

HEIGHTS NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni of
Castle Heights Military Academy
Lebanon, Tennessee
www.castleheights.com

AUGUST 2025 NEWSLETTER

Alumni Association UPDATE

INGRAM
ALUMNI HOUSE
611 Hill Street
Lebanon, TN 37087

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Dear Fellow Alumni:

Homecoming for 2025 is scheduled for Saturday, October 11. Again, we are hoping for a large turnout for this year's Homecoming with class reunions for the classes of 1955, 1965, 1970, 1975, and 1985. Please make plans to contact your classmates and encourage them to attend this year. **Information on the class reunions and Homecoming is on page 3 and 4 of this newsletter.**

From June 6 to August 11, 2025 our fundraisers have brought in \$3,735 for the Library Fund, and \$11,830 for the General Fund. We have received donations from 143 alumni. **If you have not mailed in your contribution, please consider doing so. Contributions are IRS tax deductible.** All of us deeply appreciate the support shown by each contributing alumnus.

Our Homecoming events for 2025, include tours of Main Building (Lebanon City Hall), and the City of Lebanon Museum and History Center located in the basement of Lebanon City Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mayor Rick Bell, and his staff are again graciously allowing us to visit both of these facilities, and we thank them for their assistance on Saturday, October 11. The Rutherford Parks Library will be open at 9:30 a.m. through 2:30 p.m. on Homecoming Day, October 11. Also the luncheon will begin at 11:00 a.m., and the evening function "An Evening at the Mitchell House" will begin at 7:00 p.m. **(See the insert on Homecoming Activities.)**

We will start handing out the registration packets from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the smaller tent on Homecoming day, October 11. This tent is located next to the Rutherford Parks Library. Our picnic luncheon will be on the same site. Parking

is available to the side of the Library in the grassy area next to the large luncheon tent, and behind Main Building, and in the parking lot across the street from the Alumni House. **The Alumni House will be open on Friday, October 10, beginning at 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.** so that you may visit classmates and see the displays inside the house. **Rutherford Parks Library will open at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, October 10,** for the **BB&W event** and will close later that night after the event is over.

Our **Picnic Luncheon** will begin at 11:00 a.m. on **Saturday, October 11** with Chester Jordan's Catering serving us for

HOMECOMING 2025

Saturday

OCTOBER 11

***Reservations Due
By Friday, October 3***

the 35th year. All of you will want to take the opportunity to visit with former faculty and staff who are invited to the luncheon as our guests. The \$20 cost per person will cover your lunch as well as our guests. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED** so that we may give the caterer a correct headcount, and have enough tables and chairs.

Our **Alumni meeting** will follow the luncheon under the tent. With the conclusion of the Alumni meeting, we will then move to the site of our War Memorial in front of Main for our annual memorial service and wreath laying. We will then have class reunion pictures taken on the steps of the Rutherford

Continued—Alumni Association Update

Parks Library. Our morning and afternoon activities should be concluded around 2:30 p.m.

For the fifth year we will have our evening function of Homecoming at the MITCHELL HOUSE on campus, with a very nice selection of heavy Hors D'oeuvres. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED** for this wonderful event so that we will know the number to give our caterer (The Big Adoo Catering by Christopher McAdoo, CHMA Class of 1985). We will also have a cash bar available. We will be renting tables and chairs to be placed in the Mitchell House and if weather permits we will place tables around the outside porch. The cost for "An Evening at the Mitchell House" is \$40 per person.

Please pay close attention to the statement from the CHMA Board of Directors on page 8 regarding the deeding of the Library to the City of Lebanon. This is not a cash sale and any additional information regarding the transfer will be brought up at the tent meeting following our luncheon.

Recently, the wheels on the cannon have been repaired and the wooden spokes have been replaced with metal. The cost was covered by an anonymous donor.

At Homecoming under the registration tent we will have the following items for sale: coffee cups for \$5, Heights sweatshirts for \$20, zip-up hoodies for \$35, t-shirts (short-sleeve and long-sleeve) for \$15, golf shirts for \$25, baseball caps for \$20, license plates for \$5, brass buttons for \$15, lapel pins for \$5, car windshield decals for \$4, CHMA "throw" blankets for \$40, insulated tumblers for \$30. Also for sale will be the color print of the Heights campus, circa 1916, for \$35, a small panoramic print of the campus taken during the 30's for \$10, a printed picture of the tiger and cannon in front of the Alumni House for \$20 taken by Gary Moor '59, and an 11 X 14 print of the Auditorium for \$25, and there will be copies for sale of the New York Times article on the 1928 Castle Heights football victory over St. John's School of Brooklyn (score was 25 - 0) and the game was played at Ebbets Field (home of the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball team). Phil Ponder's 16 X 20 print of the Library will be available for \$50 (we have 3 left). Additionally, we will have our book, Hail, Castle Heights! for \$20, and the J.B. Leftwich book, View From the Hill, for \$20.

We are looking forward to visiting with many of you in Lebanon for Homecoming 2025 on Saturday, October 11. Please remember that the Alumni House will be open on Friday, October 10, as well.

Sincerely,
Rob Hosier '63

LODGING INFORMATION

Please make your lodging reservations as soon as possible so you will be able to get the discount and for rooms to be available. Most of the hotels in Lebanon are located on Hwy 231/South Cumberland off of the Lebanon Exit 238 from I-40. The Avid Hotel, Candlewood Suites, Fairfield Inn, and Hampton Inn & Suites are off of I-40/Exit 236 (Hartmann Dr.)

PLEASE BE SURE TO ASK FOR THE CASTLE HEIGHTS ALUMNI SPECIAL RATE

Use the CODES listed below to Book Your Hotel Rooms

AVID HOTEL 615-307-6200

\$109 + tax - (discounted) - Book by 9/19/2025

Use CODE: "CHM"

I-40 Exit 236 (Hartmann Dr. Exit)

CANDLEWOOD SUITES 615-795-0300

\$110 + tax (discounted) - Book by 9/18/2025

Use CODE: CHA

I-40 Exit 236 (Hartmann Dr/at110 Willard Hagan Dr)

CEDAR VALLEY INN 615-444-0505

\$55 + tax (discounted) next to Cracker Barrel

(\$4.50 meal voucher per day per room @ CB)

Use CODE: "Castle Heights Alumni"

COMFORT SUITES 615-443-0027

From \$89.95 to \$159.95 + tax - Book by 9/18/2025

Use CODE: "Castle Heights Alumni-2025"

10/09/25 - \$89.95, 10/10 & 10/11/25 - \$159.95 (discounted)

FAIRFIELD INN by MARRIOTT 615-470-2224

\$145 + tax (discounted) - Book by 9/9/2025

Use CODE: "CHAN" or "Castle Heights Alumni-2025"

I-40 Exit 236 (Hartmann Dr. Exit)

HAMPTON INN and SUITES 615-444-3445

\$109 + tax - (discounted) - Book by 9/17/2025

Use CODE: "Castle Heights Alumni"

I-40 Exit 236 (Hartmann Dr. Exit)

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS 615-994-3225

\$139 + tax - (discounted)

Mention Castle Heights Alumni

LAQUINTA INN & SUITES 615-470-1001

\$85 to \$119 + tax (discounted) - Book by 9/26/2025

Use CODE: "Castle Heights"

10/9/2025 - \$85, 10/10 & 10/11/2025 - \$119

QUALITY INN 615/444-7020

\$75 + tax (discounted) - Book by 10/2/2025

Use CODE: "Castle Heights" (rooms limited)

SITES TO VISIT ONLINE FOR DISCOUNT LODGING PRICES
(Some hotel prices per night listed above may not be less expensive by using the following online sites)

www.booking.com
www.expedia.com/hotels
www.priceline.com
www.travelocity.com/hotels
www.trivago.com

HOMECOMING 2025 REUNIONS & OTHER HC INFO

70 YEAR REUNION CLASS OF 1955

Ed Cummins and Rob Collins have made plans for the 70-year reunion celebration for the Class of 1955. They have a block of rooms reserved for Friday and Saturday, October 10 and 11, at **Cedar Valley Inn in Lebanon for \$55 + tax per night**. Call the hotel at **615-444-0505** and use **Code CH1955** to make your reservations now. Those who are interested so far are Johnson, Lannom, Lloyd, Cummins, Oliver and Collins. They should have about 8 classmates plus some wives that want a weekend at Heights again. Dinner reservations for Friday night are planned at 6 p.m. (place not confirmed yet) but arrangements will be made for good food and will be reasonably priced. They will also attend the activities sponsored by the CHMA Alumni Association on Homecoming day and evening on Saturday, October 11. **Contact Rob Collins** at mjc838201@gmail.com or by phone at **662-312-9793**.

60 YEAR REUNION CLASS OF 1965

Joe Brakebill, Jim Wagoner, and Joe Thomas are planning a 60th reunion on October 10th for the Class of 1965. A dinner is planned for Friday evening, October 10 in the Oak Room of the Lebanon Country Club, 1300 Coles Ferry Pike, Lebanon. Classmates, football team members, and friends will meet at 5:00 for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres (cash bar) followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30. Cost of the dinner is \$45 per person. Please pay with cash. **Contact:**
Joe B mtsu1965@gmail.com or call 385-281-0068
Jim major.wagoner@gmail.com or call 502-552-8074
Joe T joethomas626@gmail.com or call 615-613-5773.

55 YEAR REUNION CLASS OF 1970

A dinner is planned to celebrate the 55th reunion for the Class of 1970. Class members, spouses and friends are welcome. They will gather at the downstairs dining room at Sammy B's on the evening of Friday, October 10. Plans include a cash bar happy hour beginning at 5 p.m. with dinner being served at 6:30 p.m. Arrangements were made with Heights photographer, Jeff Seely CHMA '79, for group photos so be there by 6 p.m. if you want to be in the picture. The restaurant has offered a special pricing for a limited menu and they need to know who will attend in advance. For details, pricing, and to confirm your attendance please contact: **Jim Nall**, jamesalbertnall@gmail.com or call **803.917.5322**.

50 YEAR REUNION CLASS OF 1975 40YEAR REUNION

The Class of 1975 will be celebrating their 50-year reunion and will host a reception Saturday afternoon, October 11, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the **homes of Tom Clemmons and Joe and Kathy Adams**, 612 W. Main Street and 616 W. Main Street. Classmates and friends of the Class of 1975 are invited. Light refreshments, beer and wine will be served. **RSVP to:**

Tina Drnek tdrnek56@gmail.com
 Neal Agee neal@ageefirm.com
 Tom Clemmons tom.clemmons57@gmail.com
 Joe Adams joe@mainstproperty.com

They look forward to seeing everyone on Friday night, October 10, at Beer, Beans and Weenies, and on Saturday, October 11, at the Homecoming activities.

CLASS OF 1985

The Class of 1985 is planning for an **epic 40th reunion spanning three days**. All events are open to everyone, not just the Class of 1985. Multiple members of our class have donated funds to provide food and soft drinks. All we ask in return is that you contact us to confirm your attendance. Feel free to drop money in the hat to help cover the cost. All additional funds will be donated to Castle Heights Alumni. **We are trying to get a headcount before events so please let us know by October 1 so we can plan accordingly.** We will be giving out 40 year tee shirts for our class, so please provide your size when verifying if you are going to be attending.

Thursday, October 9th, 2025, 6:00 PM (Sponsored by Bud Maxey)

Join the Class of 1985 for a night on the town in Nashville. Attendees will meet at 6:00 PM at the following location: 415 Church St, Unit 2615, Nashville, TN 37219. **All expenses covered by the attendees.** Email **Dawn Proctor** at dcproctor1@gmail.com, or **Haley Donoho** at hdonoho67@yahoo.com, to confirm attendance. Also, follow up with Dawn or Haley prior to October 9th to confirm that the event is going forward, as it may be cancelled if there is not enough interest.

Friday, October 10th, 2025, Around 6:00 PM (Sponsored by Dean Adams)

Beanies, Weenies, and Deanie's!! Following Beer, Beans, and Weenies, on campus, attendees will meet for a Taco/ Nacho Bar Social at 6:00 PM. Location: 113 Oak Hill Circle, Lebanon, TN 37087. Email **Dawn Proctor** at dcproctor1@gmail.com, or **Haley Donoho** at hdonoho67@yahoo.com, to confirm attendance. Again, feel free to drop money in the hat.

Saturday, October 11th, 2025 (Sponsored by the CHMA Alumni Association)

All members of the Class of 1985 are strongly encouraged to attend the Homecoming Luncheon (**reservations are required**). **The reservation form is in this newsletter.**

Saturday, October 11th, 2025, 6:00 PM (Location Sponsored by Jamie Metzger)

Join the Class of 1985 for a cookout at Cedar Forest. The Class of 1985 will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, and soft drinks. Catch up with old friends as music from the 70's and 80's plays in the background. Location: 16996 Central Pike, Lebanon, TN 37090. Email **Dawn Proctor** at dcproctor1@gmail.com, or **Haley Donoho** at hdonoho67@yahoo.com, to confirm attendance. Again, feel free to drop money in the hat.

There will only be one more Castle Heights 40th reunion after this one. Let's get everyone back home on the Hill and have a blast while catching up with old friends. The Class of 1985 looks forward to seeing you there!

OTHER HOMECOMING and SCHOLARSHIP INFO

WHEELER'S BEER, BEANS & WEENIES Friday, October 10, 3:00 p.m. Rutherford Parks Library

Friday, October 11, will be the start of another exciting Homecoming weekend on the grounds of Rutherford Parks Library. For the 11th year, Wheeler's Beer, Beans, and Weenies' crew will be offering free cold beer, and hot dogs along with the fixings, to those of you who arrive early for the fun and friendship.

Happy Beer Hour starts at 3:00 p.m. Hot dogs start rolling off the grill at 5:00 and everyone will be served, rain or shine, until the last cadet leaves. As always, BB&W is absolutely free. If you feel the need to contribute, there will be a donation jar nearby.

A JIM BEAM EXPERIENCE AUCTION TO BE HELD AT THE HOMECOMING LUNCHEON

CHMA Class of 1975 graduate, **Fred Noe**, a Seventh Generation Master Distiller at James B. Beam Distilling Company in Clermont, Kentucky, and the great-grandson of bourbon pioneer Jim Beam will be at Homecoming. **Fred will again be auctioning off a 'Jim Beam Experience', and bringing some bottles of high-end bourbon to the Homecoming Luncheon on Saturday, October 11, as a fundraiser for the CHMA Alumni Association.** The past several years have yielded a great amount of funds for the Alumni Association, **Thank you to Fred Noe** for this fundraiser and for donating the auction items.

If anyone wishes to sponsor and provide a SCHOLARSHIP in memory of or in honor of someone, please contact:

**Rob Hosier
1045 Woodmont Drive
Gallatin, TN 37066
615/451-0468
shosier@msn.com**

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION Information for 2026

**SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS
if anyone in your family will be
applying for a scholarship!**

On December 1, 2025

Info on the scholarships
will be posted

on the alumni website

www.castleheights.com

We will enter into our **twenty-sixth (26th) year of awarding the scholarships** in 2026.
PLEASE KEEP THIS INFORMATION.

Beginning on **December 1, 2025**, you may go to the CHMA Alumni Association's website **www.castleheights.com** and print the instructions and application for the **three (3) scholarships (\$2,000 each)** that will be awarded in 2026 for the academic year 2026-2027. **February 15, 2026** will be the deadline for the applications to reach the Alumni Association. **April 15, 2026** will be the deadline for the Scholarship Selection Committee to have the names of the three students selected to receive the scholarships **(\$2,000 each)**. The selected recipients will be notified after April 15, 2026.

If you do not have access to the internet and/or you are unable to print the information/directions and application, **contact us after December 1, 2025:**

**Susan Hosier
615-451-0468
shosier@msn.com**

**PLEASE SEND CHANGES OF ADDRESS,
PHONE NUMBERS, OR EMAIL TO:**

**Susan Hosier
1045 Woodmont Drive
Gallatin, TN 37066**

Email: shosier@msn.com

Notice of Deaths and 2025 Alumni Update

NOTICE OF RECENT DEATHS OF ALUMNI

WALTER A. BISHOP JR '58
RON BLACKWOOD '57
RALPH GARY BRADLEY '59
FLOYD BRINGLE '63
LARRY COX PG '61
HARRY EDELSTEIN '45
RICHARD HARRISON '62
DAVID HUGHEN '65
PAUL M. KELLERMAN '63
ROBERT "BOB" TAYLOR KEETON '55
JOHN MICHAEL KNOX '63
RAYMOND P. LAMB '50
MAYNARD G. LEEMAN '72
JAMES WILSON LEGG '55
HARRY MCBRAYER '52
SANDY S. MCMATH '59
IVO JORDAN PHELPS JR '57
CHARLES JOSEPH PHIFER '50
HEWLETT M. PICKENS '56
NEWTON ROSS ROWLAND '65
JOHN A. SAMPEDRO '59
CHARLES H. SPECHT '69
TONY TAYLOR '63
HAROLD "HAL" TUNE '58

2025 ALUMNI UPDATES

APPERSON, LAWSON FALLS '53 - Germantown, TN; Lawson turned 90 in April and his wife gave him a wonderful surprise party in the lounge (free drinks and food). All the residents of their senior living facility were invited and they had a large turnout. LHApperson@icloud.com

ARMSTRONG, DR. JOHN H. '67 - Carol Stream, IL; John's book, The Transforming Fire of Divine Love (March) was released this year. JohnA1949@gmail.com

ASH, DON R. '73 - Murfreesboro, TN; Don is a Senior Judge with the State of Tennessee. His wife, Rita, is a realtor for Onward Real Estate. Don and his wife have ten grandchildren. drash1234@gmail.com

BALLARD, REGGIE '63 - Forest, VA; Reggie and Clarice downsized from a big house to a small townhome. He said it was a huge undertaking, but they did it! They threw things away, had an estate sale, and gave neighbors "stuff"! Not much else has changed in their lives but he still

has two Piper Tri-Pacers - one is for sale and the other will make two brothers in Pennsylvania very happy! Reggie wrote "Thank God" that they are still on this earth. He said "when I pass I know my eternal home!" piperpilot12@yahoo.com

BLAKE, DAN P. '63 - Nashville, TN; Dan is still enjoying retirement with his wife who retired this past year. He is in good health for his age. Both he and his wife are looking forward to Homecoming as always. He enjoys seeing his old classmates and other friends. danpblake216@gmail.com

BLUNCK, CARL E. III, M.D. '68 - Grand Junction, CO; Nickname is "Shots". Carl is still practicing radiology in Grand Junction, and chasing all of his seven grandkids. All his children are MD's, one in Grand Junction, Myrtle Beach, SC, and Cleveland, OH. Still doing triathlons with wife, Chris, of 42 years (she is beating him now). He said if he is not the luckiest cadet of the 1968 class, then he must be in the top 5 given his blessed marriage, children and grandchildren. Go Tigers!! (Remember he was a head cheerleader also.). Carl sends his love to all the CHMA brotherhood. tricyde01@aol.com

BOHANON, JOHN '67 - Kevil, KY; John retired after 27 years as Asst. Chief Paducah Fire Dept. Still lives on the farm. He stays involved with the farm. Son, Kent Bohanon, is State Farm agent. He has 2 grandchildren, Joyce, 13, and Reece, 10. Daughter, Laura Duff, is Edward Jones Associate. John said wife, Brenda, is a saint for putting up with him all these years. thebohanons@yahoo.com

CARTER, CHARLES '57 - Congress, AZ; Charles sold his motor home. Said he is homebound but is reasonably healthy. Still a fairly active Radio Ham on HF and VHF. cecarter39@yahoo.com

CHERRY, THOMAS R. '63 - Vestavia Hills, AL; Thomas said he is hanging in there and doing pretty well. His birthday was in July and he turned 80 years old. cherry1803@aol.com

CHUBB, JOHN O. '71 - Knoxville, TN; John said he is still alive and well. C5414@comcast.net

COATS, CHRIS '76 - Woodbury, TN; Chris said he is enjoying life! coats940@yahoo.com

COLEMAN, LESTER '78 - Rossville, TN; Lester recently retired after working at the same investment bank for 38 years. He has been married for 10 years to his wife, Kathy. They recently moved to the country outside of Memphis into their dream house. lestercoleman@comcast.net

COLLINS, CHARLES D. III '55 - Lakeland, FL; Married to Demie Jo Collins. cdciilw60@gmail.com

COMPTON, SAMUEL (SAM) L. '52 - Hendersonville, TN; Sam said his father, Samuel L. Compton Sr. was

2025 ALUMNI UPDATE

Sam Compton continued...

killed in a B17 accident, June 17, 1943. He mentioned that he was inspired by him to also become a soldier in the military. Sam said in public school he was a low average student and with the discipline and training at Castle Heights he achieved a degree and was on the honor roll. That achievement led Sam to a successful business. samcomptons@cs.com

DAIL, DAVID (was enrolled in Summer Camp '59, '60, '61 and enrolled in Summer School '63) - Little Rock, AR; David retired in December of 2018 and was a CRNA for 35 years. ddail12460@comast.net

DURANT, BUD '49 - Minneapolis, MN; Bud turned 95 in January but is still getting around okay but no longer flying! His wife died in 2018 and still getting used to house work. He heard from Dan Kendall's daughter which brought back warm memories of a fine man who greatly influenced Bud's life. He is grateful for lifelong friends he shared at Heights. GO TIGERS! beckleybud@gmail.com

DWYER, DR. BILL '53 - Chattanooga, TN; Bill said life is great for he and his wife, Linda. All of his 5 children are doing great despite national politics and global wars. They are both seeing patients which is very satisfying. wkdsenior@aol.com

EDGEMON, HUBERT LYNN '62 - Michigan City, IN; He is still working as a part-time financial manager of several businesses. Wife, Jean, passed away four and a half years ago. Plays folk/country music with several "old folkies" at a local museum and national park visitors center. hle92944@hotmail.com

ELLIOTT, THOMAS H. '47 - Howard, OH; Tom is currently living at Ohio Eastern Starr Home in Mt. Vernon, OH which is about 10 minutes from his daughter, Tammy Kaye. Tom lost his wonderful wife, Dolores, on December 5, 2024 (she lived 96 years and 4 days). Tom is currently 96 and will turn 97 next March. He said life has been good for him and he owes a lot of that to Castle Heights with good training, great academics, and great athletics. Said he was very lucky to attend there for his last 2 years of high school. He retired in 1989 after having a good career. coachtom2@hotmail.com

EVANS, VAN L. '73 - Greenbrier, TN; Van will not be able to attend Homecoming this year as he and his wife will be in Washington state visiting their son whose vacation award is for the 1st—20th of October. Being he does LAX - HNL - HND (Tokyo's Haneda Airport), Van said he would be bringing a suitcase full of Japanese whiskey home. vanlevans@gmail.com

FRENCH, DARYL "CORKY" '75 - Murfreesboro, TN; He retired after 44 years in full time ministry. Still preach and work with churches occasionally. He and his wife, Suzy, love to travel. They have 3 children (and spouses), 10 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild. Said they are blessed! daryl57@icloud.com

GANT, ROBERT '70 - Owensboro, KY; Bob said that not much has changed from last year. He is wishing all the best to his fellow alumni. bobgant@bellsouth.net

GORMAN, TOM '70 - Lebanon, TN; Tom is enjoying hunting and newly discovered fly fishing. Has been travelling with fellow classmate Bill Waters '70 to destinations for salt water fishing. tlgorman84@icloud.com

HALL, KEN '71 - Monterey, TN; Ken is chairman of the Putnam County Republican Party, is Putnam County District 4 Commissioner, Team Leader of TN Disaster Response Team (164 responses), and is CHMA Board of Directors Vice President. Ken has been married to Dianne for 7 years. kenevil@frontiernet.net

HARRIS, BILL '61 - Franklin, KY; Bill and his wife, Ida, continue to enjoy their retirement years in good health. He has published his second book, A Kentucky Boy With No Sense: A Judge Recounts His Boyhood Misadventures in Franklin, Kentucky, available on Amazon.com or by calling or texting Bill at 279-770-7855. He looks forward to seeing everyone at Homecoming on October 11. harris570743@gmail.com

HAVEN, HANK '61 - Maumelle, AR; Hank reports that he is "stayin' alive". hnhkvn10@att.net

LINK, BILL '60 - Groveland, FL; Bill is retired, is married, and has been living in Florida for the past 10 years. raulston@brighthouse.com

LOONEY, JOHN M.D., MBA '60 - Franklin, TN; At 83, John is still returning to Duke Medical Center one week per month in a consulting role to younger doctors. He and his wife live in Franklin and at their Crossville, Tennessee farm. john.looney@duke.edu

MARKS, RONNIE '60 - Lebanon, TN; Said he finally retired in January 2024 after 40 years in his own company. He and his wife are in good health. They celebrated 61 years of marriage on July 11. He recently officiated the marriage of his oldest grandson. Ronnie said the next step is probably becoming a great grandparent. ronniemarks@bellsouth.net

MELVIN, WALTER R. JR (RUSTY) '69 - Gallatin, TN; Rusty retired from Vol State in 2022. Coached for 47 years - Father Ryan 1974-79, Manchester H.S. 1979-86, Hiwassee College 1986-88, Cleveland State C.C. 1988-97, West VA Tech 1998-2000, and Volunteer State C.C. 2000-22. He was in the 1990 Tennessee Junior College Hall of Fame, had two championships in two major sports in same season at Hiwassee College in 1988. RussandRuth1@gmail.com

MILLER, CARL DEAN '59 - Kilgore, TX; Dean is 83 and said he is still blessed and healthy! deanm@cablelynx.com

MONTI, STEWART T. SR '70 - Sanford, NC; Stewart is working on a publication of Mary and Sir Edward, an eleventh-century poetic narrative for readers of all ages. Said "Anne and Thomas say hello!" capt545@gmail.com

Continued - 2025 ALUMNI UPDATE

MULHOLLEN, RALPH DONALD '62 - Fort Worth, TX; Retired at 65. Said he worked as an employee at 5 different mining companies as a pit geologist, then worked as an independent contractor for 18 different mining companies in the U.S. and Peru, some of them more than once. geomerc@frontier.com

NOE, FRED '75 - Bardstown, KY; Fred is looking forward to Homecoming to celebrate the 50th reunion of the Class of 1975. Said it is hard to believe it has been 50 years since he left Heights. Hopes that many classmates make it back as possible. frednoe5775@gmail.com

NUNN, OLIVER J. JR '59 - Johnson City, TN; He turned 85 on February 18, and his wife is 77. His knees and hips need surgery but said he is too old. Josh said Heights was a good high school with good teachers. frogjump53@gmail.com

PAETZ, JUERGEN (YOGI) '66 - Grant, AL; Yogi said he is retired now. ypaetz@charter.net

PARKER, CARL E. (EDDIE) '65 - Hot Springs, AR; He recently moved to Hot Springs. eparker@cablelynx.com

RICHEY, DEAN '72 - Pawleys Island, SC; Dean retired from Summerville to Pawleys Island in 2020. He spends most days taking it easy, walking his Morky dog twice daily. He and his wife, Joanne, bowl in a senior league each week, and they also joined their local YMCA and they work out at the "Y" 2 to 3 times a week. Dean is in his 5th year serving on their community HOA Board of Directors (3 years as president). He is in his 21st year as the Castle Heights Webmaster. [djrc485@gmail.com](mailto:djrsc485@gmail.com)

SCHAEFER, HADLEY '51 - Fernandina Beach, FL; Hadley has been married for 69 years, has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, and one 15 year old dog. hadley.schaefer@warrington.ufl.edu

SIEFERT, MIKE '74 - Texarkana, AR; Mike retired in 2017 from Red River Army Depot; Chemist/Chem Engineer. Now running full-time fishing charter and guide service @MillwoodGuideService.com with 5 fishing guides/rigs. Bass, crappie, catfish charters, full and half days, 10% discount on cabin rentals. He said to come see what all the excitement is about and bring your buddies and kids. largemouth5@aol.com

SIMPSON, GORDON T. LTC (Retired) '55 - He and his wife, Ruth, enjoyed their 69th wedding anniversary in May and continue enjoying retirement in their custom one level, no-step, handicap accessible house in Texas. gtandruthsimpson@aol.com

SMITH, THOMAS W. '53 - Knoxville, TN; Tom will be attending Homecoming this year and said it will be his 72nd year since graduation. His wife passed in 2022 and they were married for 67 years, and he had to adjust to a new life without her. Tom misses his days at CHMA as it was a great time. cobrajags@gmail.com

STARR, CHARLES '50 - Estero, FL; Charles said he is coming up on his 93rd trip around the sun. He lost his wife and best friend last year. He has reunited with his ex-wife of 40 plus years ago. He sold his airplane and aircraft hanger and moved to South Florida. After 75 years of aviation, said it is time to quit and enjoy other things in life. cws1932@cox.net

STEEN, LES '61 - Maumelle, AR; Les said that it was a milestone month for 2 of his grandkids. Harrison Steen graduated from Baylor University with a degree in Communications, Millie graduated from Fulshear H. S. in Fulshear, TX. Millie will be starting her collegiate studies this fall at Baylor following in her parents and older brothers' footsteps.

SUCIU, TOM '60 - Paradise Valley, AZ; Tom lost his best friend and little brother this year. Larry was a natural born leader. Said the task of rehabilitating the family name befell on him after Tom's lackluster stint at Heights as the bullring king with Velcro chevrons. Larry did CHMA very well serving on the Round Table Council, Honor Council, president of the Heights Y, captain of the swimming team, A Company commander, and '61 recipient of the Petway Cup (which he never received). He went on to serve in the Marine Corps as well as numerous boards and committees. Larry also served as president of every organization to which he was a member including the state bar of Arizona. He is greatly missed. tsuciu@aol.com

TEASLEY, THOMAS '65 - Richmond, VA; Tom said he is trucking along. He hopes to be in Lebanon for Homecoming! monteagle@gmail.com

THOMPSON, JOHN KING '62 - Gallatin, TN; John is a retired general surgeon. He and his wife, Jan, of 52 years have 4 daughters. jktjst4@gmail.com

WAIR, JON FRANK '57 - Hillsboro, OR; Jon said he is alive at 86. Everything else is the same.

WALLACE, CARL D. JR (DOUG) '75 - Lebanon, TN; Doug said he has retired for the 2nd time now. He is happily married to Dawn! carl.d.wallacejr@gmail.com

WHEATON, KELLY '78 - Springfield, VA; After 39 1/2 years of federal government service with 23 years in the U.S. Army in the Judge Advocate General's Corps, and 16 1/2 years as a civil servant, Kelly retired in February 2024. Now enjoying retired life, traveling, hiking, and researching father's service in WWII as a fighter pilot in Italy. kellywheaton0@gmail.com



Alumni Association 2025 Update

STATEMENT FROM THE CHMA AUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Several years ago, the Castle Heights National Alumni Association started discussing the "end game" concerning what was to be the Academy's legacy for the world when the last cadet had passed away. This past year, a committee was established within the Alumni Board of Directors to explore the Association's avenues to this end.

Chuck Lowe '74 was chosen as Chairman of this exploratory group with Amy Beth Hale '87, Larry McCowan '71, Allen Davis '75, Ken Hall '71, Ted Lavit '57 and Rob Hosier '63. This committee met with both Cumberland University and the City of Lebanon on several occasions to discuss which entity would best serve to preserve the Heights' legacy.

The Castle Heights Board of Directors chose the City of Lebanon as the best entity and made them an offer which would ensure that the Rutherford Parks Library/Archives would forever be a museum honoring the legacy of Castle Heights Military Academy. The deed requires that at any point in the future should the City of Lebanon fail to uphold the signed agreement then the Library/Archives' ownership would revert back to the Castle Heights Military Academy National Alumni Association.

The Alumni Board met on July 12, 2025, with Lebanon Mayor, Rick Bell, and voted unanimously to go forward with the proposal. Members of the Alumni Board voting for the transfer of the deed were: Don Ash '73, Allen Davis '75, Tina Drnek '75, Amy Beth Hale '87, David Hale '74, Ken Hall '71, Rob Hosier '63, Ted Lavit '57, Chuck Lowe '74, Larry McCowan '71, Jerry Ream '59, and Carleton Thackston '67.

It was agreed at this meeting that an oversight Board would be created with an equal number of members from both the City of Lebanon and the Castle Heights Alumni Association to monitor the transfer and direction of the Library/Archives. It was also agreed that the Library/Archives would be available for use by the Castle Heights Alumni Association at any time.

The number of Alumni Association members is constantly decreasing and with that decrease, the number of financial donors and financial donations are also decreasing. The cost of upkeep for the Library/Archives Building will soon become an issue and the Board of Directors has taken the necessary steps to ensure the future of the memory of our Alma Mater.

Over the past thirteen years we, as a cadet corps, have not only purchased the building but also raised the funding to restore the library to its original elegance. A lot of volunteer sweat and love has gone into the restoration of the building and the upkeep of the grounds. We, as Cadets, can be proud of our accomplishment.

This decision did not come easy and was not a pleasant topic to take on. The Alumni Board has taken this weighted issue on its shoulders in an effort to keep the memory of Castle Heights Military Academy for future generations. While not a pleasant decision, the Board feels like it was now the time to take control of the Academy's destiny and ensure its legacy is passed on to future generations.

We are all looking forward to
AN EVENING AT THE MITCHELL HOUSE
during Homecoming on Saturday, October 11
beginning at 7:00 pm.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT RESERVATION FORM
IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3**

Hope to see many of you there!

THANK YOU TO LEBANON MAYOR RICK BELL
for again allowing the CHMA Alumni Association
to use this historic building for our
Homecoming evening event!



RESERVATION FORM For Homecoming 2025 Luncheon

**and
An Evening at the Mitchell House**

The **Reservation Form** for the Homecoming Luncheon and "An Evening at the Mitchell House", and the **Activities Schedule** for **Saturday, October 11**, are on separate printed sheets inserted in this newsletter. A self-addressed envelope is also included in the newsletter to mail your reservation form to us. **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

**RESERVATION DEADLINE
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3**

This 2025 August CHMA Alumni newsletter is
online at www.castleheights.com. You will be able
to view the pictures in color.
All past newsletters are on this site.