell has been active in the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA), the oldest and largest industry organization. He was BOMA Chairman of the International Brokerage and Leasing Committee; Past President of BOMA Dallas, BOMA Texas, and the BOMA Southwest Region; and BOMA Outstanding Member of the Year for Southwest Region and Dallas. He was also BOMA Chairman of the Dallas Education Institute and member of the North Texas Commercial Association of Realtors (NTCAR).

Among his many civic activities, Dowell served as a board member of Downtown Dallas, a board member of Main Street Garden Park Foundation, and chairman of the Dare to Dream Children Foundation.

Dowell has lived in Dallas since 1980 with his wife of 34 years, Marilyn. They have two children – Erin, who works for Marriott as the events planner, and Paul, who just received a master's degree in biomedical engineering from the University of Texas.

Dowell credits his OMA experience with developing his leadership and organizational skills, but most importantly for creating many lifetime friends.



**Robert (Rob) Fisher, Jr.
'68**

Robert (Rob) Fisher, Jr. attended OMA from 1966 to 1968, graduating high school in 1968.

During his time at OMA, he held the positions of Squad Leader, First Sergeant and Platoon Leader. In 1967, Rob was Squad Leader of Second Semester Rabbits and then in 1968 he was Platoon Leader of Second Semester Rabbits. Rob graduated in 1968 as a First Lieutenant and his accomplishments at OMA were Outstanding Company, Best Drilled Company, Best Drilled Platoon, Chapel Foundation, DeMolay, Drill Team, Military Proficiency Ribbon, Dean's Honor Roll, Merit Ribbon, Cadet Capers, Chevron Society, Saber Society, Best Drilled Squad, and N.C.D.

Upon graduation from OMA, Rob went into the Air Force for two years of active duty followed by two years of Reserve. In June 1970, Rob married Vickie Miles Fisher and has been blessed for 47 years with her. They have four children and ten grandchildren who all live in the Oklahoma City area.

In 1972, Rob partnered with his father and purchased Farmers Livestock Commission Company at the Oklahoma National Stock Yards in Oklahoma City and for a 12-year period Rob co-owned B&R Thoroughbred Racing Stables. Upon his father's death in 1991, Rob and Vickie bought out his father's half of the company. He owned and ran Farmers until 2008 and then sold it to his son. From 1980 to 1986, Rob held the office of president of the Livestock Exchange at the Oklahoma National Stock Yards and in 1986 he was asked to serve as a Director of the National Stock Yards for which he still serves. In 1999, he became president of National Stock Yards Company, which consists of Oklahoma National Stock Yards, St. Louis National Stockyards and East St. Louis Junction Railroad. For two years, Rob also served as president of the Livestock Marketing Association in Oklahoma and for six years as president of Stock Yards City Main Street. Rob also was a Director of UMB Bank for eight years and served on an advisory committee for the Southern Illinois Business Promotion for six years.

Rob cherished his time and the lifelong friends he made from attending OMA.



**Charles (Charlie) D.
Hatfield Jr. '65**

Charles (Charlie) D. Hatfield Jr. began his journey into discipline at Oklahoma Military Academy in 1959, where

he was a member of the Chevron Society and Saber Society, Honor Society, Concert and Marching Band and president of the Radio Club. He was also in command as platoon leader for day students taking R.O.T.C.

A graduate of Northeastern Oklahoma State University, Hatfield earned his bachelor's degree in marketing/journalism and was president of Phi Beta Lambda business society and a member

of Pi Delta Epsilon journalism society. He was also on the Dean's Honor Roll.

He currently serves as a publisher of three Texas weekly newspapers, and a journalist with more than 40 years of experience. He was a reporter for the Muskogee Daily Phoenix and advertising sales for the Arlington Daily News.

He has enjoyed a career in broadcast media beginning with KWPR Radio in Claremore in 1964 with a sign-on program "Charlie's Country Capers" as on-air personality along with responsibility in news and sales. He later worked for KRAV-FM in Tulsa as an account executive. He toured Oklahoma as an account executive for Pete Richardson & Associates, representing radio stations throughout the state calling on advertising agencies.

He formed Hatfield & Associates in 1979 as a technology consulting firm, providing computer services in the Dallas area.

Born in 1944 at St. John's Hospital in Tulsa, he grew up attending elementary schools in Tulsa. His parents divorced in 1957 and he moved in with his maternal grandparents, Henry and Hazel Richmond where he attended Jenks Junior High. A close friend, Terry Rollins from Jenks convinced him to attend OMA.

Hatfield and his wife Sheila of 27 years, moved to Ferris, Texas, in 1992 to purchase the Ferris Press, later turning the small-town paper into a conservative county newspaper taking First Place Awards for Journalism Excellence. Over the past couple decades, the Hatfields have successfully bought and published The Alvord Gazette, the Cedar Hill Chronicle, the North Ellis County Weekly Review, and the Red Oak Record.

As an NRA and Texas Licensed Handgun instructor since 2011, he has helped more than 300 students to obtain their

Texas Handgun License. He also teaches gun safety courses for women only.

Hatfield, 72, has three grown children and six grandchildren, currently serves on the Ferris 4A Economic Development Corporation and has served on the Ferris Planning and Zoning Commission for more than 20 years. He also holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel as public information officer for Texas Civil Defense.

In his spare time, Hatfield designs graphics and literature for corporations, does a little computer-repair and spends time remodeling his local offices and home.



George William "Bill" Shaffer '63

George William "Bill" Shaffer graduated from Oklahoma Military High School in 1963 and Junior College in 1965,

attending all six years on the Hill. While on the Hill, Bill was on the President's and Deans Honor Roll and named to the Oklahoma Honor Society, the Honor Court and Judges Bench. He served as President of the Freshman Class, Vice President of the Senior Class, Secretary of the Chevron Society, Secretary of the Saber Society, and served on the *Vedette* Staff. He earned the Cadet Identification Disc, the Military Proficiency Ribbon and the Merit Ribbon. He was a member of the marching band and later joined the drill team. Bill was named the Outstanding Tulsa Cadet in 1963. Bill was on the high school football and track teams and qualified for state as part of the mile relay team. Bill attended ROTC summer camp at Ft. Sill, and he graduated from OMA as a Cadet Major.

Bill worked for many years in direct care at Shadow Mountain Psychiatric Hospital until retiring in 2016. He is currently Manager of Sales and Marketing for Logos Staffing International in Tulsa.

Bill had been a member of Boy Scout Troop 26 sponsored by the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Tulsa before enrolling at OMA. After graduating from OMA and while attending the University of Tulsa, the troop came calling again and asked if Bill would consider becoming Scoutmaster of Troop 26 "for a couple of years." That was in 1968. He agreed and became Scoutmaster in January of 1969 and remains in that position today, 46 years later. When Bill took over Troop 26, there were only eleven or twelve boys and no adult leaders. Today, Troop 26 has a yearly membership of nearly 200 boys each year and an adult staff of 50 trained leaders.

The troop has become the largest and one of the most successful troops in state history, generating more than 700 Eagle Scouts. Bill patterned many of the things he established in his Scout troop after things he had learned at OMA. He built a youth leadership program derived from his experiences in the Saber Society and Chevron Society. Discipline problems in the troop are handled by the boys themselves as elected members of the Troop 26 Honor Court. At OMA he learned firsthand that pride, uniforming and tradition are key ingredients to success, and he has modeled those traits to thousands of Tulsa scouts.

Bill planned encounters for his scouts with three American presidents (Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan and George Bush Sr.) President Ford actually came to a troop meeting to present Eagle Scout Awards to 13 troop members. Bill authored and published two books, each a compilation of letters to scouts from some of America's heroes from all walks of life, including Medal of Honor recipients, presidents, senators, congressmen, astronauts, admirals and generals, professional athletes and entertainment celebrities. "In The Words Of..." and "From The Hearts Of Heroes" each containing letters addressed to the scouts. They included letters from Jimmy

Doolittle, Mamie Eisenhower, Bob Hope, Billy Graham, Jimmy Stewart, Gregory Peck, and the witch from the Wizard of Oz, Margaret Hamilton. A third book, "Voices From the Mountain" is currently in progress and will include a letter from OMA graduate General Edwin Ramsey.

Bill has been recognized locally, regionally and nationally with numerous awards, such as the Silver Beaver, the Silver Antelope and the Outstanding Scoutmaster Award from the National Eagle Scout Association. He was included in a National Task Force of Scoutmasters to review the draft of the 10th edition of the Boy Scout Handbook. Bill organized and sponsored an annual Oklahoma Special Camporee for 35 years, providing a special camping opportunity for mentally and physically challenged individuals, an event that was honored by the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation. Bill's troop was recognized as the Special Olympic National Organization of the Year in 1980, alongside the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Kansas City Royals.

Bill has led his troop to summer camping adventures in Colorado, New Mexico, South Dakota, Arkansas, Texas, Kansas, Alaska and Hawaii, has attended 10 BSA National Jamborees, 10 High Adventure expeditions to Philmont Scout Ranch, a canoe expedition at Sommers Wilderness Canoe Base in Canada, and monthly campouts every month for 46 years. Someone added this up to be a total of four years of sleeping in a tent.

Bill's Eagle Scouts are now taking their places in the business and professional communities all across the country that include doctors, lawyers, coaches, teachers, business leaders, law enforcement and the military. One of Bill's Eagle Scouts was recently promoted to Brigadier General in the USAF. Bill's impact on his community has been exceptional.

A life of service to his community that had its beginning "on the Hill."

OMA HONORARY CADET SELECTED

The newest individuals selected to become OMA Honorary Cadets were approved unanimously by the OMA Alumni Association Board of Directors. They will be recognized at the OMA Alumni Reunion luncheon on Saturday, June 10, 2017. It was decided by the Board they will not have to go through the Rabbit period.



Mary Horne Faulkner

Daughter of Col. John Horne, Mary Horne Faulkner moved to Claremore in 1968 when her father became the President of Oklahoma Military Academy. Two years later, she graduated from Claremore High School.

Mary attended William Woods College and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1974. She married Claremore native, Dave Faulkner, in 1976. They resided in Norman, Oklahoma for more than a decade before returning to Claremore in 1987.

Mary and Dave Faulkner are the owners of Rogers County Abstract Company and the couple have a son, David, daughter-in-law Marilyn, and two grandchildren, Kirk and Taylor.

Mary is a member and elder at First Presbyterian Church, is a member and past President of P. E. O. Chapter BM, and has served on the Board of the Claremore Public Schools Foundation. From 1996-2005, Mary served on the RSU Foundation Board.

She and her husband continue to support the University and have established the following scholarship endowments for students at RSU: The Dave and Mary Faulkner Scholarship Endowment, The Taylor Erwin Faulkner Memorial Endowment, and the Col. John

E. Horne Scholarship Endowment.



Logan Wilson Gear
RSU '17

Logan Wilson Gear was born in Stillwater in March 1994 to James and Ladonna Gear of Oilton and

Drumright respectively. Gear grew up in the small community of Olive, which consists mainly of farms and ranches, two churches, a gas station, and an elementary/high school. He spent his time there tending cattle, fences, playing sports, and studying. After graduating from Olive High School in 2012, he moved to Claremore to become a Hillcat at Rogers State University. He originally planned to study military history, but later switched to public administration where he was mentored by faculty members Dr. Paul Hatley and Dr. David Ulbrich.

The two faculty members helped sway him away from the Marine Corps and into the Oklahoma Army National Guard, where he enlisted in May 2014. Since

that time, he has completed his basic training and advanced individual training to become a Combat Engineer

In fall 2014, he began serving in the RSU GOLD Program from its inception, participating in the Fall and Spring Field Training Exercises, weekly lab periods along with Military Science courses, a summer Annual Training period of two weeks at Camp Gruber in 2015, and more. He is the only Officer Candidate from the original eight in the inaugural RSU GOLD class to commission as a Second Lieutenant following his graduation from Officer Candidate School in South Dakota during summer 2016. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in Oklahoma on Sept. 11, 2016.

During his senior year, he has been the Officer in Charge (OIC) of the RSU GOLD Program, handling administrative duties and tasks in order to help prepare the current Officer Candidates for success in their own military careers. He is also preparing to graduate with his Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration

GOLD STUDENT TO BECOME AN OMA HONORARY CADET

By a unanimous vote at the September 8, 2016 OMA Alumni Association Board Meeting, it was resolved that any RSU Guard Officer Leadership Development (GOLD) cadet who has completed the program and commissioned a 2LT will become an honorary OMA Cadet and a member of the OMA Alumni Association.

The first cadet who has accomplished this feat is newly commissioned (September 10th, 2016) 2LT Logan Gear from the thriving metropolis of Olive, Oklahoma, who is a senior at RSU this year majoring in Public Administration and planning on attending law school. The irony is that two of Logan's teachers in the Olive school system who had a profound effect on him were the daughter and son-in-law of Bill Harris'54.

Logan will be receiving his proclamation at the 2017 OMA Reunion. It is individuals like this who will become our legacy on the Hill. If you can make the Reunion to congratulate Lt. Gear, please do so.

and minor in Spanish while working as a Spanish Tutor for RSU, and as a private security guard in Tulsa.

Upon graduating in May 2017, he will travel to Ft. Leonard Wood for a third time in order to complete Basic Officer's Leadership Course (BOLC) to become an Engineer Officer. Upon graduation from this course in the fall 2017, 2LT Gear plans to return to Oklahoma where he will attempt to go to work at the state capitol, or perhaps work towards getting a job as a policy analyst.



Dean Loshbaugh

Dean Loshbaugh, the son of longtime OMA chemistry teacher, was born in Tahlequah in 1931 to Alva Newton and Ethel May Brammell

Loshbaugh. Alva Loshbaugh taught chemistry at OMA from 1943 to 1968. Following his graduation from Claremore High School in 1949, Dean went on to earn his bachelor's degree in industrial arts education from Oklahoma A&M in 1953. He then served two years of basic ROTC in ordinance then earned his master's degree in industrial arts education, also from OSU. He earned his doctorate in special education from the University of Tulsa in 1972.

In 1955, he entered the U.S. Army basic training at Ft. Chaffee, Arkansas where he studied fire directional control for 105mm Howitzers during the second eight weeks of basic training. He also taught classes for four months in the headquarters company of the 1st Infantry Division at Ft. Riley, Kansas. He served in the 8th Army in Korea from June 1956 to August 1957 in the 11th combat engineers as battalion librarian. He served in the active reserves for two years in 3-D aerial photography interpretation and two years in chemical, biological and radiological agents until his discharge in August 1961.

After earning his undergraduate degree, he taught woodworking and drafting at Springdale High School in Arkansas from 1953-1955. In 1957, he helped open the new Hamilton Junior High School in Tulsa as the metalworking and electricity teacher. In 1963, he was named director of the Vocational Training Center (VTC) Division of Children's Medical Center in Tulsa. The VTC served young adult individuals with disabilities through programs of vocational evaluation, work adjustment training and community job placement. The VTC became the first nationally accredited program of its kind in Oklahoma through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities and maintained 24 years of national accreditation under his leadership. He retired after more than 31 years of service in 1995.

During his career, he served as state president of the Oklahoma Community Providers and the Oklahoma Federation of the Counsel for Exceptional Children. He earned the Rehabilitation Professional of the Year Award from the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Association in 1976 and the Meritorious Service Award from the Southwest Region of the National Rehabilitation Association in 1987.



Mary M. Mosier

Mary M. Mosier grew up on a farm in western Kansas. After graduating from Sheridan Community High School, she

attended Kansas State University and married Richard Mosier, who later went on to become president of Claremore Junior College and Rogers State College.

Mary and Richard are the parents of five children. Their family consists of Jerrilee Mosier-Coombs and her husband Russ; Greg Mosier, his wife Debbie and their children Decker, Chas, and Bess; Rick Mosier, his wife Teresa and their children

Meredith and Madison; Doug Mosier; and Roger Mosier, his wife Vicki and their children Natalie and husband John Jarred, Grant and Caroline.

In addition to being devoted to her family, Mary is active in PEO, an investment group, and serves a Ruling Elder of the First Presbyterian Church in Claremore.



Joan Shaw

Joan Shaw was born in Arcadia, Ohio and raised in nearby Fostoria. She graduated in 1948, and moved to Findlay, where she

married, had a son and began working for the telephone company as a long distance operator and instructor. When the marriage ended in 1953, she became a single parent and was going it alone until she met the love of her life, Norman Shaw. On December 21, 1957, they wed and made their home in Chelsea, Oklahoma until moving to California in 1962.

Joan was well known as a pianist and vocalist, while graciously sharing her time and talent, singing at weddings, funerals, TV programs, and other events. In California, she pursued a career in acting and entertainment, and also worked at North American Rockwell during the space race. During this time, she decided that family came first and focused her efforts on Norman and their son.

Joan is most known for her bountiful spirit, keen wit, sense of humor and big heart. She never saw a stray dog she didn't try to save, and her devotion to family and close friends has no limits. Throughout her life, Joan has always tried to help others in need, and as long as she had the energy, she would find a way. These days, she resides in Chelsea with her husband and soul mate, Norman, and is grateful every day for a life well lived. This year, they are celebrating their 60th anniversary.



SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS RECIPIENTS

A special reception was held in March for scholarship recipients of the Allie L. and Jack E. Harris and C. Earl and Irene Harris Scholarship Endowments. Pictured are the scholarship recipients for the Allie L. and Jack E. Harris Scholarship Endowment and RSU staff. Front row left to right: Tehya Gaines, Giulia Bracchi, Justin Perkins and Danette Boyle, OMA Alumni Director. Back row left to right: Maynard Phillips, V.P. for Development and Dr. Larry Rice, RSU President. Also pictured are Pastor Doug Carey and Kevin Martin, Trustees of the Jack Harris Estate.

COLONEL LEDBETTER'S GRANDDAUGHTER AN ACTRESS IN JAMES BOND MOVIE



Canon Shannon Ledbetter

Many OMA alumni who attended school during the years of 1948 through 1964 will remember Colonel Homer M. Ledbetter (1914-1981). As the longest tenured president of the school, he led OMA through some difficult times after WWII and during the Korean War increasing enrollment from under 100 in 1948 to 758 in 1964, more than doubling the academic faculty from 16 to 35 and growing the physical plant from \$2 million dollars to \$8 million dollars. Some of you might also remember his son, Homer M. Ledbetter Jr. (1937-2013) who attended high school at OMA from 1952-1956 before starting college at Oklahoma A&M (now Oklahoma State University).

The younger Ledbetter's daughter is Shannon Ledbetter who initially became an actress. Born in Germany while LTC Homer Ledbetter Jr. was in the military, one of her roles was in the 1997 James Bond movie starring Pierce Brosnan titled *Tomorrow Never Dies*. After a short career as an actress, she studied theology in the United States and in Liverpool, England completing her Ph.D. She was ordained as a curate in the Church of England in 2003 and is currently a community canon at Blackburn Cathedral in Lancashire, England.



L to R: 2LT Logan Gear, Joshua Marsh, Joshua Eldridge, Aaron Waldrup, Jake Norum, Will Garrison, Matthew Pollock, Gerald (Alex) Alexander, Michael San Pedro, Cody Blalock, Brian Moran, Rhett Ables, Dometo N. Dometo, Jacalyn Honeywell, Katelind Nave, Trey Weiesnbach, Marissa Reisen



GOLD Program student Trey Weiesnbach being promoted to E-3 Private First Class



GOLD Program student Matthew Pollock being promoted to E-3 Private First Class



GOLD Program students Joshua Eldridge and Rhett Ables being promoted to E-4 Specialists

OMA ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR THE RSU GUARD OFFICER LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (GOLD) PROGRAM

____ Yes, I would like to continue the OMA legacy and help with a scholarship for our RSU students in the GOLD Program.

☐ GENERAL \$5,000 and Above
☐ COLONEL \$2,500 to \$4,999

☐ MAJOR \$1,000 to \$2,499
☐ CAPTAIN \$500 to \$999

☐ LIEUTENANT \$1 to \$499

Your gift of \$25,000 or more will establish a named endowment. This may be a one-time gift or paid over a period of five years.

☐ OMA BOOTS BACK ON THE HILL Scholarship Endowment - \$25,000

Name(s) as you would like it to appear in all recognition materials

My tax deductible contribution in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Check: Made payable to OMA Alumni Association

☐ Phone: Call Dr. Danette Boyle at 918-343-6888 to establish automatic credit card charges or bank drafts.

☐ Credit Card: (Circle card type) VISA MasterCard Discover Am Exp

Account Number: _____ Exp.: _____ Sec. Code: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____

PLEDGE: Total Amount \$_____ payable in _____ payments of \$_____ each, to be paid in full by _____.

KILROY WAS HERE



He is engraved in stone in the National War Memorial in Washington, DC -- back in a small alcove where very few people have seen it. For the WWII alumni, this will bring back memories. For you younger folks, it's a bit of trivia that is a part of our American history. Anyone born in 1913 to about 1950 is familiar with

Kilroy. No one knew why he was so well known, but everybody seemed to get into it.

So, who was Kilroy?

In 1946, the American Transit Association, through its radio program "Speak to America," sponsored a nationwide contest to find the real Kilroy, offering a prize of a real trolley car to the person who could prove himself to be the genuine article. Almost 40 men stepped forward to make that claim, but only James Kilroy from Halifax, Massachusetts, had evidence of his identity.

'Kilroy' was a 46-year old shipyard worker during the war who worked as a checker at the Fore River Shipyard in Quincy. His job was to go around and check on the number of rivets completed. Riveters were on piecework and got paid by the rivet. He would count a block of rivets and put a check mark in semi-waxed lumber chalk, so the rivets wouldn't be

counted twice. When Kilroy went off duty, the riveters would erase the mark. Later, an off-shift inspector would come through and count the rivets a second time, resulting in double pay for the riveters.

One day Kilroy's boss called him into his office. The foreman was upset about all the wages being paid to riveters, and asked him to investigate. It was then he realized what had been going on. The tight spaces he had to crawl in to check the rivets didn't lend themselves to lugging around a paint can and brush, so Kilroy decided to stick with the waxy chalk. He continued to put his check mark on each job he inspected, but added 'KILROY WAS HERE' in king-sized letters next to the check, and eventually added the sketch of the chap with the long nose peering over the fence and that became part of the Kilroy message. Once he did that, the riveters stopped trying to wipe away his marks. Ordinarily the rivets and chalk marks would have been covered up with paint. With the war on, however, ships were leaving the Quincy Yard so fast that there wasn't time to paint them. Thus, Kilroy's inspection "trademark" was seen by thousands of servicemen who boarded the troopships the yard produced. His message apparently rang a bell with the servicemen, because they picked it up and spread it all over Europe and the South Pacific.

Before war's end, "Kilroy" had been here, there, and everywhere on the long hauls to Berlin and Tokyo. To the troops outbound in those ships, however, he

was a complete mystery; all they knew for sure was that someone named Kilroy had "been there first." As a joke, U.S. servicemen began placing the graffiti wherever they landed, claiming it was already there when they arrived.

Kilroy became the U.S. super-GI who had always "already been" wherever GIs went. It became a challenge to place the logo in the most unlikely places imaginable (it is said to be atop Mt. Everest, the Statue of Liberty, the underside of the Arc de Triomphe, and even scrawled in the dust on the moon. As the war went on, the legend grew. Underwater demolition teams routinely sneaked ashore on Japanese-held islands in the Pacific to map the terrain for coming invasions by U.S. troops (and thus, presumably, were the first GIs there). On one occasion, however, they reported seeing enemy troops painting over the Kilroy logo!

In 1945, an outhouse was built for the exclusive use of Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill at the Potsdam conference. Its first occupant was Stalin, who emerged and asked his aide (in Russian), "Who is Kilroy?"

To help prove his authenticity in 1946, James Kilroy brought along officials from the shipyard and some of the riveters. He won the trolley car, which he gave to his nine children as a Christmas gift and set it up as a playhouse in the Kilroy yard in Halifax, Massachusetts.

And the Tradition Continues...EVEN Outside Osama bin Laden's House!!!



2017 OMA ALUMNI MINI REUNION IN OKC

OMA Alumni posing for a photo at the 2017 Oklahoma City Mini Reunion. Pictured from left to right: Phil Goldfarb '69, Barry Grabel '64, Herb Burghart '64, Frank Howard '64 and Joe Davenport '64.

RARE COLOR FOOTAGE OF 1939 OMA FOUND

Phil Goldfarb '69, President of the OMA Alumni Association and a history buff, recently came across a film from the Oklahoma Historical Society that shows

an OMA cadet's family vacation with a bullfight initially. The film then includes some type of OMA Review, Parade, and crowning of a Corps Queen and her

assistants. The 1939 film starts with the OMA material starts a little more than five minutes into the clip, and lasts until the 11:40 mark of the film.



The unusual aspect of this film is that part of it is in color, which for that time was a rarity. Colonel John E. Horne, the last president of OMA (1968-1971), was the Corps Commander at that time and his daughter, Mary Horne Faulkner, verified that he was indeed in this movie. He is escorting the girl in the blue dress with a white hat carrying the pink roses. You can see Col. Horne at the 7:15, 7:40, 7:47, 8:17, 8:55-9:08 and 9:57 time of the movie and get a feel for the events of that period on the Hill. This is a great film for OMA posterity.

Check it out at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yQFS7KdAdM



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