

NEWSLETTER

JOHN A. GUPTON COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SUMMER

VOLUME 1

2008

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John Gupton College News

I hope that each of you are making plans to attend our annual Alumni Reunion and Meeting that will be held on August 1st and 2nd at the Nashville Marriott at Vanderbilt on West End Avenue. I encourage each of you to attend this great weekend, filled with fun, old friends, and entertainment. Don't miss out on our annual Roast this year on Friday evening. After the Reception, we will "honor" Tommy Hurt and Keith Stapleton.



Hopefully everyone will stay for Saturday's events. Starting with breakfast on Saturday morning, and then followed by the business meeting at the college. Don't forget to attend on Saturday night for the annual banquet and installation of the new officers. In conclusion, I would thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as President of the Alumni Association and I look forward to many more years of serving the college in any way that I can.

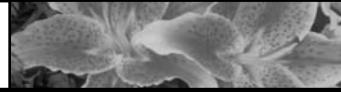
David Bentley '68

Alumni Association
John A. Gupton College
Annual Alumni Meeting and Reunion 2008

August 1 and 2

Marriott Vanderbilt

Nashville, Tennessee



In Memory of Alumni Friends and Family

Ms. Bobbie Joe Rogers Shackelford, age 77, died Thursday, May 1, 2008 at her home in Savannah, TN. She was the wife of **Robert (Bob) Shackelford, Jr. '55**, owned and operated Shackelford Funeral Directors of Savannah, TN for many years. Ms. Shackelford was the mother of Robert Shackelford, III, of Shackelford Funeral Directors of Selmer, TN and Lisa Shackelford Thomas of Shackelford Funeral Directors of Savannah, TN. Ms. Shackelford also closely assisted her husband Bob when he served as TFDA president from 1971-1972, Secretary Treasurer for the Selected Independent Funeral Home Association (formerly National Selected Morticians) from 1985-1986, and NFDA District IV Governor from 1989-1992.

Ms. Helen C. Larson, age 87, died Sunday, May 25, 2008 at Gateway Medical Center in Clarksville, TN. She was the mother of **Ed Larson, '81**, currently a member of the Gupton College Board of Directors, TFDA Immediate Past President and is the owner of McReynolds-Nave-Larson Funeral Home in Clarksville, TN.

Ms. Peggy Ann Thacker Perry, age 72, Centre, Alabama, died Thursday, October 30, 2008 in Centre, AL. She was the wife of **William (Bill) Perry, '49** and the mother of **Robert (Bob) Perry, '82**, both owners of Perry Funeral Home in Centre, AL. She was a Registered Nurse.

This and That - From Here and There...



NOW OPEN

Offering flexibility in service options, we are dedicated to giving families the best in comfort & care.
MEDINA FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE
302 West Church Ave. Medina, Tn. 38355
731-783-1110

OPEN HOUSE WAS MAY, 17 & 18 1PM - 4PM

COMPUTERS DONATED

The TFSSC recently donated three new Dell computers and monitors to the school. The Gupton College alumni and faculty wish to extend our appreciation to the members of the Supply Club for their generous donation.



John A. Gupton College News

JOHN A. GUPTON COLLEGE TOP 10% SPRING SEMESTER 2008

Adam Beaty, Jamestown, Tennessee
David Compton, Maryville, Tennessee
Stephen DeBord, Saltville, Virginia
Justin Marshall, Linden, Tennessee
Amy Puckett, Hopkinsville, Kentucky
Anthony White, Livingston, Tennessee

Donnet Bullard, Antioch, Tennessee
Tony Conant, Kingsport, Tennessee
Sondra LaFreniere, Vulcan, Michigan
Rachel Marshall, Linden, Tennessee
Christi Robbins, Dresden, Tennessee

TFDA SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

John A. Gupton College is proud to announce that four TFDA Scholarships have been awarded to John A. Gupton Students. Gupton Students were recognized at the 105th Annual TFDA/TFSSC Convention Grand Banquet held on Tuesday, June 10th, 2008 at the Cool Springs Marriott in Franklin, TN.



ADAM LIGHT
TFDA SCHOLARSHIP



ADRAIN BACKMAN
TFDA SCHOLARSHIP



DAVID COMPTON
TFDA PAST PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP



DONNET BULLARD
TFDA MEMORIAL FUND SCHOLARSHIP

STUDENT LOUNGE

The College recently remodeled the Student Lounge. Students now have comfortable leather sofas, a wall mounted Plasma T.V. And the walls have a fresh coat of paint. The goal is to provide students a more relaxing environment to socialize within school but outside of class.

NEWSLETTER

Morris Moore `67, for years took on the responsibility of gathering the news and compiling the newsletter for the alumni association. Morris has had to give up this task due to health reasons. **James R. "Opie" Padgett, CFSP `01**, will be taking over the newsletter. The faculty of John A. Gupton College and the Gupton Alumni Association wish the express gratitude to Morris for all the hard work, long hours, and dedication that you have given to promoting our Institution.

GUEST LECTURE'S

Bob Staub and **Dennis Adams** of *The Messenger Company*, on June 12th, 2008, visited the Marketing and Management class of John A. Gupton College. They gave a presentation to the Gupton Students on the merchandise and marketing skills of Messenger. We appreciate their knowledge and assistance in giving students a better grasp on the different products available to families.

David Bentley, '68, President of John A. Gupton Alumni Association and Sales Representative for *Aurora Casket Company*, gave a lecture to the Marketing and Management class on the merchandising tactics and managerial effects on their product line. David was able to give students a new innovative approach to funeral service with computer and internet technology. We appreciate David demonstrating a new approach to merchandising and management techniques.

Charolette Williams, Representative of *Batesville Casket Company*, visited the college on June 26th, 2008. Ms. Williams gave a presentation on the merchandising and marketing aspects of Batesville Casket Company, product and research development, and new concepts emerging within their organization. We appreciate Ms. Williams visiting and giving students a outlook on her company and how they operate.

WILBERT VAULT HOSTS GUPTON STUDENTS

As always, Danny and Tommy Hurt and staff spared nothing while providing over 60 John A. Gupton students a fabulous lunch buffet at the Marriott Hotel at Vanderbilt on Thursday, May 22, 2008. An excellent presentation followed which served to provide inside product knowledge and technical information. An extensive tour of the Nashville Wilbert Vault plant followed. John A. Gupton College would like to offer out deepest gratitude to Danny & Tommy Hurt and all the Wilbert Vault team for taking the initiative to invest in the future students and the marketing program.

BATESVILLE CASKET COMPANY HOSTS GUPTON STUDENTS

The Marketing class of each summer semester gets a special treat in visiting the Batesville Casket Company Manchester, Tennessee assembly plant. Students were shuttled to Manchester courtesy of Batesville on Thursday, June 19th, 2008 and treated to lunch at the plant. Students were then given a presentation of the operations of the Manchester plant, which consist mostly of 18 and 20 gauge steel caskets for all of Batesville Service Centers. Students were then given a tour of the plant: from stamping, molding, painting, hardware, interiors, and final inspection. John A. Gupton College would like to express our gratitude to Batesville Casket Company and their staff for the opportunity to allow students firsthand knowledge of the merchandise they manufacture.

AURORA CASKET COMPANY HOST GUPTON STUDENTS

John A. Gupton College Marketing and Merchandising class took a trip to Aurora Casket Company, Aurora, IN on Thursday May 29th, 2008. Aurora Casket Company provided students with transportation on a tour bus and was treated to a buffet style lunch. After lunch, the students took a tour of the manufacturing plant in Aurora, IN gathering a different viewpoint of casket merchandising and marketing concepts from another leader in casket manufacturing. John A. Gupton College offers sincere appreciation to Aurora Casket Company and their staff for making students welcome in Indiana.



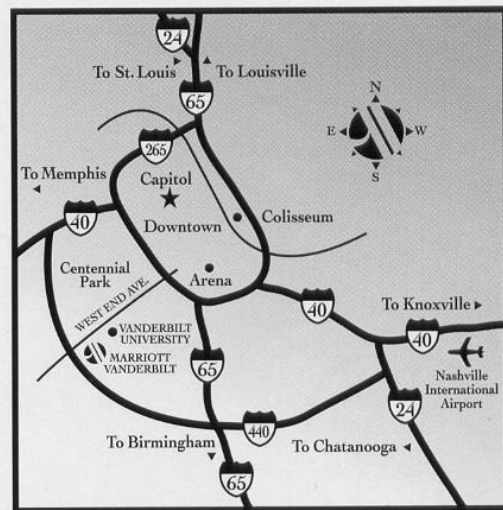
ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION 2008 **AUGUST 1-2, 2008**

It is time to start planning your return to Nashville, Tennessee for the Gupton College Alumni Annual Meeting and Reunion to be held August 1 and 2 at the Nashville Marriott at Vanderbilt. Registration will be held from 3 until 6 pm on Friday August 1st, with the Wilbert Reception, An Alumni Meeting and Reunion and Tradition, at 5:30 pm on Friday evening, Followed by the Roast for the college Endowment Fund. This year, come and share or hear stories of Keith Stapleton and Tommy Hurt.

Saturday morning from 8:30 till 10 am enjoy breakfast sponsored by Aurora Casket Company and Batesville Casket Company. The business meeting will be held at 10 am at the college. Saturday afternoon will give you time to share moments and stories with other Gupton Alumni and friends. Saturday evening beginning at 6:30 pm 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 @ Vanderbilt (1-800-285-0190 or 615-321-1300). A special rate \$134.00 per night is extended to you when you mention the Gupton Alumni Association, prevailing rates at the hotel range from \$229.00, and reservations need to be made by July 20, 2008. Have your credit card ready to guarantee not only a room but a fun weekend in Nashville with the Gupton Alumni.

All Alumni dues, Banquet tickets and Gifts to the Endowment and Roast will be part of Registration. Have questions? Contact Alumni President David Bentley, 615-123-4567, 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.

PLEASE CALL FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
AND TO MAKE RESERVATIONS.

800-285-0190

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

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Summer 2008

Communication. *It's the first thing we really learn in life. Funny thing is, once we grow up, learn our words and really start talking, the harder it becomes to know what to say, or how to ask for what we really need.*

~ Author Unknown

We are all teachers and we are all learners in the educational experience.

The college exists for the student and society not for the educator.

~ Author Unknown

Humility is the ladder to divine understanding.

~ Author Unknown

ALUMNI NEWS

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