

# NEWSLETTER

JOHN A. GUPTON COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

FALL

VOLUME 3

2006

## Inside this Issue...

*President's Message*

*ALUMNI ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION '06*

*In Memory*

*This and That From Here and There*

*John Gupton College News*

## STAN HATMAKER, OUR NEW PRESIDENT

First and foremost I would like to personally thank everyone that worked so hard to make this year's reunion a success. Batesville, Delta Aurora and especially Tommy and Danny Hurt of Nashville Wilbert who have always been great supporters of Gupton College. We can't forget Robbie Bacon, Maurice Moffett and Dr. Oliver Yates for their kind hearted participation in this year's Roast.

For those who could not be with us, we missed each of you and hope that you can be with us next year. I would also like to say what an honor and privilege it is for me to represent you as president of your Alumni Association. Please remember to, "Always do the right thing at all times."



*Stan Hatmaker '01*

## ANNUAL MEETING PHOTOS



# ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION 2006

## **WILBERT RECEPTION AND ALUMNI ROAST**

Nashville Wilbert, namely Tommy Hurt and Danny Hurt, once again provided a fantastic evening for the alumni on Friday night. The Wilbert Reception has become an *Alumni Annual Meeting and Reunion Tradition*. Good food, drink and fellowship, this reception gave those present an opportunity to meet new friends and renew old friendships. Following the reception the Alumni Roast not only raised money for the endowment fund, but gave alumni a chance to inform others about Robby Bacon, Dr. Oliver Yates, and Mr. Maurice Moffitt. One alumnus was thankful Robby taught him embalming, because now that he is back home, they don't trust him enough to work nights unsupervised. We also learned that Dr. Yates visited Hooters in Atlanta while there with Travis Lindsey and Steve Spann for a SACS meeting. Can you imagine Dr. Yates giving his order to a Hooters waitress? And then there were stories about Mr. Moffitt, but some things are better, never to go to press. Donations, The Roast and Karaoke Night raised a total of \$1,725.00 for the endowment fund. Honorees for the 2007 Roast will be Gene Pike, Ellis Galyon and John Gupton, III. Start now compiling your comments for another fun filled evening.



## **KARAOKE NIGHT**

Saturday night's banquet included a social hour and a delicious buffet. The karaoke team of Miranda Nolen and her husband and her father Paul Johnson, an employee of Music City Crematory and Mortuary opened the evening of entertainment. After a little hesitation, alumni started to show their stuff. *Greg Arnold '02* and *Opie Padgett '01* were among those that entertained. Alumni President *Steve Murphy '89* was among those that performed, not necessarily entertained. Thanks to Steve for arranging such a fun evening! Those who did not take the microphone were asked for at least a \$5.00 donation to the endowment fund in appreciation for those that did.

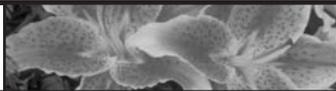
## **50 YEAR GRADUATES RECOGNIZED**

*Carl Mark Barker '56* was the only graduate in attendance from the class of 1956. Now semi retired, Mr. Barker is a funeral service professional in the Kingston, Tennessee area in which he lives. He does some preparation work, funerals and pre-need for firms in his area. He stated he was not a trade embalmer, but a funeral service professional because he was a Gupton graduate. *Ralph Williams '52* was also in attendance. He was unable to attend his 50th anniversary in 2002 and received his 50 year lapel pin at the business meeting on Saturday morning. There are only 4 living graduates from the class of 1952 and three of those were present and they had visited the fourth, who is in bad health, in Columbia, TN the day before in route to Nashville.

## **JOHN YOPP , JR. VISITS**

While attending the Georgia Funeral Director's Convention, Steve Spann met and invited John Yopp, Jr. to the Alumni Annual Meeting and Reunion. Mr. Yopp is the Publisher/Editor of John W. Yopp Publications, Inc., *Southern Funeral Director, Alliance, Refrigeration/Buyer's Guide*. The late John Yopp, Sr., the father of our visitor, was the first honorary member of the Alumni Association of John A. Gupton College. Mr. Yopp Sr. through the *Southern Funeral Director* promoted the alumni meetings in those early years with ads and articles. Many alumni present remembered Yopp, Sr. and shared stories with John, Jr. This visit also gave Mr. Yopp an opportunity to learn more about Gupton College.





## In Memory of Alumni Friends and Family

Mr. Roy Russell Appleton, age 88, died Thursday, July 6, 2006. He was the father of *William R. "Billy" Appleton, CFSP '72*, co-owner and president of Woodbine Funeral Home and Woodbine Funeral Home, Hickory Chapel, both in Nashville. Billy is also a Tennessee Funeral Directors Association Past President and Alumni Association, Gupton College Past President.

Mr. Warren O. Harrison, age 92, died Thursday, June 22, 2006 at his home in the Rosedale Community, TN. He was the father and father-in-law of Shirley and *Jerry Smith '60*. Jerry is the owner of Jerry Smith Funeral Home in Athens, Tennessee.

The death of *Bernard Nowell '67*, owner of Nowell Funeral Home, Clarksdale, MS. has been reported to the college.

## This and That - From Here and There...



Open House for Reed Funeral Home, 11675 Highway 28 in Whitwell, TN was held Sunday, August 6, 2006 from 2 until 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Visitors were welcomed with refreshments and a dove release as they shared in the excitement of the newest location with the Reed family. The funeral home is owned by *George Reed '66* and Treva Reed and is managed by Heather Reed Housley and was formerly known as Hooper-Reed Funeral Home at the old location.

*David Horner '76* and Jill Horner and their staff held Open House September 24, 2006 at Hooper Huddleston and Horner Funeral Home, 59 North Jefferson Avenue, Cookeville, TN. The Chapel dedication was at 1 o'clock in the afternoon with open house following until 4 o'clock.



## John A. Gupton College News

### Top 10% Fall Semester 2006

Hollyn Anderson  
Manchester, Tennessee

Jeanette Hussey  
Clarksville, Tennessee

Sheri Leach  
Watertown, Tennessee

Cassandra McNabb  
Nashville, Tennessee

Amanda Phillips  
Toccoa, Georgia

Arnold Quarles  
Smyrna, Tennessee

Tiffany Widener  
Nashville, Tennessee

### GRADUATION SET

The 2007 John A. Gupton College graduation ceremonies will be held at 2 o'clock in the afternoon on Friday, December 1, 2006. Graduation will be held at Immanuel Baptist Church located at 222 Belle Meade Blvd. in Nashville, Tennessee. Congratulations to these graduates and welcome to the alumni of this great institution.

### STORIES FROM GUPTON COLLEGE

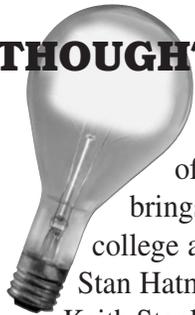
As alumni were sharing stories recently in Nashville, *William "Bill" Perry '49* suggested we compile these for publication. We are now, thanks to Bill, collecting stories from all who would like to contribute for a publication. Proceeds from sale of this to the alumni will be used for The Endowment Fund. When your stories are completed, please send to Morris Moore, Alumni Secretary or to Steve Spann, College President. Also we will need a name for our book...enclose your title suggestion with your story. Now lets all go to work and get those stories in.

*Alumni Association*  
John A. Gupton College  
1616 Church Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Nashville, TN  
Permit No. 480



## **THOUGHTS FROM THE SECRETARY**



Another great year and Alumni Annual Meeting and Reunion behind us and another great year ahead of us. It has been my privilege for several years to work with the Alumni Association and each year brings something new and different. Steve Murphy always with new ideas and concepts and support of the college and the student body made this past year a great success. I am now looking forward to working with Stan Hatmaker as our new President and welcoming Greg Arnold on as our newest officer. David Bentley and Keith Stapleton are back with all their help and support, so off we go into new projects and adventures as alumni.

Let me express my appreciation to *Memori Chessor '99* for all the great pictures from the reunion used in this NEWSLETTER. She did a great job!!

If you have not paid your dues for 2006-2007 (due in August), dues envelopes are out and we would appreciate your response and support. This is *your* college and *your* association, be a part of it!

Information for the NEWSLETTER is always need and appreciated....get yours in for the next edition.

### **ALUMNI NEWS**

**Morris V. Moore**

**P.O. Box 28523 • Atlanta, Georgia 30358**

**Work 404-255-8511 • Home 404-252-0283**

**FAX 404-255-3729 • MMoore1946@comcast.net**