

GUIDON

COURAGE LOYALTY HONOR • YESTERDAY TODAY TOMORROW

MEMORIAL NEARING COMPLETION OMA REUNION COMMITTEE SEARCHING FOR FAMILY MEMBERS OF KIA HONOREES

A freshly polished black granite monument engraved with the names of 99 former Oklahoma Military Academy cadets will soon stand front and center on the Rogers State University campus in Claremore.

The Oklahoma Military Academy Killed In Action Memorial will be dedicated on Saturday, June 4, following the traditional Morning Formation Ceremony as members of the remaining OMA cadets gather for their annual reunion. It will be one of the most significant events to take place on The Hill since the OMA flag was lowered in the spring of 1971.

Last year, during the 2010 reunion luncheon, Alumni President Randy Vierling ('63) and members of the Alumni Board of Directors brought new life to a recurring alumni vision to construct a lasting tribute to those who gave their lives during World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam War. The response, since then, has been overwhelming. Gifts received and pending pledges are funding the memorial con-

struction and the balance will establish an endowment benefiting student scholarships, the OMA Museum and the perpetual upkeep of the monument.

Special guests at the dedication ceremony will include members of the honored men's families along with military dignitaries, and state and federal officials. A special alumni task force – chaired by Alumni Vice President Phil Goldfarb ('69) and OMA Museum Curator Gene Little ('56), working with OMA Alumni Coordinator Brandi Sutherland and an expert researcher – has been working to identify, locate and contact family members. The results have been rewarding.

"We have found family members, or people we believe to be family members for around 55 of the men who will be listed on the memorial," Sutherland said. Some family members have already confirmed plans to attend.

Goldfarb is hoping others will join them. "We are asking anyone who may know surviving family members and

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GENERAL REIMER TO SPEAK AT KIA MEMORIAL DEDICATION

General Dennis J. Reimer will serve as keynote speaker for the dedication ceremony of the OMA KIA Memorial on Saturday, June 4, during the OMA reunion on the RSU campus in Claremore. The ceremony, which is open to the public, will begin at 9:15 a.m.

Gen. Reimer is a native of Medford, Okla., and a 1962 graduate of the United States Military Academy. He served 37 years in the U.S. Army, retiring as the 33rd Chief of Staff in 1999.

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MEMORIAL UNDER CONSTRUCTION

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descendants of the men we are honoring to let us know how to get in contact with them," he said.

In addition to family members, several classmates of the fallen cadets are making plans to take part in the dedication ceremonies, attending the reunion for the first time.

Thousands of OMA cadets served meritoriously in war theaters throughout the world and 10 attained the rank of general, including Lt. General William E. Potts ('41), who participated in 15 campaigns during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Potts was promoted by Gen.

George Patton and became the youngest field grade officer to lead a battalion in Europe. Lt. Col. Edwin P. Ramsey ('37), a member of the Academy's last Cavalry Unit, led the last horse cavalry charge in U.S. wartime history as a young officer serving in the Phillipines during WWII. His captivating story can be read in his book "Lieutenant Ramsey's War." In addition, 25 and possibly more OMA cadets received prestigious appointments to the nation's service academies including West Point, Air Force and Annapolis.

OMA CADETS TO BE LISTED ON THE KIA MEMORIAL

VIETNAM WAR

Stephen C. Beals
 Joe L. Biffle Jr.
 John E. Black
 Bradley D. Bowers
 Michael D. Casey
 John C. Egger Jr.
 James R. Fortenberry
 Donald O. Hartman
 Michael D. Hyatt
 Howard K. Kearney
 George W. McDonough
 Lionel E. Parsons
 William D. Reynolds
 Drew D. Shipley
 John B. Stizza
 John R. Stockdale
 Sam R. Trizza Jr.

Theodore D. Ward

Victor D. Westphall III
 William R. Wilson
 Craig M. Yancey
 Daniel W. York

KOREAN WAR

William R. Badgett
 Frank L. Brown
 William B. Castle
 Carey S. Cowart Jr.
 Roger L. Fife
 William C. Gates Jr.
 Emery M. Hickman
 Wilbert H. Hill
 Daniel W. McKinney
 James S. Trimble Jr.

WORLD WAR II

J. F. Albright
 Jack C. Altman
 John M. Baker
 Kyle E. Ball
 William A. Barrett Jr.
 Robert W. Bartlett
 Jackson G. Berryhill Jr.
 Roy L. Booth Jr.
 Marvin E. Bradley
 Claude A. Braiser
 Nolan B. Cargile
 Joseph L. Carnell
 Lloyd F. Cathey
 Wayne W. Christian
 Dean H. Corbett
 Woodrow L. Dick

Vincent L. Dixon
 Paul H. Dolman
 Walter E. Downs Jr.
 Fritz W. Eisenlohr Jr.
 Richard T. Ellison
 Alvah L. Fisher
 Jay W. Gold
 McKendree J. Hacker
 George M. Hale Jr.
 Wolcott R. Hall
 Gayle H. Harman
 John R. Harris Jr.
 William K. Hester
 Frank C. Howk Jr.
 Stuart M. Jenkins
 Edward L. Jillson
 Glen C. Johnson

Clark C. Kegelman
 Billy A. Krowse
 LeRoy L. Lette
 Howard F. Liddell
 Charles W. Locke Sr.
 Clabe C. Mackey
 Thomas W. Mackey
 Jack C. Maxey Jr.
 Garrett H. McCallister
 William D. McLennan
 Eugene F. Moriarty Jr.
 Moran S. Morris
 Harry A. Patterson
 Peter W. Perrier
 Marion P. Phifer Jr.
 John D. Pizarro
 Clyde A. Pulse

John T. Resler
 William S. Richardson
 Edwin L. Ross
 William E. Schlueter
 Walter J. Schmidt
 James D. Scott Sr.
 William W. Smith Jr.
 John T. Swais
 Ralph M. Tidwell
 Wayne E. Turk
 Clark G. Turner
 Robert F. Unverferth
 Richard E. Vensel
 Foster L. Walker
 George R. Walker
 Elmer C. Weinrich
 Harold B. Wright

OMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2011 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

The names of two more outstanding Oklahoma Military Academy alumni will be added to the already-crowded Wall of Fame in the OMA Museum on the Rogers State University campus in June.

Recipients of the OMA Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni award will be honored on Saturday, June 4, at RSU in Claremore when hundreds of former OMA cadets return to The Hill for annual reunion activities.

This year's OMA Distinguished Alumni are Warren M. Rodgers of Sherwood, Ark., and Robert "Blaine" Jones of Pryor, Okla.

"We are pleased to present the Distinguished Alumni Awards to these men who have brought honor to the Oklahoma Military Academy through their many years of dedicated service to their communities and country," said RSU President Larry Rice.

The annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony is a reunion tradition.

A highlight of this year's reunion will be the public dedication of the new OMA Killed In Action Memorial on the RSU campus. The memorial will be a granite pyramid etched with the names of more than 100 OMA cadets who are known to have died.

OMA reunion events also will include a golf tournament, morning formation and cadet memorial service, and Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony.

Following is more information about this year's OMA Distinguished Alumni.

Robert "Blaine" Jones

Robert "Blaine" Jones attended OMA during 1952-53. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in March of 1957 and retired as a Colonel in July 1989, with many awards and decorations from flying three combat tours in Vietnam and subsequent tactical fighter leadership positions.



Jones earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Tulsa, an M.B.A. from Georgia State University and a J.D. from the Oklahoma City University School of Law.

His legal practice is now limited to providing pro bono assistance to active duty military, veterans, their spouses and children. He is on the Board of Directors of the RSU Foundation and other organizations that assist those less fortunate.

Warren M. Rodgers

Warren M. Rodgers has enjoyed a distinguished career in business, operating his own men's clothing store for seven years and providing leadership for several real estate companies for 33 years. He retired in 2004.

For the past 40 years, Rodgers has provided assistance for needy families (some homeless) assisting with housing, utilities and food

until they could get back on their feet.

Rodgers attended one year of high school and two years of junior college at the Oklahoma Military Academy, from 1959 to 1962. He went on to attend Arkansas Technical College. He served in the Army National Guard from 1966 to 1972, promoted to the rank of platoon sergeant. During his service, he was activated twice to help quell race riots in central Arkansas. He has served on the OMA Board of Directors since 2009.

For more information about the OMA reunion, call (918) 343-7773 or visit www.rsu.edu.

REPORT TO THE HILL UPDATE

From near and far, men who share the Oklahoma Military Academy experience are making plans to gather together again on The Hill in Claremore on June 3 and 4.

This year's Report to the Hill event has something for everyone. The reunion schedule includes opportunities for classmates to reunite and spend time reminiscing with friends and making new ones. The reunion is also an open invitation to revisit once familiar places on campus that may or may not have changed with the passing of time.

REUNION SCHEDULE REVIEW

Early arrivals, on Friday, June 3, can enjoy a morning round at the Heritage Hills Golf Course, located west of the RSU campus on Clubhouse Road. Alumni Office staff will be on hand to welcome you with donuts and coffee and lunch at noon. For some, this event is a unique way to trek down memory lane as the golf course was used in the past for military training exercises.

A change of schedule note for the ladies: The annual Dutch treat ladies luncheon is back and will take place at The Pink House restaurant in historic downtown Claremore at 11:30 a.m. New this year is a Tea for the Ladies hosted by RSU First Lady Peggy Rice in the President's Residence on campus at 2 p.m.

On Friday afternoon from 3 to 5, the Student Recreation Room and OMA Student Lounge in the Centennial Center (located on the site of the old Post Hall) will be reserved for OMA alumni who want to play pool and ping pong or just visit.

You do not want to miss the Reunion Opening Reception on Friday evening starting at 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Centennial Center Ballroom.



The 145th Army Band will perform at the OMA Reunion Morning Formation and the Dedication Ceremony for the OMA Killed In Action Memorial.

Saturday's Reunion reveille begins at 9:15 with the traditional Morning Formation at the flag pole followed by the dedication of the OMA Killed In

Action Memorial. General Dennis Reimer will be the keynote speaker for this event as alumni and RSU officials honor OMA cadets who died in World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam War.

Following the dedication will be the Distinguished Alumni and Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, the Alumni Luncheon

in the Centennial Center, and an Ice Cream Social in the OMA Museum in Meyer Hall (former OMA barracks).

Concluding reunion activities will be a Reception, Dinner and Dance at 6 p.m. in the RSU Centennial Ballroom, featuring the band "Good Company," with music for all ages.

If you have not yet registered, see the enclosed registration brochure or visit the OMA web page at www.rsu.edu/oma. You also can call the RSU Alumni Office at 918-343-7773.

**LOOK
WHO'S MAKING PLANS TO
ATTEND THE
OMA REUNION '11
GO TO WWW.RSU.EDU/OMA**



Memories

MEMORIES

*1945, Vedette (OMA yearbook)
Artist, Walter McCabe ('46)*

OMA-TO-U.S. SERVICE ACADEMIES



"We proudly open the Military Division with the picture of OMA grads who are now in West Point: Ronald N. Williams, Frank C. Gibbs, Thomas E. Murray, Paul M. Jones, Christian M. Shore, and Orlin L. Mullen." – *Vedette*, 1963; page 127.

In 2010, recognition of the accomplishments of OMA cadets included a presentation of Purple Heart recipients at the Reunion's Morning Formation. Another group of outstanding OMA cadets has now been identified: OMA cadets who attended U.S. service academies.

Documenting the 52-year history of the Oklahoma Military Academy continues to be a priority for the OMA Alumni Association and Rogers State University. Please forward any additions or corrections to the attention of Gene Little, OMA Museum curator.

AIR FORCE

1964 – David B. Samuel ('60)
 1971 – Randy W. Hetherington ('67)
 1973 – Ray A. Yagher Jr. ('69)

1946 – Harlan G. Koch ('43)
 1950 – Walter E. Price ('44)
 1949 – Roger L. Fife ('45)

ANNAPOLIS

1959 – Jerome T. Flammger ('55)
 1971 – James "Kip" Gatchell, ('67)
 1971 – Jeffrey W. Steelman ('67)
 1973 – Vincent P. Mocini ('69)

1953 – Robert E. Butler ('47)
 1951 – Jerry S. Ingram ('47)
 1954 – Robert M. Gomez ('50)
 1956 – Frank L. Smith ('52)
 1958 – Harry R. Kramp ('53)

WEST POINT

1937 – Harold B. Wright ('31)
 1939 – Joseph G. Perry ('32)
 1941 – Joseph S. Peddie ('36)
 1948 – Richard L. Warren ('40)
 1946 – Johnny R. Castle ('42)
 1946 – Benjamin F. Boyd ('43)

1962 – Thomas E. Murray ('58)
 1962 – Paul M. Jones ('58)
 1963 – Frank G. Gibbs ('59)
 1964 – Christian M. Shore ('60)
 1965 – Ronald N. Williams ('61)
 1965 – Orlin L. Mullen ('61)
 1968 – Jon K. Stallings ('62)
 1973 – Ronnie E. Madera ('69)

ROLL CALL: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

1950s

Joe R. Brassfield ('54) "Just happened to run across the OMA website and saw his name as a 'Lost Alumni.'" His address during enrollment at OMA from 1951-54 was Ras Tanura, Saudi Arabia. His father was employed by (Aramco) Arabian American Oil Company. Brassfield is now retired from the Port of Houston after 25 years of employment and a second retirement from Spring (Texas) Independent School District after 21 years. He is now a resident of Kingwood, Texas.

1960s

Willard (Bill) L. Denny ('64) recently moved from Tulsa to Broken Arrow, Okla. "I hope to attend the reunion this year for the first time."

Juanita (Simpson) Christian "I think my Father [Cadet Robert (Bob) Simpson ('48)] would be pleased to know I took his things back to OMA to be among other fellow cadets' memorabilia. With the history of OMA [Gene Little] shared with me and the stories Dad told me, it made everything come together. It just feels right in my heart to do this."

GUIDON

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1950-1951

Original Science Library Building constructed on OMA Campus ('51 *Vedette*).

1962

During the summer, the Science Library Building was expanded, adding 13,000 square feet of classroom and laboratory space and doubling the original space allotted to the library.

BAIRD HALL: WHAT WAS OLD IS NEW AGAIN!

Baird Hall has had a reliable, yet unassuming presence on the Rogers State University campus for more than 60 years.

The building's original Usonian design, now cloaked in a much larger and more traditional campus façade, was a classic reflection of architectural trends prevalent in 1951 – large plate glass windows, flat roof lines and organic features such as a fish pond under the staircase.

Its first academic purpose was to house the science department and library services for the Oklahoma Military Academy. The science and mathematics classrooms were eventually relocated to Loshbaugh Hall. And, the library was dismantled and moved, book by book, from Baird Hall to a renovated Thunderbird Hall* in the mid 1970s.

From the 1970s forward, Baird Hall has been home to the study of the arts. What started as a 13,000-square-foot learning center for OMA cadets has now more than quadrupled in square footage. Now a 57,000-square-foot facility, Baird Hall contains many of the leading-edge features associated with higher learning today, including classrooms equipped with Smart Boards, a performance studio, and an amphitheater-style classroom for learning outdoors on sunny days.

The re-opening occurred in September 2010 as RSU experienced yet another semester of record enrollment with more than 4,400 students.

LT. COL. BAIRD'S LEGACY

Baird Hall is named after Lt. Col. Ralph E. Baird, who taught mathematics at the Oklahoma Military Academy from 1942 to 1965. Lt. Col. Baird also served as Dean of Administration during his tenure at OMA.

"He was a beloved teacher," says John Baird, one of Lt. Col. Baird's two sons, both of whom live with their families in Bartlesville. "But he was more than that – he also was a personal counselor and tutor for the cadets. As a child, I recall them visiting our house during many evenings – but it may have just been to get out of the barracks!"

Lt. Col. Baird lived on the OMA campus with his family in staff housing south of Markham Hall, which was then Markham Barracks.

A tradition of teaching – mathematics in particular – runs in the Baird family. John Baird taught math at Bartlesville High School from 1970 to 2005. John also attended OMA as a cadet in 1960-61.

His brother, Dale Baird, is an engineer, having recently retired after a long career with Phillips Petroleum Co. in Bartlesville. Dale also has the distinction of having taught briefly at OMA. "I was home during spring break and I recall one morning my father said 'get dressed, you're going to teach a class.' One of his teachers was injured in an automobile accident and couldn't teach the class. I think I taught algebra for two weeks or so, under my father and President (Homer) Ledbetter."

Two of Dale Baird's daughters taught school at one time or another and all three of John Baird's daughters are teachers, including Trish Jones of Owasso, who has served



Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Baird



1969

The Science Library Building was rededicated as Baird Hall, honoring Mr. Ralph Baird, during OMA's 50th Anniversary (page 16 of 1969 *Vedette*).

2010

The rededication of Baird Hall was held in September 2010. The most recent renovation and expansion of Baird Hall, yet another milestone in the evolution of this important campus building, quadrupled the original 13,000-square-foot building.

"We anticipated improvements to this building for a long time and couldn't be happier with the result," said Gary Moeller, art professor and one of the university's longest-serving faculty members. Moeller celebrated the first day of classes by wearing a tuxedo.

Baird Hall houses the Department of Communications, Department of English and Humanities, Department of Fine Arts, and Department of History and Political Science. The RSU-Cameron University Education Program is also located in Baird Hall. It is home to the university's burgeoning Honors Program, with a special classroom, computer laboratory, and conference room for advanced placement students.

The main entrance plaza at the new Baird Hall has been named The Mary K. Chapman Plaza in honor of a gift from The Mary K. Chapman Foundation of Tulsa. The Chapman Foundation provided a significant gift for the plaza and the completion of the Baird Hall project.

Those entering the main plaza entrance on the southeast corner of the building will be greeted by a six-foot-tall statue of Will Rogers, the iconic folk hero who grew up in the Claremore, Okla., area.

** Library services are now provided in the Stratton Taylor Library. Thunderbird Hall was removed to make way for the Centennial Center.*

as an adjunct instructor at the RSU campus in Claremore. Trish teaches – you guessed it – algebra and statistics at RSU.

"We all share an aptitude for math," Jones says. "I think we also share a great concern for our students."

Trish's youngest sister, Lori Hollingsworth, teaches math at Alcott Middle School in Norman, Okla., and her middle sister, Sara Senter, is a former math teacher living in Ellensburg, Wash.

The Baird brothers – Dale and John – recall their father's passion and dedication to teaching, which also was recognized by OMA President Homer Ledbetter, his administration and OMA board members. Baird Hall was named for Lt. Col. Ralph Baird when it was completed in 1953.

"He began his career teaching math at a junior high school in Guthrie (Okla.)," Dale said. "He also was a dedi-

cated serviceman but was too old to serve in World War II. As a result, he was recruited to teach and train officers at the OMA."

Lt. Col. Baird was well respected and admired by his students, evidenced by the fact that two issues of the "Vedette," the OMA yearbook, were dedicated to him.

When he retired from OMA in 1965, he moved to Bartlesville to be closer to his sons, Dale and John. He died there in 1993.

Today, both Baird brothers continue to call Bartlesville their home. Dale Baird lives with his wife Carlotta Baird, and John Baird and his wife Dr. Rita Baird are also enjoying retirement. They are proud of their family's legacy and commitment to education.

TAPS

★ **BECKER, Donald E.** ('44) Blackwell, Okla., passed away April 24, 2007, at the age of 78.

★ **BRENEMAN, Gary M.** ('59), Jay, Okla., passed on June 22, 2010.

★ **BRINLEY, Ray K.** ('62) Pauls Valley, Okla., passed away Nov. 27, 2010. After OMA, Brinley attended Central State University and was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army. He worked on the I-35 highway, in the oilfields, and at Uniroyal in Oklahoma City before returning to Pauls Valley. He worked for his mother at the Garvin County Abstract Company, where he finished his career. After retirement, he remodeled homes.

★ **COPELAND, John M.** ('51), Rowlett, Texas, passed away Dec. 25, 2010. He attended Texas A & M University and later transferred to the University of Texas, graduating in 1956 with a degree in Petroleum Engineering. Copeland spent two years serving as Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1956-1958. In 1958, He and his father formed Copeland Well Service in Corsicana, Texas, and moved the company to Palestine in 1964. In 1980, Copeland Well Service merged with Ford Tool Company to become KenCope Energy Companies, based in San Antonio, Texas.

★ **COREY, Edgar K.** ('38), Tulsa, Okla., formerly of New Orleans, La., passed away Nov. 27, 2010. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame (cum laude) in 1941. He served in the U.S. Army from 1941-1943, and was a 1946 graduate of Tulane University School of Law. He was a prominent civil and criminal trial attorney for more than 50 years, a founding member of the New Orleans Trial Lawyers Association, and served in later years as a Worker's Compensation Administrative Law Judge. He also was an assistant district attorney in Orleans Parish and taught business law at Tulane University. Corey relocated to Tulsa, Okla., after Hurricane Katrina.

★ **DAVIDSON, Bob E. "Rock"** ('52), Kingman, Ariz., passed away Dec. 23, 2010. He was a major in the U.S. Marine Corps; and served in Korea and two tours in Vietnam. He was also awarded the Bronze Star. Davidson attended Yavapi College and Arizona State University. He grew up in the Southwest working on cattle ranches. His art career included working in bronze, watercolor, wood, paper mache', steel, copper and zinc. His art has been shown and recognized in Montana, Arizona, California, Oklahoma and New Mexico. In 1997, he was elected to the International Poetry Hall of Fame based in Owings Mills, Md.

★ **DUCKERING, Don C.** ('65), Atlanta, Ga., passed away from cancer and complications in Atlanta, Ga., March 17, 2010.

★ **FROESE, Lloyd R.** ('66), Inola, Okla., passed away Dec. 28, 2010. He graduated with a teaching degree from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. His first teaching and coaching job was with Catoosa Public Schools, where he retired in 1999 after 26 years. Later he worked for Rainbow Concrete for 11 years. In his spare time he enjoyed NASCAR and drag racing. In 1984, he was a part of the racing team that won the Mile High Nationals in Denver, Colo.

★ **HAINES, John R.** ('46), Fort Worth, Texas, passed away Feb. 14, 2011. He attended Oklahoma State University. He retired as district manager for Atlantic Richfield Company and Sinclair Oil Company.

★ **HAMILTON, Maurice F.** ('42), Pawhuska, Okla., passed away Feb. 18, 2011. After OMA, Hamilton served in the U.S. Army during World War II, and was a member of various American Legion Posts over the years. He and his wife lived in Tulsa for 49 years, 32 of those working as a CPA and auditor.

★ **HEADRICK, Herman H., Jr.** ('52), Ponca City, Okla., passed away Nov. 24, 2010. He attended the University of Oklahoma, and was on the aquatic team. He was employed with ConocoPhillips for 35 years, and retired in 1993 as the area mechanical supervisor in the south plant of the Ponca City Refinery.

★ **HIGHERS, Jack E.** ('52), Muskogee, Okla., passed away Feb. 28, 2011. As an entrepreneur, Highers started and operated several business ventures in California, Arizona and Oklahoma. Returning to Oklahoma in 1987, Highers ran Ash Propane out of Fort Gibson, Okla., and upon retirement, he opened a bookstore, "Just Books," in Muskogee, Okla.

★ **HILLHOUSE, Walter R.** ('69), Muskogee, Okla., passed away Feb. 24, 2011. He worked as a Licensed Practical Nurse at the Jack C. Montgomery V.A. Medical Center.

★ **JONES, Robert D.** ('47), Coffeyville, Kan., passed away Oct. 9, 2006. Following OMA he attended Southwestern College in Winfield, Kan., where he received a bachelor of science in education. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He was a schoolteacher, farmer and businessman. His last school position was principal of Butts School south of Fredonia, Kan. After his retirement he made his home in the Longton and Fredonia area until moving to Coffeyville.

★ **LANCASTER, Jack W.** ('62), Oklahoma City, Okla., passed away Feb. 22, 2011. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps immediately after graduation from OMA. He had a long career in the information technology field, working for prominent companies such as IBM, United Systems, and the Mid-Del School Systems.

★ **LEGRANT, Danny L. "Dan"** ('55), Edmond, Okla., passed away Feb. 7, 2011. He served three years in the U.S. Army. After returning from El Paso, Texas, he graduated from the University of Tulsa where he received a bachelor of science degree. As an entrepreneur he owned several businesses including restaurants, a men's clothing store, and during the last several years, two lumberyards. He also worked in real estate.

★ **LONG, David C.** ('40), Guymon, Okla., passed away Feb. 11, 2011. In 1941, he was appointed to the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. Shortly after Pearl Harbor, Long enlisted in the U.S. Marines, serving in the Pacific Theater, and was awarded the Purple Heart. Following the war, he completed his education at the University of Colorado. He returned to Guymon and joined his family in the Long Insurance Agency, and also enjoyed ranching and other business interests.

★ **MCMULLEN, Philip C.** ('44), Englewood, Colo., passed away Feb. 9, 2011. After OMA, Phil graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1949. He joined the Navy during World War II, was in the Army Air Corp. after West Point, and subsequently in the U.S. Air Force. He flew 169 combat missions and was awarded the Silver Star and 10 Air Medals, previously receiving the Legion of Merit. He was promoted to Colonel during his Vietnam tour. He retired from the Air Force in 1976. He acquired three master's degrees, two from the University of Michigan in astronautical/aeronautical engineering and instrumental engineering, and a masters of business administration at George Washington University. His career included flying with the 60th Troop Carrier Wing in his first assignment at Rhein-Main, Germany, teaching military topography and graphics at West Point, and managing nuclear programs at the Air Force Special Weapons Center in New Mexico. He managed research and development programs at the Pentagon. After retirement McMullen enjoyed working as a real estate broker with Metro Brokers.

★ **NELSON, Charles H., Jr.** ('50), Winter Park, Fla., passed away Dec. 6, 2010. He served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars before becoming a real estate broker.

★ **RODMAN, Jack B., Jr.** ('57), Tulsa, Okla., passed away Jan. 21, 2011.

★ **SMITH, Robert C. "Bob"** ('52), Charleston, Ark., passed away Feb. 17, 2011. He was an Army veteran of the Korean War and graduated from OMA where he excelled in sports, and was the top-ranking battalion corps commander and the commanding officer of the drill team. He earned a bachelor's degree at Central State Teachers College. Smith was active in the oil business where he managed a company for more than 20 years before retiring to Charleston. He taught golf professionally for 40 years, and joined the Charleston school system as a substitute teacher eventually taking the task of special study skills and becoming a full-time instructor.

★ **STREET, John G.** ('41), Edmond, Okla., passed away Jan. 25, 2011. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was a freshman member of the football team while attending the University of Oklahoma and obtained his Juris Doctorate from Oklahoma City University. Street's career with Globe Life and Accident Company as senior vice president of claims and general counsel spanned 24 years. He later spent 11 years selling commercial real estate and was an attorney and consultant for Auto Club of America.

★ **THURMAN, Frank A.** ('50), Tulsa, Okla., passed away Jan. 7, 2011. He served in the Navy during World War II. After returning to Claremore he joined the local police department and at age 21 was appointed Claremore's assistant police chief. He began his career with the Oklahoma Highway Patrol in 1950, and joined the Tulsa County Sheriff's office in 1959. He served as chief criminal deputy and in 1974 was appointed undersheriff. He served as Tulsa County Sheriff from 1982-1988. Thurman's father was a federal marshal.

★ **WEAVER, Charles J.** ('52), Yukon, Okla., passed away March 5, 2011. Weaver graduated from OMA and then attended Oklahoma State University, graduating in 1956 with a bachelor's degree. He served in the U.S. National Army Guard where he retired as a Lt. Colonel. Weaver retired after 37 years working as a law enforcement agent and then became the assistant director for the ABLE Commission.

CORRECTION: ABREGO, William Kent, Sr. ('64), Bristol, Pa., formerly of Tulsa, Okla., passed away Oct. 11, 2010. He graduated with honors from OMA with an associate degree, and earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla. His career included chemical sales and hotel development. *His father, Guillermo Abrego, was a World War II hero, and was awarded the Purple Heart Medal of Honor.*



BIRDS AND BOOKS RECALL COL. DOUGLAS

A pair of royal mute swans can now be seen floating on Douglas Lake, near the main entrance of Rogers State University. This pair, and a female royal mute released on Hart Lake as a companion to 10-year-old "Sarge," formerly the lone campus swan, was donated by Nash and Dana Lamb, Pryor, Okla.

Dana is the current past chairman of the RSU Foundation. She located the swans at Groen's Wildlife Services in Cedar Lake, Ind. The University's Physical Plant staff constructed floating platforms to ensure the safety of the birds.

Douglas Lake and its wildlife features have long been a focal point for the campus. The lake's history dates back to 1935. Its namesake, Colonel Clarence B. Douglas, was secretary of the Inland Waterways Commission. He envisioned the lake in the natural depression near the campus entrance. When constructed, the deepest point in the lake was 40 feet.

Col. Douglas also donated a 143-volume historical account of the Civil War, "Records and Reports of the War of the Rebellion" to OMA. These vintage volumes are currently housed in the Archives Room of the Stratton Taylor Library.

REIMER TO SPEAK AT REUNION

Continued from page 1

Reimer's career in the U.S. Army spanned the era between the Vietnam War and the military transformation that began at the end of the Cold War. A two-tour veteran of Vietnam, Reimer spent more than eight years of his career overseas. As a Major, he served as the Aide-de-Camp for Chief of Staff Army General Creighton W. Abrams. He has commanded at all levels from Company to Army.

In 1982 Reimer was selected for promotion to Brigadier General. His next three assignments were Commander III Corp Artillery at Fort Sill, Okla.; Operations Officer in the Republic of Korea; and Commanding General Fourth Infantry Division at Fort Carson.

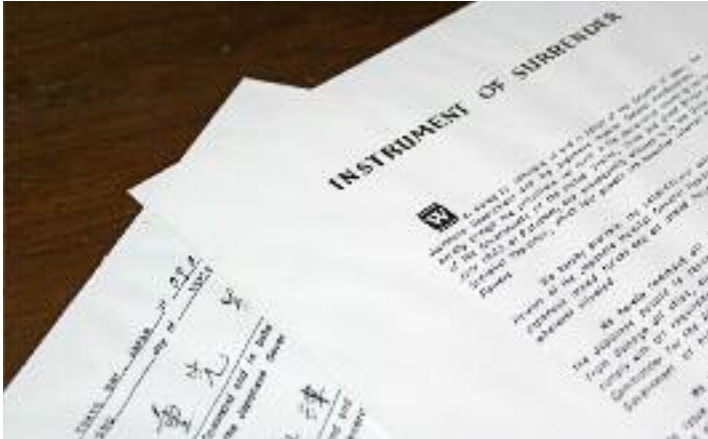
In 1988 he was selected for promotion to Lieutenant General and served as the Plans and Operations Officer for the Army during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Upon completion of that assignment he was selected for promotion and assigned as the Vice Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army in 1990. In 1995 he was selected as the 33rd Chief

of Staff for the U.S. Army, then served as the Commanding General Forces Command, responsible for all Army active and reserve component forces in the U.S.

On April 1, 2000, General Reimer assumed duties as the Director of the National Memorial for the Prevention of Terrorism (MIPT) in Oklahoma City. With a national focus, MIPT supported emergency responders across the nation. During his tenure, MIPT was able to develop and field three national programs – Lessons Learned Information Sharing, Terrorism Knowledge Base, and Responder Knowledge Base. These programs improved information sharing for emergency responders and successfully strengthened the partnership among federal, state, and local governments.

Currently, Gen. Reimer is President of Army Emergency Relief and a member of the Board of Trustees for the Association of the US Army. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Mutual of America and DRS Technology.

OMA CADET INSTRUMENTAL IN HISTORIC WWII MOMENT



Before dawn, he had completed the 10 copies, which were flown to Tokyo where the concession ceremony took place aboard the quarterdeck of the U.S.S. Missouri.

One original surrender document is held in the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Another original was given to the Japanese leadership. Robert Meade told Upton that he had seen a third signed copy sometime in the late 1940s when he visited his brother, Dallas, in Tulsa. The whereabouts of that document and the remaining seven is not known.

Recently, Phil Goldfarb ('63), who enjoys researching historical facts, came across the original film footage from the Sept. 2, 1945, surrender ceremony on YouTube. Clearly, the documents Meade created with his own hands are central to the event.

"I had never seen this in its entirety before and thought that it was very interesting," said Goldfarb. "Since it was a former OMA cadet who actually wrote the document that all these people are signing, and we have that case in the museum dedicated to him, I wonder if it might be worthwhile to take this footage, put it on a continual 'loop' and show it at the museum in some type of small kiosk." While Goldfarb's suggestion is still up for discussion, you can see the footage and the documents by logging onto www.youtube.com and searching for "Japanese Surrender."

Among the memorabilia and personal effects donated by many prestigious OMA alumni in the OMA Museum in Meyer Hall, you will find a small tribute to a lone cadet named Dallas Meade, '28.

Meade penned one of the most significant documents in U.S. military history – the "Instrument of Surrender," which, when signed, effectively ended the war.

The only known reproduction of the signed copy of this historic document resides in the OMA Museum, thanks to Robert Meade ('51), brother of Dallas Meade, who donated it for safekeeping in 1995.

According to an excerpt from an article written by Pat Upton in the *Tulsa World*, Dallas Meade was asked to prepare "10 'perfect' copies of the vital 'Instrument of Surrender'" late on Sept. 1, 1945. Being a designer and an artist serving the general staff in Washington, D.C., Meade was up to the task. According to Upton's article, the necessary parchment paper was not readily available so Meade used "some high-quality English paper he was saving for a creative tangent."

Cecil Dallas Meade, Jr. was the son of a clergyman, Cecil Dallas Meade, Sr. They lived in Miami, Okla. In the 1930 census, Dallas Meade was working as an "artist" for a "drug company." He enlisted on May 19, 1943, as a private at the age of 31 (born in 1912). His civilian job was as a commercial artist.



OMA BAND PHOTO AMONG LATEST ADDITION TO DIGITAL ARCHIVES

Oklahoma Military Academy band instruments were showcased in the Craig Music Store window at 106 E. 3rd Street in downtown Tulsa, Okla., in the early 1940s. The photo comes from the Beryl Ford Collection housed at the Tulsa Historical Society and the Tulsa City County Library. This photo and other OMA-related information have been added to the growing historical reference DVD created and maintained by Charles Emerson ('56), along with Gene Little ('56), OMA Museum volunteer curator. The latest DVD update will be available at the June reunion. First-time purchases are \$50 (\$45 of purchase price is a tax-deductible gift). Updates for previous purchases are only \$10 each.



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BLAST FROM THE PAST



Phil Goldfarb ('69), vice president of the 2010-2011 OMA Alumni Board, is seen reading graduates' names during the 50th Commencement in 1969. Goldfarb served as the Corps of Cadets Adjutant. Col. John E. Horne is passing out diplomas on the right, and the person sitting to the left of the podium is Brig. General William Hamrick ('32), who was the guest speaker that day. "If I were only that skinny again!" says Goldfarb.

*Be a part of the "**Blast from the Past**" Share an old photo or memory. Include your name, OMA year and current contact information.*

Email to bsutherland@rsu.edu.