



Vol. XXIX, No. 1
Spring 2008

C of E NEWS

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

The Board of your Alumni Association has unanimously approved the creation of the C of E Athletic Hall of Fame. A nine-member committee has been hard at work preparing criteria, structure and procedures for the Hall. A nomination form may be found in this issue of your newsletter.

Nominations will be accepted until November 1, 2008. The names of the initial inductees will be announced in December. The induction ceremony will occur at the next national C of E Reunion slated for the summer of 2010. Additional nomination forms may be secured from the C of E website or by written request or by making copies of the form in this newsletter. Instructions for submission of the completed nomination are printed on the form.

The Hall of Fame is being formed to honor "Outstanding individuals who, through their exceptional athletic achievement and contributions, brought honor to themselves, their school and their community."

To be considered for induction, an individual must have completed at least two years at C of E and earned an athletic letter in either football, basketball, baseball, tennis, track & field or golf. Inductees will be chosen by majority vote of a seven-member selection committee.

Each inductee will be given a Hall of Fame certificate, and each name will be enshrined in both an Inductee booklet and the virtual Hall of Fame that will be a part of the C of E website.

C of E alumni are strongly urged to think about possible nominees and to submit nominations.

Honored at Shawnee Mission North High School

Shawnee Mission North High School in Overland Park, KS, is celebrating its rich athletic history by establishing a Coaches Hall of Fame. The first inductees were honored February 22, 2008.

One of the initial four members of this Hall of Fame was C of E alumnus Larry Taylor '60. Larry had a very successful

tenure as Shawnee Mission North's football coach. He won multiple state football championships including the first ever Kansas State Championship football game in 1969. In 1989 Larry was inducted into the Kansas State High School Activities Hall of Fame as a coach. The football field at Shawnee Mission North is now named Larry Taylor Field.

NEW EDITOR

John Acomb '64 has been named as the new editor of this newsletter. News items should continue to be sent to PO Box 405, Emporia, KS 66801.

If you prefer e-mail, news items can be sent either to Gwen Lorenz, Vice President for Membership, cofglorenz@hotmail.com or to John Acomb jacomb2@mac.com.

President's Letter

It is a pleasure and an honor to serve our great C of E Nation as 2008 President of the C of E Alumni Association. Tommy Lasorda, the great Los Angeles Dodgers manager, used to say that he bled "blue blood," the predominant color of his baseball team. Well, I really do bleed red blood, the predominant C of E color. In fact, I may well have left some of my red blood on Schaffner Field during my football playing days.

2007 marked the 125th anniversary of the founding of the College of Emporia. Your alumni association marked the occasion with the donation of a memorial bench at the corner of 15th and Chestnut in Emporia. I encourage each of you to visit this bench that sits in recognition and remembrance of all C of E students, faculty and friends of the college who were a part of the C of E family over the school's 92 year history.

Former C of E basketball coach Bob Johnson was inducted into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame in March 2007. A number of C of E alumni attended the awards banquet to witness this wonderful ceremony.

Last July, 293 Fighting Presbies were in attendance at the Marriott Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas, at our "best-ever reunion." Throughout the weekend, attendees were reconnecting and sharing both C of E memories and updates on post-college lives. More than once I heard, "The best four years of my life were at C of E."

Last January, your alumni association met in Emporia with over 25 people in attendance. We are making plans to take the next step in keeping the great C of E spirit rolling. A committee headed by John "Scat" Howland and Wendell Derritt has been formed to establish a C of E Athletic Hall of Fame. The board also hopes to see the establishment of fine arts and academic halls of fame. We need someone to step up to form a committee to get this started. There are plans being put in place for another reunion in 2010. At that reunion we will be honoring our Hall of Fame selections.

The alumni association has also voted to increase the amount of money awarded annually by our scholarship fund in order to assist more applicants. This fund has awarded over \$40,000 in college scholarships in the last four years to descendants of former C of E students and/or employees. I would like to encourage you to make a tax-deductible gift to our scholarship fund.

Gwen Lorenz reported that we have gained 29 new dues-paying members since our July reunion. I encourage all of you to keep your membership active. What a bargain at only ten dollars a year! The year that your membership expires can be found above your name on your address label. Remember that you are the ones that make our membership strong by keeping dues current, attending reunions and sending in news for this newsletter. This association will keep us connected for many years to come. I want to add that, even if you did not graduate from C of E, you still need to be in our group. Even if you only attended for a year, it's true that once you are a Presby, you will always be a Presby.

I'll close with a quote from Skip DeVilling '66, First Team All-KCAC defensive tackle who told us, "Truly, the only things we have of C of E are the memories of our short time there. Our only new memories are the ones we will create amongst ourselves."

C of E Fights!

Jim Mathis

Class of 1961

The class with the white rock.

(This rock is awarded to the class with the highest attendance at reunions.)

C of E Alumni Summer Picnic

DATE & TIME:

Saturday, July 19, 2008, at Noon

LOCATION:

**First Baptist Church "HIS" Place
807 Constitution, Emporia, KS**



All C of E alumni and their families are invited to a covered dish picnic to be held following the regular meeting of the C of E Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Please bring one covered dish per

person for the picnic. Drinks and all tableware will be provided.

If you will be in the Emporia area on July 19, come to join the group and catch up with friends and with the activities of your alumni association.

**Your Alumni Association Board meeting begins at 10:00 am at the church.
Interested alumni are encouraged to attend.**

Mathis in Tennis Hall of Fame

Jim Mathis '61 was one of two 2007 inductees into the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Heart of America District Hall of Fame. The November induction ceremony, held at the Milano Restaurant in the Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri, recognized a lifetime of contributions to organized tennis.

Mathis, current President of the C of E Alumni Association, was characterized as "the founding father of organized tennis in Leavenworth." He was a three-time tennis letterman at C of E who accepted a teaching position at Leavenworth High School four years after graduating from C of E. He started the first tennis team at Leavenworth and built a successful program that continues today.

Jim's entire tennis coaching career was at Leavenworth. He coached there for 28 seasons and retired from coaching in 1995. He continues to be involved in playing and promoting the game. (Those who have participated in tennis at the C of E reunions will attest to the fact that Jim has indeed retained

some of his tennis skills.)

Mathis had already been inducted in 1998 into the Kansas Tennis Coaches Hall of Fame. In 1979 he was named as Kansas coach of the year. During his tenure his teams were consistently strong. At one point they won six consecutive league championships. While coaching, Jim took 35 players to the KSHSAA championships.

Many of Jim's former players made it a point to be present at the induction ceremony. Characteristically, Mathis deflected the spotlight from himself to the game of tennis. He stated, "This isn't about me. This is for Leavenworth. There's still more work to be done to raise the level of tennis in this area."



Jim and Barbara Mathis with Tennis Hall of Fame Plaque.

Scholarship Awards Increased

The College of Emporia Alumni Association administers a scholarship fund to assist the college educations of the descendants of individuals who attended or worked for C of E. The fund continues to grow thanks to wise fund management and continuing contributions from members of the alumni association. The fund balance as of January 1, 2008, was \$110,067.74.

Each year the fund has awarded four scholarships of \$2,500 each to deserving individuals. These recipients are selected from a pool of 20 to 30 applications received annually.

At its January meeting the alumni association's board decided to increase the number of \$2,500 scholarships awarded annually to six. Raising the amount of money awarded to \$15,000 per year reflects an acknowledgement of the number of applicants and of the fund's growth.

Interested individuals may obtain a scholarship application form and instructions from the scholarship link on the C of E website www.c-of-e.org. Applications may also be obtained by writing PO Box 405, Emporia, KS 66801 or by calling (620) 342-0215 or (620) 342-3112.

Applications are due April 1 of each Year.

Knute Rockne Connection

On March 31, 1931, TWA Flight 599 bound for Los Angeles crashed about ten miles south of Cottonwood Falls, KS. All eight on board, including Knute Rockne the legendary Notre Dame football coach, died.

One of the first to reach the scene of the crash was 13-year-old James Easter Heathman, father of Gordon Heathman '61. The effects of being on this scene lasted for a lifetime.

For the rest of his life, Easter Heathman helped to maintain the memorial at the crash site. He often led memorial services held at the site on the anniversary of the crash. Heathman recently died in an Emporia Hospital at age 90.

Gordon Heathman continues to live on his farm in Cottonwood Falls.

For Sale - Anderson Library

Preparations are underway for putting the Anderson Memorial Library up for sale. The building is presently owned by Emporia State University. It has housed the university's archives. Those are now being transferred back to the William Allen White Library on the ESU campus.

This transfer has been made possible by the acquisition of an automated storage and retrieval system now installed in the White Library. This allows a space to hold a significantly larger volume of materials without sacrificing accessibility.

Since the Anderson Library is on the National Register of

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C of E Athletic Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Nominee's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ E-Mail _____

Years Attended _____

Award Selection: (check at least one)

Athlete (post-1950) – Career Statistics: Honors including conference, regional, All-American and other national awards

Meritorious Service – Exceptional contributions or service to the athletic program by someone who is neither a coach nor an athlete such as team managers or cheerleaders

Coach (post – 1950) -- Career record & length of tenure: Accomplishments including conference championships, undefeated seasons and post-season success

Post-Graduate Athletic Achievement – Athletes or coaches recognized for outstanding athletic achievements occurring after departure from C of E

Legacy Award – Outstanding athletes or coaches (1895-1950)

DESCRIPTION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS/CONTRIBUTIONS (Attach second page, if necessary)

Nominated by: Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ E-Mail _____

Submit no later than November 1, 2008 to:

College of Emporia Alumni Association

C/o Athletic Hall of Fame

P. O. Box 405

Emporia, KS 66801

Note: To nominate more than one person, make an extra copy of this form for each nominee

Membership Information for the College of Emporia Alumni Association, Inc.

Please write legibly. Make checks payable to the C. of E. Alumni Association.

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Maiden Name	*C. of E. Class
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Spouse's Info	Spouse's First Name	Middle Initial	Maiden Name	*C. of E. Class
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Street/Mailing Address	City	State	ZIP + 4
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Phone #	E-mail
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*C. of E. Class is the graduation year of the class with which students were associated, whether or not they graduated. Please use prefix "A" for alumnus, or "X" for former student or non graduate. "O" here means did not attend.

Membership dues (\$10 per year per member): Number of memberships: _____ For Years _____

Total for Membership \$ _____ Scholarship Fund (Voluntary) \$ _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

Mail to:

The College of Emporia Alumni Association, Inc., P.O. Box 405, Emporia, KS 66801-0405

Christmas At The White House

The theme for the 2007 Christmas celebration at the White House was, "Holiday in the National Parks." The official White House Christmas tree stood in the Blue Room. It was decorated with 347 ornaments that represented America's national parks, memorials, seashores, historic sites and monuments. Gayle (Rundell) Sleznick '61 created one of these ornaments. It depicted scenes from the Pinnacles National Monument.

Gayle was present at the official unveiling of the 2007 White House Christmas. Her ornament can be viewed at www.whitehouse.gov/holiday/2007. It is #257 on the ornament slideshow.

Gayle has had a full career as an artist. She has also founded an art gallery. She credits her career as an artist to an awakening of her talent that occurred while she was a student at the College of Emporia. She took a course entitled

"Teaching Art in the Elementary School" which created her initial spark of interest. Subsequently, she took an independent study course under faculty member George Crocker. She was required to create fifteen sketches at a time that were then critiqued by Mr. Crocker. At the conclusion of a semester of sketches and critiques, Gayle states, "The seed was planted."

All of Gayle's life has been spent in and around national parks. Her father retired from the National Park Service, and her husband, Jim, served as park superintendent at Pinnacles from 1986 to 1994. Obviously, this connection made the Christmas ornament project very special to Gayle. After Christmas the ornaments remained as part of the permanent White House ornament collection. Another of Gayle's works of art, a painting, hangs permanently in the White House Historical Association offices in Washington, DC.

Anderson Library cont.

Historic Places, permission to sell needed to be obtained from the Kansas Legislature. The bill allowing the sale was passed and signed into law in 2007.

As a part of the preparations for the sale of the building, historians at ESU have photographically documented every legible signature of C of E graduates that can still be found in the interior of building's dome. The intention of these historians is to eventually put all of these signatures on an ESU website. This might be an interactive site that would allow viewers to post information of interest about individual signers. Cur-

rently, no timeline has been established for the creation of this website.

The Anderson Memorial Library, funded by a grant from Andrew Carnegie, opened in 1902. The grant was the very first that Carnegie made to an institution of higher learning in the United States. It was also the first Carnegie library grant awarded in the state of Kansas. The building is named for Col. John B. Anderson, a mentor to Carnegie.

The asking price for this historic building has not as yet been determined. The new owner might need to comply with requirements relating to the National Historic Register and to accessibility laws.

C.R. "Bob" Meyer, X39, and Peggy (Cole) Meyer, X39, of Naples, FL, write, "We each had our 90th birthday [in 2007] and in October celebrated our 68th wedding anniversary."

Thelma (Stout) White, A52, Lakin, KS, sent a note along with her dues. "Thanks for keeping up the Newsletter. I really enjoy it. It's been a long time since I graduated in 1952, and I am fighting macular degeneration so I can keep on reading. Reading (in my case) is the first thing to go. But like everyone else with it, I write big and use lots of magnifying glasses. Still cheerful, however."

W. Lawrence Travers, A65, wrote in September, "It is hard to believe 7 years have past since the 2000 reunion. After living in the bright lights of Times

Square and Broadway in Manhattan for three years, I hit the road again with extended stays in China and Russia. I am now back in central New York State in Camillus as a 'home base' when not traveling. I will probably relocate to Montreal, Quebec, once my Canadian residency application is completed." His email address is WLawrenceTravers@aol.com.

Gene Johnson, A67, and Gae (Amstutz), A65, Johnson, Beulah, MI, sent in dues and an update. Gae is "still employed at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, MI, working in the recovery room, and I really enjoy my job and the people with whom I work. Every day is exciting and different. Gene is

cont. on pg. 6

still at Home Depot and, like me, cannot imagine not having something to do and some place to go. Michigan is lovely and the new 6" of snow that just fell [December 29] makes it seem so fresh. Our door is open for visitors—come on up." Their email address is geneandgae@yahoo.com.

Robert "Bob" Aman, A68, Emporia, received his BME degree in December 1967 and immediately went into teaching. In May 2006 he retired after 25 years as special education teacher at Emporia High School and 38.5 years in education. But he wasn't ready to retire—he went over to Emporia State University and joined the Psychology and Special Education Department as instructor and advisor to both graduate and undergraduate students. In only his second year he received the "You Make a Difference" award in August, 2007. Congratulations Bob! His email is raman@emporia.edu.

Cynthia "Cyndi" (Allen) Huisman, X73, Petaluma, CA, wrote, "I attended C of E as a member of the class of 1973. I left C of E in 1971, intending to transfer to E-State to finish my undergrad work and specialize in Special Ed. Unfortunately, that did not happen....I have been Mrs. David Huisman for 19

years....I love reading the newsletter and am always so impressed by who has done what with their lives after C of E. I stay in touch with just one person from my days there, **Dr. Dave Stein, A71**. We have been friends for almost 40 years now. I find it amazing how many families attended C of E! Cousins, brothers-in-law, etc. I am sure it's unparalleled anywhere. And the college must hold some kind of record for graduating the most doctors and ministers in the United States! It broke my heart to see the campus bought and destroyed. I hope they can save Kenyon Hall—what a building. However, my favorite was the Library... now that is architecture. What a special building that was—and is." Her email address is mrsdavidh@yahoo.com or dhuisman4@comcast.net.

Lois Solomon, A74, of Long Beach, NY, sent dues and wrote, "Although I did graduate of KSTC in the spring of 1974, I'd be honored to be an A [alumnae]!! I would love to hear from friends of classes 72, 73 and 74. We were a real close knit bunch with many of us from the East and were like a happy family." She also received her MS degree from ESU and is a special education teacher. Her email address is LoLoBooks@aol.com.

Don H. Minner, FF, died January 30, 2008, in Little Rock AR, at age 87 He received a bachelor's degree from Sterling College (KS), a master's degree from KSTC Emporia, and a doctorate in education from Oklahoma State University. A retired teacher and professor, he had served as principal at Saffordville High School, taught at Mid-America Nazarene University (KS) and at the College of Emporia. His wife Geraldine preceded him in death. Dr. Minner is survived by three children and three grandchildren.

Vera P. (Glass) George, A29, Topeka KS, died June 9, 2007, less than 5 months before her 100th birthday. She taught at Clifton KS High School and later at one of the last one-room schoolhouses in Shawnee County KS. She was a social worker for Sedgwick and Shawnee Counties; following the 1951 flood, she was a social worker for the Red Cross. During most of her last 50 years she was a farm wife. She was a member of Silver Lake United Methodist Church and a 75-year member of Eastern Star. Vera was preceded in death by her husbands, Carl Entsminger and J. S. Ted George. Surviving are a daughter, 2 step-children,

12 grandchildren/step-grandchildren and their many children and grandchildren.

Oneta (Thomas) Frazier, A31, Wichita KS, passed away February 25, 2007. She and her twin brother Owen were born August 7, 1910 in Barclay, KS. After she graduated from C. of E. in 1931, she taught at Elmdale KS High School. In 1936 she married Harold Frazier, who preceded her in death. In 1947 they moved to Wichita where Oneta became one of the first Elementary School Librarians in the Wichita Public Schools, retiring after 25 years. She was active in the Wichita University Friends Church. She is survived by 2 children, 5 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

William (Bill) Rock, X35, Manhattan KS, died April 28, 2007, at age of 91. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII. He completed a degree in Agronomy at Kansas State University. He served as Chief of Land Management at Fort Riley, KS, retiring in 1982. He is survived by 2 children, 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

John D. "Doug" Clyde, A37, Colorado Springs CO,

died September 28, 2005 at age 89. No further information is available.

David Hamilton notified us of the death of his mother, **Barbara E. (Eulert) Hamilton, X40**, of Tulsa Ok, on January 6, 2006, at age 89. No further information is available.

Word has been received of the death of **Lenore A. (Fletcher) Frazer, X42**, La Palma, CA, on August 24, 2004, at age 86. She was the widow of **Fred T. Frazer, A39**. She had written to the *C of E Alumni News* in the spring of 2003 about other relatives who attended C of E and an incident with William Allen White, well-known editor of the *Emporia Gazette* in the early 1900's. She had also mentioned she was then serving her 3rd term as president of the Whittier CA Woman's Club, which in January 2003 had celebrated 100 years of service. No survivor information is available.

Luroy A. McDougal, X43, Sun City West AZ, passed away June 23, 2007. He was born March 23, 1921. He is survived by his wife Lorraine.

Truman F. Haskell, A47, formerly of Santa Rosa CA, passed away February 14, 2005, at age 88. He was a junior high school coach in California. No further information is available.

Faith C. (Kemp) Stebbins, X48, Grand Junction CO, passed away December 24, 2007, at age 81. She married **Robert "Bob" F. Stebbins, X46**, on September 2, 1945. They lived in KS, NM, and several places in CO before moving to Grand Junction in the early 50's. They were divorced in 1983, and he died February 14, 2007. She was a seamstress until she retired in 1998. She was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church, Child and Migrant Services, and was involved with both 4-H and Cub Scouts and the County Fair board. In 2003 she received the North Star Award from National Association for Family and Community Education for her efforts in Work-A-Lot Club. Genealogy was her main hobby, and she belonged to several genealogy societies and historical organizations. Faith and Bob are survived by 2 children, 4 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren.

Joseph C. Barber, A53, Winsted CT passed away August 23, 2007. Joe, as he was known to his friends, was president of the C. of E. student body his junior and senior years, being the first student in the college's history to succeed himself in that position. He taught junior high school science in CT for nearly 30 years, receiving an outstanding science teacher award for his contributions to science education. He also worked in the family restaurant for over 20 years. After retiring

from teaching, Joe worked various consulting jobs. Prior to attending C of E, he enlisted in the Navy and served 3 years. In later years he organized a yearly reunion of his shipmates, always around July 4, which meant he could not attend C of E reunions, except the one in Baltimore in October 1998. From 1998 to 1993 he served in the CT Dept. of Veteran's Affairs, and then retired in earnest. His involvement and service to civic activities and organizations was a lifetime affair, as was his political involvement. The list of organizations, positions held, and activities is much too long to list. He also had a lifetime passion for golf. Joe is survived by his wife (he married at age 40), 2 sons, a grandson, and 6 siblings.

Oscar Fuentes, A56, Gorham KS, died June 7, 2007 at age 73. He is survived by his wife Bonnie, 3 children, 7 grandchildren and a sister.

Keith L. Blide, A58, passed away November 24, 2007, at age 77. He was a teacher and coach at St. John KS High School from 1960 to 1991, and he continued to live in St. John. He received his master's degree from Emporia State University. In 1995 he was inducted into the Kansas State High School Activities Association Sports Hall of Fame. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean conflict. Keith is survived by his wife Lucille, 3 children, 4 grandchildren, and 2 brothers, one of which is **Richard, A58**, of Wichita.

Ann Louise Montgomery, A58, Albuquerque NM, died December 25, 2007. She had battled numerous disabilities from birth, yet maintained a cheerful attitude and a positive outlook. Following graduation from C of E, Ann continued her education at KSTC, Emporia, and at Western New Mexico College in Silver City. Ann is survived by a sister and a brother, nieces and nephews, a great-niece and great-nephews.

Gary R. Rogers, X56, Leander TX, passed away September 21, 2007, after a lengthy illness. After 2 years at C of E, he served in the U.S. Army for 2 years. He completed his BS degree at McPherson College, KS, and started his teaching career in Kansas schools. He received a master's degree from Pittsburg State College, KS, then moved to Texas where he taught in the Austin Public Schools and at Austin Community College until his retirement. In 2005 he wrote, "I won almost every 440 and 880 race I ran." Gary is survived by his wife Diane and 2 sons.

Marvin L. Phinazee, A68, of Newark NJ, died November 30, 2006, at age 61. He had been an educator in Newark. No further information is available.



College of Emporia Alumni Association
P.O. Box 405
Emporia, KS 66801-0405

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Lost Alumni

Please help us to locate the lost alumni listed below with the city and state in our most recent address. If you do have an address or telephone number for any of these people, please notify Gwen Lorenz, P.O. Box 405, Emporia, KS 66801. You can also reach Gwen by e-mail at cofeglorenz@hotmail.com or by telephone at (620) 342-3112.

Gylah B. (Snackenberg) Smith '36, Wichita, KS
Rosemary (Siemers) Wilson '46, Austin, TX
Jeffery G. Johnson '63, Kansas City, MO
G. Lynn Meek '64, Pagosa Springs, CO
Thomas A. Frederick '67, Bethel Park, PA
Vonnysue (Meek) Benson '70, Shawnee Mission, KS
Karen R. Young '71, Fort Lee, NJ
Michael M. Benson '72, Shawnee Mission, KS
Dr. Charles C. Young '72, New York, NY
Donna L. (Lazorchak) Nigro '75, Tampa, FL
Robert W. Stamm '75, Las Vegas, NV.

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