



Vol. XLV, No. 3  
Winter 2024

# C of E NEWS

# \$100

At its October meeting, your alumni association's board approved a new fund-raising drive to fully fund our scholarship program. We are asking every newsletter recipient to send in a \$100 donation to our scholarship fund at the Emporia Community Foundation.

The purpose of this fund drive is to assure the viability of our scholarship fund for long after the dissolution of our alumni association. **Jim Brooks, A72**, chair of the alumni association's scholarship committee, explains that the historical giving to the fund has allowed the fund to continue to flourish and even to grow modestly, even though we are currently awarding a total of \$8,000 worth of scholarships per year.

If, however, we wish the fund, our legacy, to continue long after your alumni association is gone, then the fund needs to grow. That is why we are asking each recipient of this newsletter to donate \$100 to the scholarship fund. Now is the time to step up and cement our legacy.

We recognize that we are asking for a \$100 donation from individuals who have never before donated to our fund. Please step up right now for a one-time donation.

To donate, note that you can give electronically by using the web address at the bottom of this page. If you prefer to mail a check, a donation form can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Note also that the Emporia Community Foundation (ECF) will send a thank you letter for all donations \$30.00 or more. Both ECF and your alumni association are 501c3 tax-deductible donations.

**Donate to College of Emporia Alumni  
Association Scholarship Fund**

[www.emporiacf.org/donate/c-of-e-scholarship-fund](http://www.emporiacf.org/donate/c-of-e-scholarship-fund)

## The Emporia Community Foundation

The Emporia Community Foundation (ECF) and your alumni association have partnered in the management of our scholarship fund. This will allow our legacy, the scholarship fund, to continue to assist descendants of former C of E employees and students well beyond our existence as an alumni association.

ECF is a collection of separate funds and resources given by caring citizens or organizations designed to improve lives in perpetuity. This 501c3 organization currently manages over 230 funds of various sizes with assets totaling more than \$36 million.

The ECF was founded in 1995 by **Elvin Perkins, A43**, a successful Emporia lawyer, who served on the C of E Board of Trustees from 1951 until 1973. He was chair of this board for many of these years. After the school

closed, he came back and spearheaded the arduous but successful effort to get all of the college's debts repaid.

Oriented to community service, Perkins served Emporia as mayor, city commissioner and as chair of the Emporia Chamber of Commerce. He is also credited with not only founding the ECF, but also leading and growing this organization into the successful endeavor that it remains to this day.

Management of all of the ECF funds is in the hands of UMB Investment Management, a division within UMB Bank, which is an outside investment company carefully selected by ECF. The ECF-UMB partnership has continued uninterrupted since 2001. Your alumni association is quite pleased with the appreciation of our funds already achieved by UMB.

## 2024 Scholarship Winners

Your alumni association has announced the 2024 scholarship winners. Each scholarship winner received \$2,000 applied to their tuition.

Winners and their schools were: Claire Boucher, The University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Jaxon Klein, University of Kansas; Grace Ann Paolo, University of Central Florida; and Abigail Stewart, Iowa State University.

Do you have grandchildren or great-grandchildren in college or ready to go to college next fall? Eligible individuals include incoming freshmen and individuals already in college who have not as yet graduated. The only requirement is that these students be direct descendants of someone who attended or worked for C of E.

Note that potential 2025 applicants should go to our website [c-of-e.org](http://c-of-e.org) and look at the application form. Begin now, early in the school year, to gather the required information. There will be less drama and a reduced chance of overlooking anything if information is gathered early. The deadline for submission of scholarship applications is April 1, 2025.

### Keep Us Informed

Please send us news about yourself. We want to hear from you. E-mail John Acomb, newsletter editor, at [jacomb2@mac.com](mailto:jacomb2@mac.com) or Cynthia Huisman at [mrsdavidh@gmail.com](mailto:mrsdavidh@gmail.com).



## C of E Facebook

This newsletter has routinely informed alumni association readers of the existence of C of E alumni Facebook pages by means of displaying the Facebook logo on the back page of this newsletter. For those on Facebook who have not yet visited our pages, you are urged to check them out.

First time visitors can log into Facebook, go to the search file and type in "College of Emporia Alumni." You will get to two different pages, one of which has the words (The Fighting Presbies) added to the title. A different search with the words "College of Emporia-Athletics-Activities" will yield a different, equally interesting page.

One issue that has cropped up has to do with individuals with no connection to C of E who are attempting to sell C of E apparel not authorized or created by your alumni association. **Mary Jayne (Barnes) Gamble, A70**, tells us about a recent offering of a C of E shirt with an Emporia High School Spartan logo. She reported the post but was only able to have the unauthorized post "put to sleep" for 30 days.

Finally, it should be noted that some alumni have purchased the unauthorized apparel and been pleased with their purchase.

---

## Opportunities

There are currently two opportunities to get more deeply involved in your alumni association. First of all, the position of Memorabilia Chair is currently vacant. The job description calls for selecting memorabilia for display at any future reunions and arranging for transport of this memorabilia, stored in Emporia, to the reunion site. At the reunion, the Memorabilia Room would then need to be set up, staffed by volunteers during hours when the room is open and then be subsequently dismantled with items returned to Emporia after the reunion.

Note that all of our current memorabilia have been inventoried and stored. We have a substantial and fascinating collection. This committee chair will be responsible for adding any new donations that might come

our way and for changing out our memorabilia display at Kenyon Heights at least once a year. This committee chair would be expected to make it to Emporia at least once a year.

The other position is a slot as a member of the Scholarship Committee. This committee has one busy period each year. After the applications come in, committee members will participate in an evaluation of each application to determine who gets the scholarship. Applicant's names will not be provided to committee members. This is a rewarding position with a front row seat viewing some of the best of today's younger generation.

**Donna (Lockard) Sciascia, A53**, of Brunswick, ME died February 8, 2022, at age 90. After graduation from C of E, she earned an MS degree in Library Science from the University of Denver. She subsequently worked as a librarian in Hawaii and New York before settling in Maine, where she worked at the Bowdoin College library. Her extensive duties at the college included cataloguing library materials in languages that she did not speak, such as Russian. After retirement she accepted a two-year assignment at the University of Nevada where she catalogued a large collection of Basque literature, another language which she did not speak. Her busy retirement then brought her back to Bowdoin where she transferred the paper record library catalogues from Bowdoin and two other colleges into an electronic format. 3 children, 7 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great grandchildren survive her.

**Carolyn (Bowen) Francis, A56**, of Claremont, CA passed away September 8, 2023, at age 89. She majored in Christian Education and, shortly after her graduation, she went to Japan under a short-term missionary program of the Women's Division of the Methodist Church. After 3 years in Japan, she returned to the US, where she married and began raising a family. After 7 years in the US, she returned as a missionary to Japan where she devoted the next 34 years to her mission. She taught, established a preschool and worked in a women's shelter. In addition she was involved in the writing, editing and translating of 6 books about Japan, the Japanese church, peace and women's issues. She retired and returned to the US in 1999. 2 children and 4 grandchildren survive her.

**John "Jack" Kelley, A62**, of Clay Center, KS died May 27, 2024, at age 85. Jack's varied career included working in city administration in Colorado and New Mexico and joining with his wife, **Anne (Bollinger) Kelley, A64**, to run a youth ranch in Oklahoma. Subsequently, he became a nursing home administrator, serving in three different Kansas locations. Anne, 4 children and 6 grandchildren survive him.

**Elaine (Osterloh) Schnebel, A64**, of Alva, OK passed away August 23, 2023, at age 98. She came to C of E with her husband coach **Bill Schnebel, FF**, where she completed her college education begun at Midland College in Fremont, NE. She subsequently earned an MA from Northwestern Oklahoma State College and taught English at the Alva public schools. In recent years, she has visited C of E alumni reunions as guest of the E Club. She is survived by 3 sons, 9 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great granddaughters. Bill predeceased her.

**Kenneth "Ken" Troup, A65**, of Happy Jack, AZ died September 27, 2024, at age 80. He is survived by his wife, **Connie (Lee) Troup, X65**.

**Larry F. Blake, A66**, of Dover, PA passed away November 9, 2023, at age 81. He worked as an executive with the Boy Scouts of America for 20 years and then moved on to work with several cemeteries. He served his church as Eucharistic Minister. His wife, a son and 2 grandchildren survive him.

**Frank "Skip" DeVilling, A66**, of Sarasota, FL passed away October 8, 2024, at age 82. Skip was inducted into the C of E Athletic Hall of Fame. He started every football game played during his 4 years at C of E. He was twice recognized as an All-Conference defensive tackle and was named as an NAIA All American. After graduation, Skip signed with a Canadian football team. He played and coached both football and rugby in Canada. He went on to a successful business career culminating with successive stints as Vice President of Regal Beloit Corporation, Columbus McKinnon Corporation and Simonds Industries. Subsequently, in Florida he owned two companies, one an executive search firm and the other a manufacturer's rep firm. His wife survives him.

**Jack Mouse, A69**, of Emporia died August 8, 2024, at age 78. Jack's career as a musician and an educator began with the publication of a series of percussion solos, which he composed, that became the standard repertoire for elementary and high school drum set and percussion students. He toured with numerous notable artists such as Stan Kenton, Sammy Kaye and Doc Severinson. During his career, he served on the faculties of various higher education venues and at a number of prestigious summer band camps. His education career culminated with a 24-year stint as an Assistant Professor at North Central College in Naperville, IL. He recorded 5 CD's, including 2 that were original compositions. Recently he completed a drum method book and instructional video which is now available for purchase on Amazon.com. His wife and creative partner, Janice Boria, survives him.

**Jerry Jasnoski, A70**, of Overland Park, KS passed away August 22, 2024, at age 77. 2 children, 7 grandchildren and a great-grandson survive him.

**John G. Knothe, A70**, of Cedaredge, CO passed away October 16, 2023, at age 75. After graduation from C of E, John served in the US Army Security Agency in Germany. John was an electrician who spent part of his working career in California before retiring and returning to Cedaredge. His wife, **Myrth (Heaton) Knothe, A72**, survives him.

## Postponed

Our proposed Florida gathering has been indefinitely postponed. **Mary Jayne (Barnes) Gamble, A70**, had put together a package for a short cruise, including stops in Key West and Nassau, Bahamas. Unfortunately, timing was tight, and we were unable to stir the requisite amount of interest in the

available time.

So for now, the idea of a Florida event has been put on a back shelf. However, we have learned from this effort, and hope for a future opportunity to utilize this experience to create an exciting new benefit for our alumni.

### College of Emporia Alumni Association Scholarship Fund

Name:-----Class of:\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_ State:\_\_\_\_\_ Zip:\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\_\_\_\_\_ Phone:\_\_\_\_\_

Is this gift a memorial? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, in whose memory?\_\_\_\_\_

Is this gift to remain anonymous?\_\_\_\_\_

Donation amount:\_\_\_\_\_

**Please Make Checks Payable To “Emporia Community Foundation”**

**Mail To: Emporia Community Foundation, 727 Commercial Street, Suite B,  
Emporia, KS 66801**

This is the form and mailing address to use if you wish to mail in a check with your donation. If you wish to print the form at:

[www.emporiacf.org/donate/c-of-e-scholarship-fund](http://www.emporiacf.org/donate/c-of-e-scholarship-fund) and send it with your check to the above address, you may do so.

## Your Will and Your IRA

Alumni who have made a bequest in their will to donate to the C of E Alumni Association's Scholarship Fund should note that this fund is now with the Emporia Community Foundation. Consequently, the mailing address for the disbursement of your estate should now be:

**College of Emporia Alumni Association  
Scholarship Fund**

**Emporia Community Foundation  
527 Commercial Street, Suite B  
Emporia, KS 66801**

Alumni who have not as yet made a provision in their will for the Scholarship Fund are urged to consider doing so at this time, as your alumni association has now created a path to take this fund far into the future.

Another more immediate option is to make your gift an IRA charitable rollover. Those over 70<sup>1/2</sup> years of age or older, which is just about all of us, may be interested in a way to lower the taxable

income and taxes from your required minimum distribution (RMD) IRA withdrawals. Moreover, you can control the amount of money that will be donated and the amount of money that will come to you.

The money from your withdrawal that goes to the Scholarship Fund is not taxed. Remember that both the College of Emporia Alumni Association and the Emporia Community Foundation are 501c3 organizations. Interestingly enough, this method allows you to reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions. In fact, you should note that IRA charitable rollover gifts do not qualify for a charitable deduction.

So make it a point to talk with your lawyer about will updates, a good idea whether or not you are planning a donation. Talk with your IRA administrator about RMD distributions.

---

## Reclaiming Our Transcripts

In the previous issue of this newsletter, we wrote about our alumni association's "outrage" at the Way, purchasers of our college name, campus and records. This anger, as alumni were being denied access by the Way to their transcripts, was expressed in 1980 in our alumni association's initial newsletter. We have been asked how alumni access to transcripts was restored.

A special committee of our alumni association, led by former Emporia Mayor, **Joe Morris, A34**, the Scholarship Action Committee, was formed. The issue was taken to the Kansas State Legislature where a bill was introduced, which essentially stated that, upon the closure of any Kansas college or university, all student records would go to the state board of regents.

In its initial introduction, the bill never made

it out of committee. In the next legislative session, after heavy lobbying by C of E alumni, our bill came to the floor and was passed by both the State Senate and the State House of Representatives. Upon the Governor's signature, steps were taken to move all records to the Kansas Board of Regents. The board then transferred this information to the permanent custody of either Emporia State or Sterling College.

**Gwen (Kerr) Lorenz, A54**, was employed at that time by E. State. She reported that the transfer happened very quickly and that E. State had purchased a new fireproof vault in which all of the records would be stored. The records remain to this day at E. State and Sterling.

Recently your alumni association received an inquiry from Robert Phillips, who is writing the history of Virgil, KS, a town with declining population that soon may disappear forever. Virgil's population currently has dropped below 48. Mr. Phillips was seeking information about **Ernest G. Dehlinger, A25**, whose entire highly regarded coaching and teaching career was spent in the communities of Reese and Virgil. He is the father of C of E basketball legend **Charlie Dehlinger, A55**.

**Carol (Gibbens) Anderson, A57**, and her late husband, **George Anderson, A54**, moved in 2021 to Ginger Cove, a senior living facility in Annapolis, MD. Carol is delighted with her current residence, which she calls "a senior living facility par excellence." She remains very involved in her church. Three years after George retired from active ministry, they started a new church with 7 couples who met in their home for one year. This church has grown in a 20- year span to about 1,000 members.

**Nancy (Thomson) Ebberts, A59**, and **Harriet (Adamson) Wilkins, A59**, hosted a gathering of C of E friends and classmates at their place of res-

idence, Lakeview Village in Lenexa, KS. Attendees included **Jess (Ewert) Guislain, A59**, **Merna (Nagely) Roe, A59**, and **Brenda (Catlin) Taylor, X62**. Ten of the '59 class have kept a Round Robin going for many years, although changing a few years ago from snail mail to email.

**Conley Pierce, A67**, followed his graduation from C of E with a stint in the US Army, serving in Germany. Upon his return to Plymouth, MA, he went to work for the Burroughs Corporation until 1983 when he started his own business marketing custom printed business forms. After 40 years, he sold his business and retired. He is now volunteering in his community and enjoying his retirement.

**Paul J. Orzel, A73**, spent his entire 40-year career in Aerospace and Defense at Raytheon's Pratt and Whitney, one of the world's leading manufacturer of jet engines. At the time of his 2013 retirement, he held the title of International Export Compliance Officer. In his retirement, he has become more involved in his community. He currently serves as chairman of his town's zoning commission.

## 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 (\$15 per year per member): Number of memberships: \_\_\_\_\_ For Years \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Mail to:**

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



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

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Emporia, Kansas  
Permit #1

## Ballot

The following have agreed to serve on the C of E Alumni Association Board of Directors. Please vote for no more than five (5) for the three-year term ending in 2027. 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, which include attendance at two meetings per year, held in Emporia in April and October.

**Everet “Chip” Barger, A74**

**Jim Brooks, A72**

**Linda Myers, X62**

**Mary Jayne (Barnes) Gamble, A70**

**Roger Klein, A72**

Write in \_\_\_\_\_

Mail ballots postmarked no later than December 31, 2024, to: C of E Alumni Association, PO Box 405, Emporia, KS 66801-0405. You are encouraged to include dues and/or your scholarship donation with your ballot, utilizing the form printed on the back of this ballot. Another option is to e-mail your ballot to John Acomb, jacomb2@mac.com. Also, as was done in previous years, easy-to-use e-mail ballots will be sent to our “Shout Out” e-mail list. Deadline for all e-mail ballots will be

December 31, 2024.

**c-of-e.org**

