



THE SKIRMISHER

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL
Home of The MULESKINNERS



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No. 5

June 1996

Honorary Colonels Named

Five individuals whose association with SJMS were very mixed, were commissioned as Honorary Colonels during a special program on Sunday evening, May 19 at the Salina Country Club.

The Trustees recognize as Honorary Colonels persons who have graduated from SJMS or have been employed by the school for at least fifteen years and have distinguished themselves in the Church, Military or Civil life, or persons who have made a significant contribution to the School in their field of expertise or provided service beyond the call of duty to the School.

Honored were an alumni, a benefactor, a former Trustee, a former faculty member and a current faculty member.

(Continued with related picture on page 3)



108TH
CORPS
DISMISSED
FOREVER



President's Message

Capt Skip McAlexander

One of my personal goals as President of St. John's is to give our cadets the opportunity to interact with

people from different cultures. I do not underestimate the value of classroom work in languages and social studies and do what is possible to provide the resources for these courses. My own experience, however, has taught me that personal contact is very important in learning to be comfortable with those who speak other languages and have other customs.

We have been fortunate in having international interns who provide opportunities for exposure to their cultures. I have recently received letters from all of them asking that I pass their greetings to all of their friends. Three years ago we had Denis Belsky from St. Petersburg, Russia. Denis lived as a cadet, but his maturity was such that he was almost part of the staff. Dennis is now a junior at a University in Russia studying Economics. He is very happy and would enjoy hearing from any of his friends.

For most of last year our interns were Pavel and Martina Adam from the Czech Republic. Martina is currently a Deputy

Manager of Libraries for the City of Ostrava-Poruba, and Pavel is a Personnel Officer for the Philip Morris Corporation. They have written articles about St. John's for educational journals and would like to start a similar school in the Czech Republic someday.

Our most recent intern was Gen Fuji from Japan. Gen is now back in Japan and trying to become a teacher. He says that he enjoyed his stay at St. John's very much and misses all of the people who were so helpful to him here. Currently our intern is Kazuhisa Miyavchi from Japan. He will be with us until next February and will be in the classroom starting in September.

If anyone would like to have the addresses of any of our interns, please contact me.



Academic Dean's Message

LTC Kenneth Faerber

With hats flying in the air upon sounding, "108th Corps, dismissed forever" gives me time to reflect on the

progress made during the 1995/96 school year.

Beginning in August with an unusually large number of cadets reporting for upper school football and N.C.O. camps, set the stage for another good enrollment. The Admissions Department, headed by CSM Bradley, is to be commended for doing an excellent job.

Academically, I was pleased with the consistent improvement. Evidence was that each grading period we saw more students enjoying the Foundation (Your P.T.A.) Pizza Party for those who increased their G.P.A. .5. Also we are beginning to see more students in advanced math and science classes. These may be determining factors contributing to a steady increase in college board scores!

The athletic program also demonstrated increased cadet participation. Not only were the cadets involved in league activities, football, basketball, wrestling, track, tennis, golf, Quiz Bowl, and Forensics (with both varsity & junior varsity teams); they were

active in non-league clubs and/or activities; rifle team, drill team, bike club, chess club, computer club, Spartans, bowling, stock market and a myriad of weekend activities. These programs provide opportunities to demonstrate athletic, intellectual and leadership skills.

New computers, technology, and improved curriculum. Beginning the second semester we were fortunate to receive (from Mrs. Given) fifteen new computers. This instantly changed our approach to computer skills, broaden the scope of programs, and definitely enhanced student enthusiasm.

Teachers and administrators have spent
(Continued on page 3)



Commandant's Message

LTC Michael Furlo

During Commencement weekend this year we took an initial step toward reorganizing our Corps of Cadets. For

those who attended the Military Awards ceremony, you witnessed the deactivation of Delta Company, which became Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) with the changing of the guidon. Although changing the flag is a visible sign of transformation, HHC will have a somewhat different structure than our old Delta Company. However, some of the old Delta Company components will remain. Specifically, the training detachment for

"New Boys" will still be an integral part of the new HHC. In addition, the 6th grade cadets will also continue as an element in HHC. Differences you will see in HHC are that the Corp's band, Special Staff, and most likely, the waiters will also be designated as part of this school unit. For some time we have internally discussed the need of having unit integrity for the band and other special elements within the Corps of Cadets. By putting these units under one roof, we hope there will be added stability and improved efficiency.

The other cadet "line" companies, Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie will pretty much remain with their current configuration. Alpha will primarily have our 9th and 10th graders,

Bravo will consist of 11th and 12th grade cadets, and Charlie will be our 7th and 8th graders.

The addition of a HHC will also require a modification in the school's rank structure. Without a different rank arrangement for the band and waiters there would be little room for these boys to receive promotions. Thus, we have designed a "specialist" rank system for these two elements within the Corps of Cadets. With this arrangement, bandmen and waiters would compete and be promoted under a merit system. Additionally, the actual rank identification device will be modified for these groups. In the event a bandman or waiter returns to one of the "line" compa

(Continued on page 13)

Honorary Colonels

Continued from Page 1



Pictured, left to right: Doug Randolph, William Graves, Gene Ely and ErmaLee Nuss.

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Gene Ely was chosen as one of St. John's most distinguished graduates. Gene was very successful in business and in life. He has supported the school in every way since his graduation in 1954 and will always be a part of St. John's just as St. John's will always be a part of Gene.

Mrs. Jessie Given is a most distinguished supporter of St. John's, contributing to improve the lives of cadets by enhancing the comfort and beauty of the chapel, providing new furnishings for Mize Hall, establishing the Moran Computer Lab in the upper school, and assisting with tuition for several cadets. Her son and great-grandson are graduates and she has truly earned the title of Colonel.

Governor Graves is a true friend and supporter of St. John's having served on the Board of Trustees, spoken at our Commencements, and has provided advice and assistance on issues with State Government.

As the "Mother" of the modern St. John's library, Mrs. Erma Lee Nuss started with a box of books and worked for almost twenty years to insure that the cadets had access to books and reference materials. Living and raising her family on campus for many years, she has been a most valuable member of the St. John's staff.

As a teacher, principal, athletic director, coach, role model and friend, no one gives more of themselves to making the school a better place for cadets than this most deserving "Colonel", Mr. Doug Randolph, having given immeasurably to cadets since 1980.

Mrs. Givens and The Honorable Graves were not in attendance during the dinner, but Mrs. Given accepted her plaque during the Moran Computer Lab dedication held on Saturday morning (see photo below) and Governor Graves' father and former Trustee, Mr. William Graves, accepted the plaque on behalf of his son.

Academic Dean

(Continued from Page 2)

many hours this year analyzing a block schedule that will meet St. John's needs. Now we are in the final stages of customizing the schedule. I am pleased to report that students and teachers are very enthusiastic about the positive aspects this block schedule offers.

Therefore, when I consider the above positive changes, I'm confident St. John's is making every attempt to offer a quality educational program.



Jessie Given, Benefactor, inducted as new Honorary Colonel during weekend.

SJMS FOUNDATION -Your P.T.A.

Parents, Alumni and Friends. At the May meeting of your SJMS Foundation, the Directors voted to add YOUR P.T.A. in order to help better clarify or explain it's function. They felt most everyone related to the public school P.T.A., and that's EXACTLY the same function of the Foundation.

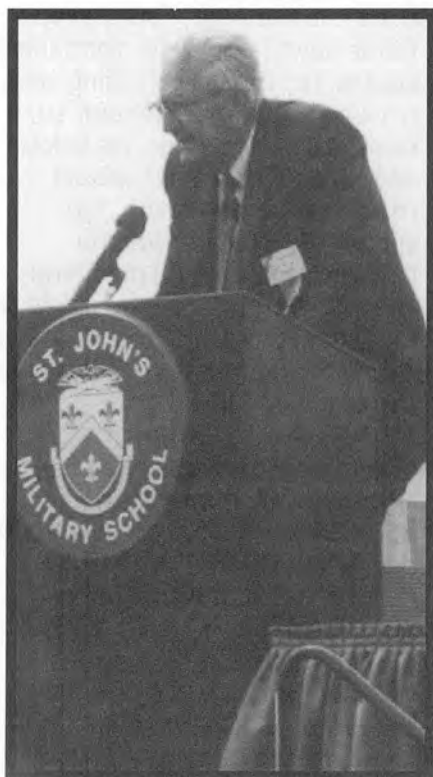
If you missed the Saturday 18 May Foundation Luncheon, then you may be wondering what has SJMS Foundation-YOUR P.T.A. done? In the past, Foundation funds have (a) paid for the tennis courts, (b) football blocking sled, (c) weightlifting equipment, (d) a new 24 passenger bus, (e) video and TV equipment, (f) special rifles for the rifle team, (g) skeleton and closet for the biology class, and (h) new furniture for the rec. center and Mize Hall cadets 'leisure' room. ANNUALLY, the Foundation underwrites (a) all junior class rings - \$6,800.00, (b) Presidential Classroom (four cadets to Washington, D.C. for one week) - \$5,000.00, (c) four cadet activity days - \$1,000.00, (d) .5 Club - cadets that improve G.P.A. per grading period - \$1,000.00, just to mention a few.

Now that you better understand the purpose and function, why not help to support YOUR P.T.A.? There are three basic categories for memberships: (1) Life - \$1,000.00, (2) Sustaining - \$100.00, and (3) Active - \$50.00, or any other contribution. Remember, ALL activities are funded from MEMBERSHIP. Make your check payable to SJMS Foundation.

- YOUR P.T.A. -

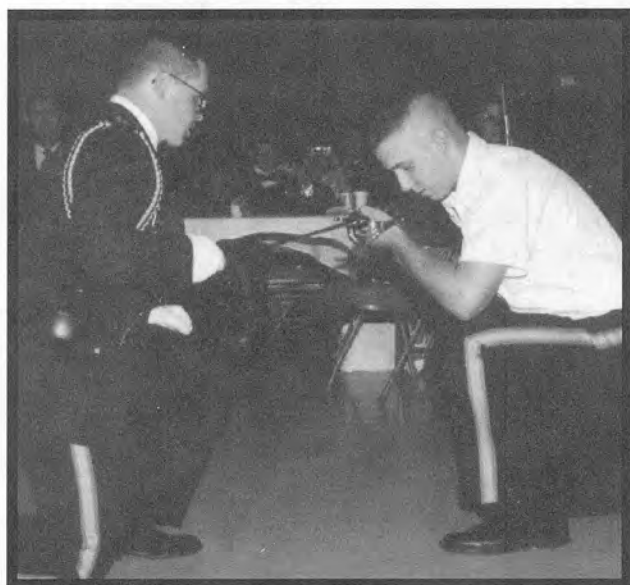
APPRECIATES YOUR SUPPORT

At right, the Color Guard leads the Commencement Processional. In center row, "Old Boy" Lou Fulton conducts the Handle Ceremony - The "F Troop" takes part in formation following the Flag Ceremony. At bottom, Douglas Morrison takes Command of the 109th Corps.





In left column, scenes from Military Ball. At top, Juniors receive rings after being escorted through the sabre arch. Center, the Drill Team performs. At bottom, Drill Commander Gorsline turns command over to Paul Vieni.



Above, shown presenting diplomas are LTC Ken Faerber, Mr. Charles Stevens, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and the Honorable Bill Graves, Governor of Kansas and Commencement Speaker. At bottom, the band during Flag Raising Ceremony.

Awards Honor Year's

Major awards given at the Awards Convocation on Saturday, May 18, honored achievements in leadership, progress, academics and citizenship. Awards are in most respects sponsored by members of the Alumni, Trustees and members of the Salina Community.

Music Awards

Michael E. Harris and Eric Siskosky tied for the SGM Eugene R. Louis Memorial Award; Michael O'Halloran received the John Phillip Sousa Award and the Activity Leadership medal for Bag Pipes; J. R. Winans was awarded the Best all-around Bandsman award; Josh Cantrell and Fernando Wiggins were awarded the Most Improved Bandsman awards; Battalion Drummer Awards went to Matthew Fortelka, James Dishon, Eric Siskosky, Michael E. Harris and Michael O'Halloran; and the Best Bugler Award to Joshua Reynolds.

Ferris Awards

Best performance by a General Shop I student went to Shaun Dumas; by a General Shop II student to Matthew Weygandt; by an Advanced Shop Student to Troy Porter, by a M.S. student during 1st semester to

Jarod Guy, and for 2nd semester, Stephen McClure.

Middle School Awards

Cameron Oertel received the Athletic Medal; Brandon Thomas received the Citizenship Medal; Michael Leonard received the Athletic Scholarship Medal, Manuel Escalante received the Effort Medal, James Sherman received the Progress Medal; and Phillip Davis received the Middle School Medal.

D.A.R.E.

Awards

Patrick Farris received the U.S. medal and Mike George and Phillip Davis received the M.S. medals.

KSHSAA Citizenship Awards

Cameron Oertel, M.S. and Paul Gorsline, U.S., whom, through their actions, demonstrated the traits of good citizenship, respect for property and convictions of others, and responsibility in school community life, received these Citizenship awards.

Superior Office & School Awards

A book was given to the member of each class with the highest academic average for all courses during the year.

Recipients were James Sherman, Gr. 6; Phillip Davis, Gr. 7; Michael Leonard, Gr. 8; Carson Brusch, Gr. 9; David Anderson, Gr. 10; Stephen Streeter, Gr. 11 and Brad Issler, Gr. 12.

Religious Awards

Douglas Morrison, Paul Vieni and Joseph Miller received the Bishops Award; Douglas Morrison received the Father Remey L. Clem Award and Newman Merton received the Kennedy-Holifield Award.

SJMS Foundation Awards

Awarded to a cadet in the M.S. and each U.S. grade, excluding commissioned officers, this award is for the best combined rating for characteristics other than academic, such as Class

Attitude, Application to duties, Courtesy and Manners, Appearance, Leadership and Deportment. The recipients were Cameron Oertel, M.S.; Nathan Bilotte, Gr. 9; Bobby Bearden, Gr. 10; Patrick McKnight, Gr. 11 and Carlos Bejarano, Gr. 12.

Other Awards

Winning several awards was Carlos Bejarano, receiving the Lyman G. Linger Award, the "I Dare You" Award and the Sage Memorial Medal. Recommended by the Athletic Department, Paul Vieni received the Tinsley C. Fry Athletic Medal. Bradley Issler received the Dean's Award from Kansas State University and the Upper School Athletic Scholarship award. Steven Streeter received the Honorary Science Award donated by Bausch & Lomb and the Effort Medal. Chris Muhr received the Jerry Lee Mirth Award. James Dishon, a student at St. John's for five years, received the Rotary Medal. Mark Davis was recipient of the Kastner Medal. The Wilson Loyalty Medal went to Douglas Morrison. The Russell L. Guernsey Award went to Paul Gorsline.



Eight Grade Class Recognized



Achievements



"C" Company Does It Again

"C" Company, commanded by Doug Morrison, took the top honors during the Military Field Day Competition on May 11.

The Honor Company of the year, "Charlie" was selected not only through annual competition during Military Field Day events, but also through personnel and barracks inspections, Cadet Challenge, Drill, academic standing and over all conduct by unit members.

The Best Platoon Drill, was taken by "C" Company, 2nd Platoon and the JROTC Commendation Ribbon was awarded to C/SSG Nathan Bilotte for winning the best manual of the guidon during the competition. **Congratulations, "Charlie"**.

Other awards earned during Military Field Day included the U.S. Commandant's Medal going to 1LT Paul Vieni and C/SSG Mark Triebwasser for Best Individual Drill with a Rifle and the M.S. Commandant's medal going to John Coleman.

Rafael Llorente, commander of Alpha Company, accepted the Best Company Drill award.



Military Awards were presented during a special ceremony on Perkins Field on Saturday morning, May 18. Most of the awards are sponsored by the various veteran organizations in the Salina Community.

The AMCSUS medal was awarded to Michael Leonard for being selected as the 8th grade cadet who best exhibits potential to become an outstanding ROTC Cadet.

The Superior Cadet Medal was awarded to Mark Triebwasser for being the outstanding JROTC Cadet in the 108th Corps based on the top grade point average in JROTC, leadership in the classroom and character both in the classroom and in the barracks.

The Academic Wreath awards, presented to individuals in the top 10% of each ROTC class, went to Paul Gorsline, Level 4; Doug Morrison, Level 3; Mark Triebwasser, David

Anderson, Alejandro McKula and Michael Rolle, Level 2; and Steven Streeter, Nathan Bilotte, Jeremy Huscher, Nathan Shires and James Winans, Level 1.

The American Legion Medal General Military Excellence was awarded to Bobby Bearden; The American Legion Medal Scholastic Excellence was awarded to Stephen Streeter; the American Legion School Medal was presented to Paul Gorsline; the American Legion School Certificate was presented to Michael Rolle; the Veterans of Foreign Wars Citizenship ribbon went to Matthew Beynon; the AMVETS Award was presented to Erik Carlsten; the Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America was awarded to James Winans; the Retired Officers Association Medal was awarded to Alejandro McKula; the U.S. Army Recruiting Command Award went to Paul Vieni; the Association of the U.S. Army Medal was awarded to Jason

Palenske.

The National Sojourner ROTC Medal was presented to Reagan Reese; The National Society of Sons of the American Revolution Medal was awarded to Fernando Gutierrez; The U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award was presented to Reggie McGill and The Marine Corps League Award was awarded to Cameron Oertel.

The Reserve Officers Association Award was awarded to Mark Triebwasser; the Hardy Rifleman Award was presented to Eduardo McKula; the Cheney Marksmanship Medal went to James Rutherford; and the Upper School Marksmanship Medal was awarded to Victor Brane.

Carlos Bejarano from the Senior Class and Patrick McKnight from the Junior Class, received the Golden Eagle Awards.

Scholarships recognized during Awards Ceremony

At right, D. Dale Browning puts ribbon on Bobby Bearden, the Browning Scholarship recipient.



At left, Mr. Leonard Lewis shakes hands with Newman Merton, the recipient of the Mark Delane Lewis Memorial Scholarship.

Mark Delane Lewis Memorial Scholarship

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Lewis have given scholarships annually in memory of their son Mark Lewis, who was a member of the SJMS Class of '84. They were in attendance at this year's ceremony to present the \$1,000 scholarship this year to Newman Merton.

Vanier Scholarships

Douglas Morrison was recipient of the Lesta Vanier Scholarship (\$1,000), and Nathaniel Bilotte received the (\$5,000) J.J. Vanier Scholarship. Presenting the scholarships were their grandson, John Vanier II.

The Litchman Scholarship

Donated by the late Very Rev. Frederic Litchman, Dean Emeritus of Christ Cathedral, this \$1,000 scholarship was presented to Paul Vieni.

The D. Dale Browning Scholarship

Funded by an endowed contribution from the members of the Plus System, Inc., this scholarship covers all expenses for a full year at St. John's. Awarded to the cadet who best exemplifies the characteristics of integrity, intelligence and desire for excellence that have distinguished D. Dale Browning's association with St. John's as a cadet, faculty member and Trustee.

This award was presented by Dale Browning following the Flay Raising Ceremony on Saturday morning, to Bobby Bearden.



Above, Capt. McAlexander presents the Ryan International Airline Scholarship to Rick Williams. At right, Mr. Bruce Stainbrook shakes hands with the recipients of the Schwan Scholarships, Matt Beynon and Steve Streeter.



Rodger Shriver and Michael Leonard are recipients of the first "Old Boy" Scholarships, sponsored by the N.H.S. and the Blue Berets.



Schwan Scholarships

Funded by a donation from the Schwan Corporation, Mr. Bruce Stainbrook, SJMS Trustee, presented two scholarships this year. Matthew Beynon received a \$3,000 scholarship and Stephen Streeter, \$4,500.

Ryan International Airlines Scholarship

For the second year, the Ronald Ryan family has funded a scholarship to cover tuition, room and board for one year at SJMS. Receiving this \$15,000 scholarship is Richard Williams, III.

Memorial Scholarship

Receiving \$5,000 from proceeds of Memorial gifts to the School was Rafael Llorente.

Richard Anderson Scholarship

Funded by the endowed proceeds of the 1995 Mule-skinner fund drive, members of Dick Anderson's family presented this (\$2,000) scholarship to Michael Leonard.

N.H.S. and Blue Beret Scholarships

Named the N.H.S. Scholar of the Year Award was Bradley Issler. His name will be engraved on a plaque located in Vanier Academic Center.

Receiving the N.H.S. Textbook Scholarship (\$75) went to Nathan Bilotte and the N.H.S. College Scholarship (\$150) went to Bradley Issler.

"Old Boy" Scholarships. New this year, members voted to award an N.H.S. Scholarship of \$500 to an upper school cadet and a Blue Beret Scholarship of \$300 to a middle school cadet. Rodger Shriver received the U.S. scholarship and Michael Leonard received the M.S. scholarship.

Graduation Sunday

by The Rev'd Canon James Cox

"The Sunday After the Ascension"

From the 17th Chapter of the Holy Gospel according to St. John, Jesus said: "And this is eternal life, that they know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast send."

**In the name of the Holy and Blessed Trinity, One God, The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Yesterday morning we celebrated a Requiem Mass here in the Chapel for the widow of Fr. Remy L. Clem, the Rector and Headmaster of this school for many years. Today, less than 24 hours later, we are celebrating the Sunday After The Ascension of Our Lord into heaven; and, it also happens, that today's Celebration marks the "commencement" of the graduating class of the 108th Corps of Cadets. These two services, of course, have very different purposes, and each of the two therefore have distinctly different Scripture readings appointed to accomplish their respective purposes.

And yet that Requiem Mass yesterday caused me to ponder once again, as funeral Masses invariably do, the *why* and the *how* of this human journey we call life. And the more I thought about it, the more I began to see a definite connection between the two.

For you see, yesterday we celebrated the conclusion of a successful human life. And today we celebrate your "commencement" into a continuation of what we all pray, will, for each of you, continue to be a successful human life. But to do that, like me, you must also ponder both the *why* and the *how* of a successful life.

That's what we all want to know isn't it? How to live a successful life. How to assure that our dreams for a productive, satisfying and happy life can become a reality?

It has been said, that knowing the *why* of anything, will, more often than not, lead us to understand the *how* -- of how we are to accomplish it.

As I pondered today's Gospel lesson in preparation for this sermon, a reading which has been labeled by the Biblical Scholars and Theologians over the ages, as the "High Priestly Prayer" of Jesus, the answer to both the *why* and the *how* began to become more and more apparent.

Jesus is saying this prayer on the last night of his earthly life. The same Jesus, of course, of whom another Gospel writer, St. Luke said: *"He grew in wisdom and grace before God, and the people."*

Jesus experienced much between that time of his preadolescent teaching in the Temple, when Mary, his mother and her husband Joseph were unable to find him, and the occasion of this prayer which we heard today. And that, of course is what prompted St. Luke's comments concerning his growth and stature. I suspect had Jesus been asked when he was a young man of 17 or 18, how he planned to accomplish his task as God's Messiah, he probably wouldn't have had an answer. The realization of *how* he would go about that task was something he would have to grow into. But no matter how gradual that growth may have been, he probably never would have adequately come to understand the *how*, except to the extent that he also grew into a realization of the *why* of his remarkable earthly life.

And it was this realization that allowed him to confidently pray to God his Father as we heard in today's Gospel: *"I have given you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do."* Jesus, you see, had grown into a realization of the meaning and purpose of his life, and because he understood the *why*, he was now able to discover the *how*. And I want to assure you, as you graduate from this school today, it will be no different for you. As you come to understand the *why* of your life in this world, you will also come to understand *how* you will come to realize all your dreams and aspirations.

Armstrong Chapel - - Commencement

Jesus had come to understand, you see, that the very reason for his existence in human flesh, was none other than to give glory to Almighty God his Father, and to make the knowledge, and love, and meaning of the Father known to the world, that the world might be reconciled to Him.

But for us that's not all. For us that's only the beginning. Jesus told us to follow him; he told us to do what he did; he told us to learn from him; he told us that he wanted us to be where he is -- and that brings us to the *why* of our lives. Of your life, and mine as well.

If we are to follow Jesus; if we are to do as he did; if we are to learn from him; then the *why* of your life and mine is the same as the *why* of his -- to worship, and praise, and give glory to Almighty God -- and to make the message of God's love and grace known to every life we touch, just as he did.

I suppose, if the truth were known, the greatest apprehension of my existence, and it ought to be the greatest apprehension of yours as well, is to know that some day, at some hour, will come the time of judgement; and I'm persuaded that one of the essential questions Christ will hold me accountable for will be this: he will ask: *"when your fellow men looked at your life, was it a prism through which I could be seen?"* How will the people who are touched and influenced by our life answer that question? How will the people in your family answer it? How will those with whom you work answer it?

The world you are entering as graduates will offer you any number of measuring sticks -- criteria by which you will be told you are to measure your success. Some will tell you it's power; how much of it you have over how many people. Some will tell you it's money; what kind of automobile you drive, and what kind of house you live in. Others will tell you it's being on the "winning side", whatever side that happens to be. And yet others will tell you it's being "politically correct", or having the proper digress from the proper

schools, or being "socially successful" in the right circles. You will be offered any number of so called "bottom lines" when it comes to measuring "success".

But I submit to you, in the final analysis, there is only one bottom line, only one measuring device that counts, and it is this: *Are you living your life in a way that gives glory and honor and praise to Almighty God who created you? -- and are the people whose lives you touch more aware of the knowledge, and grace and love of God because of you?*

Unfortunately, we all too often loose our focus. That is to say, that with so many bogus measures of success bombarding us every day in this "post Christian" world, we are in constant danger of losing sight of our real lives. And while we give lip service to the primacy of God in our lives, were more inclined to value things, and winning, and fame, and control, and popularity, and a whole list of things that can never really matter when finally we come face to face with the judgement of God. So how are we to stay focused on our *true* lives with so many other siren calls of the world ringing in our ears? When our entire peer group is offering a different direction?

Perhaps the answer is to be found in us -- not in any one of us alone, but in all of us together.

While it is true that God can get along quite well without any effort from us, it is not true that we can remain focused on the true nature of the *why* and the *how* of our lives without the support of each other. Without the faith community we call "the Church". But with each other we have a chance of keeping our focus on the real why of life -- which is Jesus Christ. And together then, we can, and will discover, the how of life -- and then the High Priestly prayer of Jesus can become our own, and we too can say with him: (Father), "I have given you glory on earth by doing the work that you have given me to do. I have made your name known to those you gave me."
+ Amen.



Ruth Clem's Memorial Service "Eulogy"

presented by
Alan "Cub" Clem,
"Old Boy" Class of '46

On behalf of Ruth's family, I want to express our deep appreciation to Captain McAlexander and Father Cox for making this memorial service a part of St. John's commencement celebrations. Dad and Ruth would be gratified to be remembered in this way during this very busy and important weekend, when so many of their friends are gathered.

Ruth Bassett was born on September 26, 1904, in Brookline, Massachusetts, grew up in Waterloo, Iowa, and moved with her parents to Chicago in the early 1920s. There she continued her training in music, and sang for more than twenty years in concerts and oratorios and on that new phenomenon, radio. In going through Ruth's mementos last year, we found a large

manila envelope containing letters from dozens of listeners to NBC Sunday musical programs who had written to express their pleasure in listening to Ruth's voice. Music was an important part of Ruth's life -- she disciplined herself to develop this special talent, and she set high standards for herself. In this way, she made her long and happy life more meaningful; she extended herself, and by so doing, she extended others. She wanted each person she knew to have the joy and satisfaction of excelling in some way, and she did everything she could to bring out the best in each friend, each relative, each cadet.

Some time after my mother's death in 1949, Dad's sister Rachael, another member of the Chicago music community, arranged for Dad and Ruth to meet. Romance blossomed, and Dad and Ruth were married in this chapel on February 5, 1951. I first met Ruth when she came from her home in Chicago to Salina to be married. I was working in Lincoln at the time, less than a year out of college, and Dad and Ruth contrived that she would take the train from Chicago to Lincoln, where

I met her at the station and drove her on to Salina. There were, I am sure, faster and easier ways to get to Salina, but doing it this way made me feel involved. I marvel again at her thoughtfulness in giving the two of us an experience to share. I am sure many of her friends remember similar acts of thoughtfulness. They were expressions of Ruth's deep loyalty to persons and institutions in whom she had confidence.

Ruth built special relationships with each person. She was genuinely pleased when we succeeded, and she genuinely suffered when we did not. She always helped. She picked us up in life's occasional dark passages. She felt sorrow for us, but she did not let us feel sorry for ourselves. She reminded us that there was more to come, and more to do.

Dad and Ruth had four homes in the nearly forty years they were together -- the apartment on the second floor of grand old Vail Hall, the campus bungalow, the house they built on Bucknell in Denver, and their condominium in Aurora. The family and the entire St. John's community were always welcome --

Weekend

**"Old Boy"
and close
friend
D. Dale
Browning
also gave an
Eulogy
during the
memorial
service.**

bishops, senators, trustees, faculty colleagues, grandchildren, old boys, and cadets down to and including the homesick sixth-grader.

Ruth made Dad's life wonderful. How they relished the daily challenges of St. John's, following the careers and families of those they had nurtured and loved, traveling together over the world, building their homes.

Ruth used to tell me how lucky she was to have married Dad and to have become part of his family and this community. I assured her as emphatically as I could that the feeling was entirely mutual. We were lucky. We are so concerned about the plight of children who have just one parent; my sister and I were blessed with three.

Her grace, her discipline, her constantly positive and helpful way of looking at things, her love and concern for others-- these are the reasons Ruth will always mean so much to those who knew her.

- Alan Clem

***Cadet John Carrillo, serving
as Torch Bearer in the
Memorial Service.***



SPECIAL ORDERS -Promotions

Special Orders from the Military Department are a daily occurrence by Commandant LTC Furlo, and following are Special Orders reference promotions, issued between the April issue of The Skirmisher and the end of the school year, by order of Captain McAlexander, President.

SO 424-96 dated 4/30/96

Joshua Brundage to PV1.

SO 425-96 dated 5/1/96 (Senior Promotions)

Fernando Gutierrez to COL; Christopher Muhr to LTC; Paul Gorsline and Eduardo to MAJ; Carlos Bejarano, Thomas BonAnno, Zachary Cruz and Matthew Weygandt to CPT; Daniel Snider and Troy Porter to 2LT; Joshua Reynolds and Michael O'Halloran to MSG; John Connett, Efrén Murrieta, James Dishon, Michael Hummel and Russell Davis to SFC; Frank Kuechenmeister and Jason Palenske to SSG; and Jeffrey Ewert, Garret Hensing and William Smithback to SGT.

SO 427-96 dated 5/1/96

Luke Gloystein, John Krotz, Michael Mosher and Lee Perry to PV1.

SO 428-96 dated 5/1/96

Travis Langdon, Christopher Schmidt, Clayton Tyre and Daniel Westgate to PFC; Taylor Marshall to PV2.

SO 430-96 dated 5/2/96

Robert Cefarelli, Harvey Cole, Michael George and Traevion Harvey to PFC ; James Bennett, Charlie Dickinson and Shelby Field to PV2.

SO 431-96 dated 5/3/96

Frankie Hyatt to PVC; Austin Cox, Carlos Machado, Michael Mosher, David O'Day and Jesse Waugaman to PV2.

SO 432-96 dated 5/3/96

Daryl Banzet to PV1.

SO 440-96 dated 5/9/96

Reagan Reese and Rodger Shriver to SSG.

SO 443-96 dated 5/10/96

Carson Brusch, Jeffrey Putnam, Shane Sehnert and Richard Shield to PFC; Neil Fitzgerald and Brian Shanafelt to CPL; John Krotz to PV2.

SO 444-96 dated 5/12/96

Shaun Dumas, Cortland Dunn, Taylor Johnson, Cameron Oertel, W. James Stalder and Jeffrey Wagstaff to SGT; Ryan Levitan, Michael Stewart, Benjamin Warren and Richard Williams to SSG; Michael E. Harris to SFC.

SO 457-96 dated 5/16/96

John Coleman, Brandon Kroll, Luke Seeley, Ty Tatman, Maurice Thompson and David Walker to CPL.

SO 461-96 dated 5/17/96

Joseph Gabel, Adam Kornitzer, Jake Solbakken and Matthew Spritz to CPL; Christopher Moss to PFC.

Along with above article on Special Orders for Promotions, shown is Cadet Frankie Hyatt of Vancouver, Washington, being promoted to the rank of Private First Class for attaining a perfect score on the "Old Boy" test.



**Check out the SJMS
Home Page at
[http://
sjms.pvt.k12.ks.us](http://sjms.pvt.k12.ks.us)**

Diane Creek completes Practicum

A student at Kansas State, Diane Creek completed her social work practicum at St. John's, doing her internship under the direction of Susan Jednoralski, the school's social worker during the second semester.

Social work is not Diane's only interest. She and her husband Terry live in Abilene and are in the Grey Hound business. They have two children and she makes time to attend sporting events her children are involved in.

Her energy and friendliness will be missed at St. John's and we know she'll be great in her chosen career.



Sharon Girard joins Office Staff

With only two weeks remaining before the busy Commencement Weekend, the business office staff was thrilled to welcome Sharon Girard to the Receptionist position. Linda Grau, deciding to go back to school full time, found it necessary to resign from the receptionist position before the end of the school year in order to get enrolled and moved in time for her summer session.

A native Salinan, Sharon returns home after living in Atlanta, Georgia for 10 years. Her mother and son both live in Salina so it has been a good move for her. Before moving to Atlanta, many Salinans will remember her from Suburban TV where she worked for several years. She enjoys numerous sports in her free time.

Welcome aboard, Sharon!



Cadets get close 2nd in Track Invitational

On April 26 the SJMS Varsity Track Squad traveled to Russell to compete in the Lucas-Luray Invitational. The squad finished an extremely close second out of a field of eleven teams with the decision between first and second literally coming down to the last event of the day. With a score of 101 1/2 total team points this marks the highest score a SJMS team has achieved during the three years that Coaches Keith and Walker have been at St. John's.

Those scoring points for the team include:

John Connett, 6th, javelin

*John Connett, 6th, shot put 36' 3 1/4"

Stephen Streeter, 6th, discus

*Joe Miller, 5th, triple jump 33' 3 1/2"

Charlie Dickinson, 5th, high jump

Jeff Wagstaff, 6th, 110 m high hurdles

Charlie Dickinson, 5th, 110 m high hurdles

William Smithback, 4th, 100 m dash

Cortland Dunn, 6th, 400 m dash

Aaron Lyons, 4th, 200 m dash

Bobby Bearden, 4th, 800 m run

*William Smithback, 4th, 300 m hurdles 45.13

Mark Triebwasser, 4th, 3200 m run and 4th, 1600 m run.

Those cadets who medaled for the team include:

Rodger Shriver, 3rd, high jump

William Smithback, 3rd, 110 m high hurdles

*Aaron Lyons, 2nd, 100 m dash 11.54

Matt Richardson, 3rd, 400 m dash

Carlos Bejarano, 1st, 800 m run and 2nd, 1600 m run

Bejarano/Bearden/Dunn/Shriver, 1st, 3200 m relay

Smithback/Ewert/Richardson/Lyons, 1st, 400 m relay

Bejarano/Bearden/Dunn/Richardson, 1st, 1600 m relay

*denotes a recent SJMS Track record

Coach Keith and Walker want to congratulate not only these athletes but the entire team for their hard work and success.

Fourth Grading Period Honors are Announced

Congratulations to the
BLUE BERETS

Upper School:

Bobby Ray Bearden

Adam Kornitzer

Alejandro McKula

Middle School:

Kelly Coggins

Phillip Davis

Fernando Wiggins

HONOR ROLL:

Making the Academic Dean's Honor Roll for the Fourth Grading Period from the Upper School are Bobby Bearden 98.21; Adam Kornitzer 97.94; Alejandro McKula 97.82; David Anderson 97.62; Matthew Beynon, 97.46; Nathan Bilotte 97.23; Carson Brusch 96.74; Douglas Morrison 96.29; Mark Triebwasser 96.16; Cortland Dunn 96.13; Morgan Goldberg 96.02; Reagan Reese 95.23; Paul Vieni 95.09; Rafael Llorente 94.85; Erik Carlsten 94.74; Zachary Cruz 94.68; James Winans 94.19; Matthew Richardson 94.08; Joseph Miller 94.06; Shaun Dumas 93.68; Marcel Leichle 93.64 and Frank Kuechenmiester 93.56.

Making the Middle School Honor Roll are Kelly Coggins 96.32; Phillip Davis 93.91 and Fernando Wiggins 93.61.

HONORABLE MENTION:

Making Honorable Mention from the Upper School are Patrick Farris 93.37; Stephen Streeter 93.16; Jeremy Huscher 92.88; Christopher Ramias 92.46; Eduardo McKula 92.28; Lee Price, 92.13; Matthew Weygandt 92.02; Gary Dunmire 91.77; Carlos Bejarano 91.45; Nicholas Otomo 91.39; Jason Palenske 91.31; Thomas BonAnno 90.84; Fernando Gutierrez 90.65; Jake Solbakken 90.59; David O'Day 90.41; Brandon Kroll 90.41; Michael Rolle 89.98; Evan Callaway 89.87; Nathan Shires 89.40; Jeffrey Ewert 89.01; Justin Vondrak 88.85 and Andy McNaughten 88.65.

From the Middle School are John Coleman 93.06; Michael 'Scott' Rideout 92.84; Edwin "Andrew" DeYoung 92.81; Jacob "Brandon" Thomas 92.45; Lee Perry 92.22; Raymond Wakefield 92.22; Michael Leonard 91.99; Christopher Schmidt 91.80; Hunter Cole 91.74; Michael George 91.21; Jonathan DuPuis 91.09; John Krotz 89.21; John Samuel 89.16 and Maurice Thompson 88.94.

Our congratulations to these cadets for a job well done!

Final Team Standings:

Waconda East 108,
SJMS 101 1/2,
Kensington 92,
Wilson 82,
Lucas-Luray 42 1/2,
Lincoln 28,
Palco 25,
Eastern Heights 20,
Sylvan 18,
Chase 13 and
Natoma 12.

Commandant

(Continued from page 2)

nies he would return to his permanent Corps rank and compete for promotions in the normal manner. Thus, those cadets returning to "line" companies would be required to meet the established promotion guidelines that were explained in a previous Skirmisher article. For those cadets in "line" company leadership positions who are also members of the band there will be no changes to current policies regarding their promotions or participation in a particular activity. We are hopeful the new system will allow those cadets with special skills to advance and mature within our military-style structure. At the same time, this new system would not impede the potential of our other cadets who would continue under our traditional promotion system.

Rifle Team Honored

On 25 April the Rifle Team attended the North Central Kansas Galley League awards banquet in Longford, Kansas. In the Marksman class of shooters there are 26 shooters. SJMS cadets took four places. Cadet Morrison placed first, Cadet Rutherford placed third, Cadet O'Halloran placed fifth and Cadet Winans placed eighth. Good job Cadets!

Eduardo McKula Kansas Governor's Scholar

Saline County's top high school seniors were honored by the Salina Journal.

This year, 16 students in Saline County were named Governor's Scholars, which means they are the academic top one percent of high school seniors in the state. Students with the top grade at their school after seven semesters are given the honor.

Naming his father as someone who greatly influenced him, senior Eduardo McKula from Mexico City was St. John's honoree. Captain of the Rifle Team and President of N.H.S. this year, Eduardo plans to attend the Monterey (Calif.) Institute of International Studies and plans a career in computer engineering.

Congratulations, Eduardo!

**Mark your Calendar for
the
Annual Mule-skinner
Golf Tournament and
Steak Feed
Friday, August 9**



Under the direction of Ms. Tammi O'Neil's husband, students enjoyed their earth science class when they made and launched their handmade rockets. There were a few surprises, and of course, everyone thought their creation was the best, regardless of the end result.

*Shown in front are
Rusty Davis and Joe
Miller.*

School Calendar 1996-97

| | |
|--|--|
| 09 August (Friday) | Muleskinner |
| 15-16 August (Thursday/Friday) | Military Inservice |
| 18 August (Sunday) | OSCNCO School Begins |
| 19 August (Monday) | Football Practice Begins |
| 26 August (Monday) | General Faculty/Staff Inservice (0900 hrs) |
| 31 August (Saturday) | Registration of all New Boys (0800-1600 hrs) |
| 01 September (Sunday) | Registration of all Old Boys (0800-1600 hrs) |
| 02 September (Monday) | First day of classes (P.M. classes) A.M. to complete inprocessing |
| 06 September (Friday) | First Varsity Football Game |
| 11-13 October (Friday-Saturday-Sunday) | Parent Weekend |
| 25 October (Friday) | End of First Grading Period |
| 26 October (Saturday) | ACT Test Date |
| 02 November (Saturday) | SAT Test Date |
| 27 November (Wednesday) | Thanksgiving Break Begins (0500 hrs) |
| 01 December (Sunday) | Thanksgiving Break Ends (2000 hrs) |
| 13 December (Friday) | End of Second Grading Period |
| 15 December (Sunday) | Cadet/Faculty/Staff Christmas Dinner (1300 hrs) |
| 16-18 December | SEMESTER EXAMS |
| 18 December (Wednesday) | End of First Semester |
| 19 December (Thursday) | Christmas Break Begins (0500 hrs) |
| 05 January (Sunday) | Christmas Break Ends (2000 hrs) |
| 06 January (Monday) | Second Semester & Third Grading Period Begins |
| 26 January (Sunday) | MacArthur Award Ceremony (1400 hrs) |
| 29 January (Wednesday) | Winter Carnival |
| 14 March (Friday) | End of Third Grading Period |
| 17 March (Monday) | Begin Fourth Grading Period |
| 27 March (Thursday) | Spring Break Begins (0500 hrs) |
| 06 April (Sunday) | Spring Break Ends (2000 hrs) |
| 12 April (Saturday) | ACT Test Date |
| 22 April (Tuesday) | Regional Formal Inspection |
| 03 May (Saturday) | SAT Test Date |
| 12 May (Monday) | Fourth Grading Period Ends |
| 13-15 May | SEMESTER EXAMS |
| 16 May (Friday) | A.M. Only Final Exam Make-Ups |
| 16-18 May (Friday-Saturday-Sunday) | Commencement Weekend |

Admissions has Home Page

Recruitment process in full swing.

Admissions is not taking the summer off. Staff members plan to keep in touch with their contacts by telephone and will be busy conducting campus tours for prospective parents and students.

Telephone inquiries and mail inquiries - **move over**. The staff is now on the Internet to look for new students and to keep in contact with St. John's alumni and friends.

Check out the SJMS Home Page at

<http://sjms.pvt.k12.ks.us>

SUMMER RECEPTIONS SCHEDULED

In an attempt to reach as many of those who have inquired about St. John's as possible, and to renew old acquaintances, we have scheduled a full round of receptions during July and August. Dates, times and locations are listed:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| July 14, 1996, Sunday, 3-5 PM | Overland Park Marriott, Overland Park, KS |
| July 19, 1996, Friday, 7-9 PM | Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills, Tulsa, OK |
| July 20, 1996, Saturday, 7-9 PM | Oklahoma City Marriott, Oklahoma City, OK |
| July 21, 1996, Sunday, 3-5 PM | Wichita Marriott, Wichita, KS |
| July 21, 1996, Sunday, 7-9 PM | Scottsdale Marriott Suites, Scottsdale, AZ |
| July 28, 1996, Sunday 7-9 PM | Denver Marriott Southeast, Denver, CO |
| August 9, 1996, Friday 7-9 PM | Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, Houston, TX |
| August 11, 1996, Sunday 7-9 PM | DFW Airport Marriott, Irving, TX |

Summer Camps

St. John's Military School will host two summer camps. The camps will be available to Cadets entering the 8th grade through the 12th grade. The first camp will consist of a basketball camp under the direction of SFC Roy Lawrence. The basketball camp will run from July 15 through July 20. The cost is \$275.00 per camper overnight; day campers will be \$200.00.

Immediately following we will have an academic camp for 4 weeks with a driver training course running simultaneously. The camp will offer one-half high school credit in American History and will include field trips to various locations of historic interest in Kansas. The camp will be directed by ISG Amon Tidmore with Mike Keith teaching the history class and Doug Randolph in charge of the driver training course. The camp will run from July 21 through August 18 with Leadership Camp and Football Practice following on August 19 for the 1996-97 school year. The cost of the academic camp is \$2,199.00 with additional \$300.00 for the drivers training course. If you have any questions feel free to give one of the directors a call at 913 823-7231.

Faculty/Staff/ Parent/Varsity Golf Scramble

To end the school year on a fun note, a Golf Scramble was held comprising of the Varsity Golf Team and members of the St. John's family.

The winning foursome was Cadet Rick Williams III, his father Rick Williams II, Cadet Aaron Cowdin and Fr. Jim Cox.

LTC Furlo and SFC Lawrence appear to be in deep concentration, don't they?



The SKIRMISHER

The Skirmisher is the official publication of SJMS and is published bi-monthly by the Media Club Cadets, with Mrs. Sheri Becker, Advisor.

PRESIDENT, Garrett Hensing

**St. John's Military School
PO Box 827
Salina, KS 67402-0827
Phone 913 823-7231
FAX 913 823-7236**

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

James Garvey, '68

**25-27 Peck Slip
NYC, NY 10038**

Writes -- "My sincere regards to Major Loy. My tribute to someone who has been an ongoing inspiration for the understanding that is needed to be an effective teacher without doing harm." He then writes that he would not be able to attend this year's commencement.

Thomas Fiske, Atten '70-72

E-Mail from

**Thoma@emin02.mail.aol.com
(sparky@prtcl.com)**

RR1, Box 161

Ashby MN 56309

"We have fallen out of touch, perhaps because I have relocated to the northern prairie."

Fiske is a farmer/equestrian/dairyman in Minnesota and teaches school occasionally. He would like to get back in touch, also asked about Michale Dale Turner. **Can anyone provide us with Turner's address?**

Ernesto "Ernie" Anaya, '75

E-Mail address:

ErnestoJAL@aol.com

Ernie E-Mails to the Skirmisher and to classmate Dana Tretheway.

"I am originally from Ponce, Puerto Rico. I graduated from SJMS in 1975 along with my twin brother Abel. My other two brothers, Arnaldo and Ariel (also twins) are members of the class of 1979.

"I just received a copy of the Skirmisher and found out about your e-mail address. It's always great to hear what's up at SJMS and to hear what our "Old Boys" are up to these days. So here is what I have been up to.

"Since graduating from SJMS I received a B.A. degree in Physics & Astronomy, as well as a second degree in Latin American Studies from the University of Mississippi. At Ole Miss, I was the Regimental Commander of the Army ROTC

Corps of Cadets, and upon graduation accepted a commission as a 2LT in Field Artillery. I was assigned to the 1/82d FA, First Cavalry Division at Ft. Hood, Texas. I am also married to a wonderful lady, the former Becky Berry from Jackson, Mississippi, whom I met at Ole Miss.

"Since completing my tour of duty, I have pursued a business career. I have an MBA from Michigan State University and I am currently a sales executive with Eastman Kodak Company in Columbus, Ohio.

"I would like to congratulate your new graduates and wish them great success in the future. I would be very interested in finding out more about the class of 1975."

Hal Dowhower, '75

E-Mail -

hdowhowe@pionet.net

Hal sent a note by E-Mail to say thank you for the Skirmisher. He likes the E-Mail saying "it is a nice way to keep in touch with SJMS. Please say Hi to everyone for me."

Mike Hall, '75

PO Box 136147

Lake Worth TX 76136

Phone (817) 732-4909

Mike writes to the Skirmisher by E-Mail.

"Just wanted to drop a note to everyone and say hello. I'm living in Ft. Worth and am working for American Eagle at the DFW airport." Mike asked if the Alumni Office had heard from anyone from the Class of 84. He would like to have their addresses and can be E-mailed at ALT2000@aol.com.

"SJMS WITH A HOME PAGE. WOW!"

Joshua Chambers, Atten. '90

**4255 Westshore Way #I-30
Ft. Collins CO 80525**

Graduated from Colorado State University on May 10, 1996 with a B.S. degree in Chemical

Engineering with minors in Environmental Engineering & Chemistry. He has accepted a job with UOP based in Chicago and will start on July 25 in Process Control Engineering. He married in 1994, and he and Erin are expecting a baby the first of July.

REMINDER:

Darren Johnson, Old Boy '91, is developing an E-Mail Address List for SJMS alumni and faculty. To add your name and address to the list go to the <http://www.dallas.net/~djohnson>. Darren's E-Mail address is djohnson@dallas.net. See the February and April issues for a complete listing to date. As more is received, we will share them with you in The Skirmisher.

SCENES with "Old Boy" Reception



At top, retired M/Sgt Dwight Woodall attends reception. In center, retired TACS Bill Bunting and Ben Titus get SJMS t-shirts from Capt. McAlexander. At bottom, Dr. James Manard, Class of '41, gets recognition as oldest "Old Boy" in attendance.