



Vol. XXX, No. 2
Summer 2009

C of E NEWS

GWINN HENRY – A LEGEND

In March, 2009, former C of E football coach **Gwinn Henry** was selected to be inducted into the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame. Previously, Henry had been inducted into the Missouri State Athletic Hall of Fame, the University of Missouri Hall of Fame and the New Mexico State Athletic Hall of Fame. He is a nominee to the College of Emporia Athletic Hall of Fame and is slated for induction at the next C of E Alumni Reunion in July, 2010.

While Henry is primarily remembered for his coaching feats, he initially gained fame as

an extraordinary athlete. A national AAU champion in both the 100 and 220-yard dashes, Henry broke or equaled world records in 75, 100 and 125-yard dashes. Newspapers throughout the country proclaimed him to be “The fastest man alive.”

As expected, Henry was selected to be a part of the United States 1912 Olympic Team. The Olympic venue that year was in Sweden. Unfortunately, Gwinn Henry never went to Sweden. His wife Amy became seriously ill just before the ship carrying the team was to set sail. Henry was quite clear in his knowledge that

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Gwinn Henry Cemetery in 1952

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his place was by his wife's side. Not once in later years did he ever say that he regretted that decision.

The exemplary character that he demonstrated in making his Olympics decision was a Gwinn Henry hallmark throughout his life. Inevitably, individuals talking about Henry's coaching career spoke of his character, sportsmanship and strong ties to his players.

Gwinn Henry had just turned 31 years old when he coached his first football game at the College of Emporia in 1918. In his initial season, Henry's Fighting Presbies were undefeated! He only coached at C of E for five years, but his legacy remained with the school for the rest of its existence.

In his five-year tenure, Henry won 37 games while only losing 3. He won at least three outright conference championships. His extraordinary record drew the attention of large schools, and after five years the University of Missouri made him an offer that was beyond C of E's ability to match. Consequently, the next chapter of Gwinn Henry's legendary coaching career took place at Missouri.

Continuing at C of E was a tradition unlike any other, burials in the Gwinn Henry Cemetery. Throughout the entire remaining life of the school, after each C of E football victory a rock would be painted with the game's final score and added to the cemetery with virtually the entire student body in attendance. The "burial" was always accompanied with ceremony, much of which reflected skills at original thinking demonstrated by C of E students through the years.

Gwinn Henry was an extraordinary man whose memory lives on both in the minds of C of E alumni and in the several halls of fame in which he is enshrined.

Freedom in the Flint Hills

Ustaine Talley, X61, attended C of E on a vocal music scholarship. She pursued a course of study in music and nursing. As it turned out her tendency to faint during surgery caused her career directions to change.

Ustaine married and left C of E. She worked in various human resource management positions. Ultimately she found herself in Atlanta, Georgia. When she retired in 1996, she moved back to Kansas where she became interested in genealogy and her family's history.

She grew up in Dunlap, a community in Morris County in the Flint Hills flanked by the Neosho River and Rock Creek valleys. Benjamin "Pap" Singleton, a former slave, founded the Singleton Colony at Dunlap in 1879. This was one of a dozen or so colonies for freed slaves that appeared in Kansas after the Civil War. At that time many freed slaves left the South looking for a new life in a "free state."

Dunlap at its peak had about 300 black residents. Today they are all gone. The Talleys were one of the last black families remaining in the community. When all of the declining town's schools closed in 1960, Ustaine and her siblings were the only black children enrolled. Economic opportunity in urban areas led to the gradual exodus that left a ghost town behind.

Talley's research led her to write down stories about her ancestors and the community where she grew up. As these stories accumulated, she began to realize, "I have a book here."

C of E Alumni Summer Picnic

DATE & TIME: Saturday, July 18, 2009, at Noon
LOCATION: First Baptist Church, "HIS Place"
807 Constitution, Emporia, Kansas

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 18, 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.

Note also that the newly renovated Granada Theatre with artwork by George Crocker will be open for tours between 1:00 and 2:00 pm. Tours will be individually guided and will cost \$3.00 per person.



George Crocker's Legacy

George Crocker, A49, taught art and drama at C of E from 1958 – 1961. He left C of E for Hollywood where he had a varied career including script writing and directing. After retirement he returned to Emporia where he lives today.

Recently he completed an extraordinary project that shall certainly be a significant part of his legacy. Over a period of four years he created seven permanently placed paintings that are a vital part of the restoration of Emporia's Granada Theatre.

Each painting is extremely colorful and rich in detail. The

common theme for the paintings, each done in brightly colored oils, is historic. All are reflective of the era when the Granada was built. For example, one painting was inspired by the theatre's 1929 opening night program.

This project was a marriage of Crocker's lifelong interest in both art and theater. He continues to watch over the legacy that he leaves to the community in his role as a member of the Granada Theatre's Board of Directors.

Dues

The Executive Board of the Alumni Association is concerned about the continuing cost of sending newsletters to individuals who are not paying dues to the organization. This topic will be further discussed at the July Board Meeting.

Alumni Association President Ken Miller strongly urged all individuals who receive this newsletter but have not paid

dues to do so. The cost is a nominal \$10.00 per year, and an enrollment form can be found on page 7 of this newsletter.

Membership numbers have climbed since the beginning of this year in your alumni association. You are invited to become a part of this dynamic organization.

C of E Fights (and Cracks Safes)

The large walk-in safe located in the C of E Business Office in Kenyon Hall is locked. Apparently it has been unopened for years, possibly dating back to last days of C of E in 1974. Its contents, if any, are a mystery.

While it is unlikely that opening this built-in vault will merit live television coverage hosted by Geraldo Rivera, the developers who now own Kenyon Hall would like to

get into the vault. Is there anyone among our readers who remembers the combination?

If the combination cannot be found, the safe will be cracked (blown?). If anything of interest to C of E alumni is discovered, it shall be revealed in a future edition of this newsletter. Stay tuned!

Sterling College Scholarships

Sterling College, Sterling, KS, continues to award scholarships to descendants of C of E students, faculty and staff. This year three students received C of E scholarships to defray tuition costs at Sterling.

The recipients were Emily Konrade, Scott McCaulley and Jessica Schooley. All three had grandmothers who attended C of E. The grandmothers were Hazel (Rethorst) Herron, A47, (Emily), Joan Johnson (Scott) and Maretta Ruth Kagarice (Jessica).

Dr. Tom Simpson, A69, is a Sterling College trustee. He

reports, "It has been meaningful for me...to award the C of E scholarships to students attending Sterling who are descendants of C of E alumni."

Sterling College is a liberal arts college that offers a Christian higher education experience. Dr. Simpson continues, "My years (24) on the (Sterling) Board have convinced me of the difference that a Christ-centered liberal arts education can make in young people's lives. The college has faced many crises, mostly financial, during my tenure, and yet today we are strong with ever increasing enrollment."

C of E Is Linked In

On www.linkedin.com, a professional social network on the Internet, a C of E alumni group has been established. All former students, faculty and staff are encouraged to join. Enrollment is free.

To join in written conversations with other C of E people, go to the website mentioned above and then go to the group labeled "College of Emporia."

Editor's Note: The obituary for **Dr. John Spencer** that appeared in the spring issue of this newsletter failed to mention that Dr. Spencer is survived by his wife, Jan. The editor regrets this omission.

Olive (Chandler) Clift, A40, of Fullerton, CA, died August 12, 2008. Her husband, **J. Robert Clift, X39**, who died in January, 2003, was employed in many positions at Whittier College, Whittier, CA. Olive worked tirelessly in many areas supporting and advancing Whittier College. Following her death at age 89, a reception was held at Whittier College after the memorial service.

Rev. Donald P. Evans, A40, of Lawrence, KS, died November 23, 2005, at age 87. He was married to **Lois (Cheney) Evans, A40**, who died earlier. He was a minister in the Presbyterian Church, serving churches in KS as well in various Presbytery offices.

Ruth (Aitken) Hasker, A40, Camden Beach, MO, passed away April 6, 2008, at age 89. Her husband, John, predeceased her.

Robert L. McClure, A40, Elizabethton, TN, died December 15, 2005, one week short of his 89th birthday. No further information is available.

Naida C. (Townsend) Smith, A40, of Phillipsburg, KS, passed away August 16, 2004. She was 88 year old. Her husband died earlier.

Walter Wendal Lehman, A40, of Fernley, NV, passed away February 16, 2009. His wife, **Maxine (Brazelton) Lehman, X41**, died earlier.

Randolph Kasper, A41, of Newton, KS, died April 27, 2004, at age 84.

Virginia E. Beck, A42, died October 3, 2007. She had lived in a nursing home in Killeen, TX, during her last years. She was 87 years old.

Wendell E. Campbell, A42, of Henderson, NV, passed away November 22, 2002, at age 88. He is survived by his wife Vera and one son.

Richard C. Rees, A42, of Castle Rock, CO, passed away April 30, 2006, at age 86. He was survived by his wife Frances, who has since passed away.

Frederick A. Reinert, A42, of Santa Rosa, CA, died October 14, 2004, at age 84. Name was also spelled Reinhardt on C of E records. No further information is available.

Charles W. Murrell, A45, passed away February 9, 2006, in Hawthorne, CA. He was 82 years old.

Henrietta (Townley) Shaw, A43, Jackson, NJ, died on her 82nd birthday, March 3, 2004. Her husband, Robert, survived her.

Dwight L. Shewmaker, X43, El Paso, TX, died April 30, 2007, at age 85. He was a CPA. His wife Tina predeceased him.

Helen Elizabeth (Holdredge) Worley, X43, Lawrence, KS, died March 26, 2009, at age 87. Her husband predeceased her. Four children, ten grandchildren and six great-grandchildren survive her.

Harold Gordon Kent, X46, Lisbon, IA, died March 16, 2009, at age 87. He was predeceased by his wife, **Ethel Mae (Bigger) Kent, A45**. Ethel's sister, **Martha Ann (Bigger) Heald, A51**, survives her. Harold retired from the U. S. Postal Service in 1981.

Mary Ann (Coleman) McRae, A47, Colorado Springs, CO, passed away on May 5, 2009, at age 84. Mary Ann was a retired schoolteacher whose lifelong passion and talent for music led to participation in choir, chorale and even opera.

Samuel Joseph Townley, A48, Mt. Laurel, NJ, passed away November 5, 2008, at age 85. As a Boy Scout leader, he had received the Silver Beaver Award. His survivors include three daughters; his wife Shirley died earlier.

Richard E. "Dick" Cameron, A49, Atchison, KS, died on March 11, 2009 at age 84. A B25 bomber pilot in WWII, Dick served as a State farm Insurance agent for 40 years. He also served two terms in the Kansas Legislature. His wife, **Ellen M. (Armstrong) Cameron, A49**, three children, four grandchildren and a great-granddaughter survive him.

Arnold Eugene Wullschleger, A51, died September 17, 2008, in Beatrice, NE, at age 84. He was a veteran of the US Air Force. His former wife, **Marian (Steckel), A48**, of Lincoln, NE, survives him.

Frank William Michael, X51, Magnolia, TX, passed away on March 3, 2009, at age 80. He worked for some of the country's largest and most prestigious engineering firms including Brown and Root and Bechtel. His wife, Juanita, three children, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, survive him.

Stephen Stockwell, A71, Kanopolis, KS, died March 29, 2009, at age 59. He was librarian at Kanopolis Middle School for 34 years. He is the son of the late **Harold Stockwell, A46**, and **Gladys (Williams) Stockwell, X46**, who survives him.

Paul Stephen Matto, X71, South River, NJ, passed away April 17, 2009, at age 60. He spent his career as a supervisor in the chemical industry working for companies in the United States and Canada. Two brothers and a sister survive him. One brother, **Julius Matto, A69**, is married to **Cheryl (Swartz) Matto, X69**.

Traveling Stadium

Your alumni association recently was told that after the college closed its doors forever, the football stadium was sold to the high school at DeSoto, Kansas.

A trio of former C of E football players, Larry Taylor, '60, Jim Mathis, '61 and Bill Swartz, '65, visited the stadium in DeSoto in an attempt to verify it as the authentic Presby edifice.

They concluded that, although changed, it was likely the same stadium. The press box now has seven windows. At C of E it

had only four (or perhaps two double windows). Most likely the press box had been expanded at some point in its history. The wooden bleachers were replaced with aluminum seating. This would be logical after many years of use.

The stadium layout was the same. There is a plaque at DeSoto stating that the stadium was erected in 1975. This would be consistent with the closing of C of E. At that time everything, including the football stadium, was for sale.

Attention Hall of Fame Inductees

The Hall of Fame committee is beginning the process of publishing the Inductee Booklet. It will be a limited edition with only 200 to be published.

The committee is now actively seeking donations to defray the cost of publication. If you would like to support this

publication, please send your donation to: C of E Hall of Fame, P.O. Box 405, Emporia, KS 66801. Checks should be made payable to C of E Alumni Association (H of F). As an expression of appreciation, the names of all financial donors will be listed in the Inductee Booklet.

Historic Note – Dunlap Hall

In 1869 Howard Dunlap established the Emporia Savings Bank that later became the Emporia National Bank. He married Vermont native Ella Cole who had come to Emporia to ease her suffering from tuberculosis. She was an honors graduate of Kansas State Normal (now ESU), and, despite her chronic illness, she led an active life. She campaigned for women's suffrage and was a friend of both Susan B. Anthony

and Dr. Anna Howard Shaw. She served on the board of trustees of the First Congregational Church and the public library. At age 66 she helped found Emporia's YWCA and served as its vice president. Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap were long-time supporters of the College of Emporia, and Dunlap Hall was named for them.

Sarah (Maddock) Roberts, A39, of Florence, CO, now lives with her daughter Sue, who wrote in March, "My mother, Sarah, is doing well and has just returned from an extended vacation to Tennessee."

Leslie Anders, A49, is a retired history professor who taught at the University of Central Missouri. He has been greatly saddened by the loss of his wife, Mardellya, who died September 19, 2008. The Anders' younger daughter, **Charlotte (Anders) Knowles, A68**, was an Athena Cup recipient at C of E as was her father.

Avery Clifton, a junior at Washburn Rural High School (KS) was recently named as Gatorade's Kansas girl's cross-country runner of the year. Avery is the granddaughter of **Naomi (Crellin) Clifton, A51**.

Myron and Norma (Douglas) White, A54/A54, recently visited with **Charlene "Boots" (Foote) Patton, A56**, and her husband Jim, in Durango, CO. Norma and Myron, semi-retired educator and minister, respectively, in the Presbyterian Church, live in Albuquerque, NM, and Boots and Jim, also semi-retired educator and minister in the Presbyterian

Church, live in Cortez, CO. Pattons have a son and daughter-in-law in public education in Bayfield, CO, and 2 daughters who live in Juneau, AK. Charlene also taught the Gifted and Talented program in the Juneau-Douglas school district in Alaska, while Jim served as minister at the Auke Bay Presbyterian Church. The front window of that church frames Mendenhall Glacier.

Stan Hamilton, X55, is a published author who is in the early stages of writing a book about the many small colleges that once spread across Kansas. The working title of the book is Where Did All The Kansas Colleges Go? C of E will, of course, be prominently featured. Stan's mother, **Margaret (Stanley) Hamilton, A28**, was a C of E graduate.

Belle (Gates) Grimsley, X59, a former President of the C of E Alumni Association remains active. A retired educator, she currently holds offices in the Americus (KS) Chamber of Commerce, Extension Master Gardeners, an antique car club, a church group and

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the Flint Hills Antique Power Association. She serves as a docent at the William Allen White Historical Site in Emporia and as a member of the Lyon County Historical Society Board.

Mary Jayne (Barnes) Gamble, A70, was married to **Bob Costomiris, A69**. They divorced in 1979. Mary Jayne subsequently earned a Master Degree in Early Childhood Special Education. This led to a career that included stints as an Early Childhood Master Teacher, as an adjunct professor in an Early Childhood Department and ultimately as a Preschool Intervention and Behavior Specialist. Now she and her husband, Dr. Jim Gamble, are launching a new business venture, an educational professional development company called *The Finesville Institute of Innovative Teaching (fited.com)*.

Ray Beirne, X70, graduated from Rowan College in New Jersey where he remained after graduation. He

recently retired after spending 35 years in Ocean Township, NJ, as a 6th grade math and science teacher and high school basketball coach. Ray is the brother of **Jim Beirne, A71**.

Contact Information:

Please, everyone, be sure I have your correct email address and phone number! This information is NOT put on our web site--it is available for our class representatives planning to contact classmates for reunion and for someone specifically requesting contact information for a certain person. Your name, address, and other information are available only for C of E Alumni Association use. No one else!

Gwen (Kerr) Lorenz, A54, Vice President for Membership. Contact via e-mail at cofeglorenz@hotmail.com, or write to Gwen at the address on the back of this newsletter.

Stained Glass Window

The late Dr. Robert L. Morris was a Kansas school district Superintendent who also ran an antique business with his wife. During the final months of C of E and in the college's immediate aftermath, he purchased many items from the school including the rare book collection and two stained glass windows from the Anderson Library. Currently, Dr. Morris' widow is offering a stained glass window from the Anderson Library for sale at an asking price of \$1,200. The design of the colorful oval window features a bright blue flower in the center surrounded by a larger floral pattern. The color in the glass is rich. Many of the glass pieces are rippled or swirled. The framework is complete although a few pieces of glass are missing. The oval is approximately 52" across at its widest point. The window has been kept in a crate since leaving the library.

Anyone considering purchasing the window may contact Ron Morris, Dr. Morris' son, at ronm@nrccua.org. Ron can send color photos of the window via e-mail to anyone interested.

Ballot

The following have agreed to serve on the C of E Alumni Association Board of Directors. Please vote for no more than seven (7) for the three-year term ending in 2012. Vote also for one (1) individual to fill the remainder of John Spencer's term that expires in 2010. You may write in your name or the name of another C of E Alumni Association member who would be interested and able to fulfill the duties of a board member (attend two meetings yearly, January and July.)

Naomi (Crellin) Clifton '51

Bob Edmiston '62

Ray Sager '65

Don Schroeder '57

Larry Thompson '61

James White '70

Carol (Schreffler) Wilson '63

_____ (Write-in candidate)

For unexpired term ending in 2010

Chuck Ireland '67

Please mail your ballot no later than July 13 to:

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

Or you may e-mail your vote by July 16 to cofeglorenz@hotmail.com. (You may include your dues payment.)

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

Spouse's Info Spouse's First Name Middle Initial Maiden Name *C. of E. Class

Street/Mailing Address City State ZIP + 4

Phone # E-mail

*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

Athletic Hall of Fame Nominee Information Information Form

Dear Hall of Fame Nominee:

If you have not as yet sent in information about your athletic career at C of E, please complete this form. This information is necessary for the Inductee Booklet. Thanks!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ E-Mail _____

Last Year of C of E Attendance: _____

Season(s) and Sports(s) Participated In: _____

Special Athletic Awards and Achievements: _____

Athletic Letters Received: _____

Mail to:

College of Emporia Alumni Association
C/o Athletic Hall of Fame
P. O. Box 405
Emporia, KS 66801



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

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Permit #1

Search for Athena

Planning continues for the next C of E Alumni Reunion which will be held **July 2 – 4, 2010, in the newly remodeled Marriott Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas.**

In conjunction with this event, a search is being conducted for members of the Athena Society. Members will be recognized at the reunion. If there is sufficient response, a “reunion within the reunion” for Athena Society members will also be organized.

The Athena Society was organized in 1910 to recognize scholarship. Never was more than one-fourth of the graduating class chosen for membership.

During the 1950’s eligibility rules were changed so that only one-seventh of the graduating class would be eligible for admittance. Faculty members of at least two years standing could also become members.

If you were a member or know of a classmate who was a member, please send the information to Les Palmer (lepalmer@aol.com).

c-of-e.org