

NEWSLETTER

JOHN A. GUPTON COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SUMMER

VOLUME 1

2007

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President's Message

ALUMNI ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION '06

In Memory

This and That From Here and There

John Gupton College News

Dear Alumni,

I hope that each of you are making plans to attend our annual Alumni Meeting and Reunion to be held on August 3rd and 4th at the Vanderbilt Marriott on West End Avenue in Nashville. This year's reunion promises our usual slate of events, with a special "Roast" on Friday evening. Following the Wilbert Reception that night, we will honor Ellis Galyon, Gene Pike and John A. Gupton III. Each speaker will have many "stories" to entertain us.



Hopefully everyone will stay for Saturday's events, beginning with breakfast at the hotel, followed by our meeting at the college. While at the college, be sure and check out "Our" new merchandising room, thanks to Wilbert Vault, Batesville Casket Company, Aurora Casket Company and Milso Casket Company. We would also like to thank Wayne Day for his generous donation of the conference table. Saturday night we will gather at the Marriott for our annual banquet and installation of new officers.

In conclusion, I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as an officer in the Alumni Association and I look forward to many more years of serving the college in any way that I can.

Stan Hatmaker '01

*A man who does a little more than he's asked to do—
Who takes a little more than he's expected to—
Who puts the small details on an equal footing
with the more important ones—
He's the man who is going to make a success of his job.
Each little thing done better is the thin edge
of the wedge to something bigger.
—Author Unknown*

ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION 2007

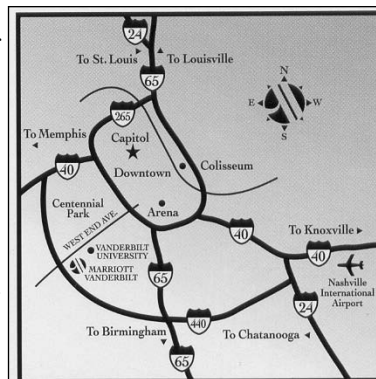
AUGUST 3 - 4, 2007



It is time to start planning your return to Nashville, Tennessee for the Gupton College Alumni Annual Meeting and Reunion to be held August 4 and 5 at the Nashville Marriott at Vanderbilt. Registration on Friday August 4, with the Wilbert Reception, *An Alumni Annual Meeting and Reunion Tradition*, on Friday evening, followed by the Roast for the College Endowment Fund. This year, come and share or hear stories of Gene Pike, Ellis Galyon and John A. Gupton, III. Saturday morning before going over to the College for our business meeting, we will meet for breakfast hosted by Aurora Casket Company and Batesville Casket Company. Saturday afternoon will give you time to share time and stories with other Gupton Alumni and friends. Saturday evening will be a delicious meal and lots of entertainment. A few awards, a new set of officers and who knows what else thrown in along the way.

Make your room reservations directly with the Nashville Marriott at Vanderbilt (1-800-285-0190 or 615-321-1300). A special rate of \$129.00 per night is extended to you when you mention the Gupton Alumni Association, prevailing rates at the Hotel range from \$219.00, and reservations need to be made by Tuesday, July 3, 2007. Have your credit card ready to guarantee not only your room but a fun weekend in Nashville with Gupton Alumni.

All Alumni Dues, Banquet tickets and Gifts to the Endowment and Roast will be a part of registration. Have questions? Contact Alumni President Stan Hatmaker, 865-426-2158, Morris Moore, 404-255-8511 or the College, 615-327-3927.



Directions: Take I-40 West to Exit 209A to Broadway. Turn left on Broadway, and straight to West End Avenue.

This and That - From Here and There...

BIG WINNERS

Brent Warner '95, a funeral director at Carter Trent Funeral Home in Kingsport, TN and his wife to be Carrie Surgenor entered the national contest for America's Favorite Couple. "Bride of the Year" winners would receive over \$92,000.00 in prizes for their wedding, honeymoon and new life together. After being declared the WINNERS!!! by Bridal Guide Magazine, the couple expressed their thanks to all who helped them to make this dream come true.

ALUMNUS ELECTED AS COUNTY MAYOR

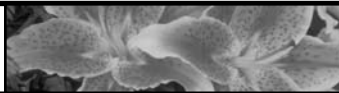
Larry Griffin '66, was recently re-elected to his second term as Crockett County (TN) Mayor. Larry was associated with Ronk Funeral Home in Alamo, TN prior to being appointed the Director of the Crockett County Emergency Medical Services on 1972. Larry served as the Director and County Coroner for thirty years until he was elected what was then County Executive in August 2002. Shortly after Larry taking office, the title was changed to County Mayor. Larry has been married to the former Sue Williams of Bells, TN for thirty eight years. He credits any success he has had as a public servant to the support of his wife, his former employer, A.L. Ronk and staff of Ronk Funeral Home, and the high standards that were instilled in him while a student at Gupton's.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

On January 7, 2007, 90th Birthday celebrations for Rex Jeffers were held at Trinity United Methodist Church, Greeneville, TN, where Rex has been a member for fifty-seven years. Rex and his son **Richard Jeffers '65** are owners of Jeffers Mortuary in Greeneville, TN.

MAILING CREMATED REMAINS

Human cremated remains are permitted to be mailed provided they are packaged as required. The identity of the contents should be marked on the address side. Mail pieces must be sent registered mail with a return receipt service. Employees who do not enforce this regulation, risk putting the Postal Service in the uncomfortable position of losing or delaying these items, possibly causing great emotional stress to the family. When mailing cremains, check with your local post office for more information.



In Memory of Alumni Friends and Family

Mr. John Thomas Spann (Junior) age 87 of Charlotte, TN died April 30, 2007. The father of **B. Steven Spann '82**, President of John A. Gupton College, Mr. Spann is also survived by his wife Clara Proctor Spann, three other sons, three daughters, one brother, fourteen grandchildren, sixteen great grandchildren, ten step grandchildren, twenty two step great grandchildren and was preceded in death by his parents, one granddaughter and eleven brothers and sisters. Funeral services were held May 3, 2007 in the chapel of Spann Funeral Home, Dickson, TN, with interment in Union Cemetery.

Mrs. Mabel McCall McAdams Morgan, age 88, died in February, 2007. She was the widow of **Mr. H. S. Morgan, '48**, former owner and co-owner of Morgan Funeral Home in Henderson, TN.

Mr. Esco Stapleton, age 82, died February 16, 2007 at his residence in Sneedville, TN. He was the father of **Keith Stapleton '78**, Alumni Association Secretary and manager of Marshall Donnelly and Combs Funeral Home in Nashville, TN.

Mrs. Frances Sellers, age 81, of Milan, TN died February 20, 2007. She was the grandmother of **Charlton McDade '04**, licensed embalmer and funeral director for Gardner Funeral Home, Bradford, TN.

Bobby Newberry '67 died February 19, 2007 at the age of 64. Bobby was a licensed embalmer and funeral director with McCullough Hasten Funeral Home in Griffin, GA until his retirement due to his health.

Harry Lawson Hill '50 died February 7, 2007, due to injuries received when his car collided with a train in Springfield, TN. "Mr. Harry", age 81, was a licensed embalmer and funeral director with Austin and Bell Funeral in Springfield, TN since 1951, serving the community for 56 years.

Funeral Services for Kenny Cavness were held in Wildersville, TN on April 10, 2007. He was the father of **John Cavness '99**, licensed embalmer and funeral director for Pafford Funeral Home, Lexington, TN. Kenny, who was serving in his twenty-fifth year as the Henderson County Circuit Court Clerk, was a deacon in his church, a Gideon, and a U.S. veteran.

Mr. John Donald Smith, age 76, died September 25, 2006. He was the father and father-in-law of Jacqueline Carver and **Jacky E. Carver, Sr. '65**, owners of Sanderson Funeral Home, Carthage, TN. Jacky is a Gupton College Board Member and Past President of the Tennessee Funeral Directors, Association.

Mrs. Mable Boling McDonald, age 85, died October 1, 2006. She was the mother of **William B. "Bill" McDonald '77**, owner of McDonald Funeral Homes in Centerville and Hohenwald, TN.

Mr. Fred Manning, age 77, of Lancaster, TN died January 8, 2007. He was the father and father-in-law of Annette and **Danny Bass '78**. Danny is the owner of Bass Funeral Home in Gordonsville, TN.

Mrs. Lucile Dilday Truitt, age 81, of Henderson, TN died January 12, 2007. She was the sister of **Jimmy B. Dilday '59**, president of Bowlin Funeral Home, Dresden, TN.

Mrs. Hazel Jones Harrison, 88, of Abington, VA died April 14, 2007. She was the mother and mother-in-law of Shirley and **Jerry Smith '60**. Jerry is the owner of Jerry Smith Funeral Home, Athens, TN.

Mr. Charles Ervin Plunk, 57, died April 25, 2007 in Jackson, TN. He was the father of **Timothy Plunk '92** of Bowlin Funeral Home, Dresden, TN.

Thank you for remembering my family by donating a book to the John A. Gupton Memorial Library in memory of Fannie Ruth Gribble. We appreciate the caring thoughts and it will ease our pain that future students may be helped by this donation. ~Robert and Glenda Gribble



John A. Gupton College News

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

With a large audience, thirty-nine students graduated from John A. Gupton College in December 2006. Steve Tidwell, President of the Keystone North America Group, was the speaker, doing an exceptional job in speaking to the students about a future in funeral service. Steve had attended the banquet and was able to get to know some of the students. Students for Spring 2006 started in January.

TOP 10% FALL SEMESTER 2006

Hollyn Anderson Manchester, Tennessee	Alexa Forkum Hermitage, Tennessee	Justin Jeffers Greeneville, Tennessee	Bailey Penrod East Prairie, Missouri	Kristen Walpole Hermitage, Tennessee
Taylor Badger Hartsville, Tennessee	Ricky Guess Salem, Kentucky	Melinda Kitzmiller Danville, Kentucky	Amanda Phillips Toccoa, Georgia	Matthew Woody Cosby, Tennessee
Terina Barger Griggsville, Illinois	Matthew Hensley Greeneville, Tennessee	Meagan Lambert Harriman, Tennessee	Jennifer Poe Princeton, Kentucky	Stephanie Working Lebanon, Tennessee
Christopher Dornbusch Hermitage, Tennessee	Megan Hobbs Marion, North Carolina	Sheri Leach Watertown, Tennessee	Morgan, Poole Oliver Springs, Tennessee	

GUPTON COLLEGE HOSTS EVENTS FOR CONFERENCES

The 2007 American Board of Funeral Service Education Annual Meeting will be held April 21-22, 2007 at the Marriott at Vanderbilt in Nashville, TN. Also, The International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards will hold their 2007 convention in Nashville April 18-22. For those who are on hand Friday evening, April 20, Steve Spann and John A. Gupton College are hosting a tour of the college and a reception. The attendees will be divided into two groups, alternating tours of the college and the Frist Art Museum. The two groups will then be hosted at a reception at the Wild Horse Saloon in downtown Nashville.

Alumni Association
John A. Gupton College
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THOUGHTS FROM THE SECRETARY



Recently while in Nashville to meet with the Alumni Officers and to attend the Board of Directors Meeting, it made me feel good to see so many students in class and new technology at the college. Taking your notebook to class today is much different than it was in the late 60's when I was a student. Pepper Bruce was eager to show me all the new computers in the library and the addition of technology for students to have wireless connection to the internet on their laptops. I was even asked if I had ever considered using a laptop to take the minutes for the Board Meeting or Alumni Meetings...I don't think so! Just lets me know that I am getting old and the new generation of funeral service is going to be different in many ways and Gupton College is there to make their students ready. We should all be proud of our college! While in Nashville in August for the Alumni Annual Meeting and Reunion, you will be proud of *your college* as you see the improvements and additions. Make plans to be there.

ALUMNI NEWS

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