

CERES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (C.A.A.)

Dedicated to maintaining the pride and spirit of Ceres

Newsletter

Year 2020

August

Edition No. 1

NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

This newsletter is sponsored by **HARNER'S OLD COUNTRY STORE AND DELI**, 8020 W. Blue Grass Trail, Ceres, VA. Phone 276 682-3808. The store & deli, owned and operated by Raymond E. "Ed" Repass and Steven Coleman, is open daily except Thursdays. Their sandwiches, hot dogs, hamburgers, cookies, etc. are absolutely delicious. **YOU MUST STOP BY.** It is so good to have the long-time Ceres store open again.

If you or your company would like to sponsor a future newsletter, please contact any officer or mail your check for \$175 to P.O. Box 32, Ceres, VA 24318. This does not cover the full cost but it helps.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Folks,

Hope everyone has survived this pandemic that we have all become familiar with. As everyone knows, we haven't had any events at the Ceres Campus since COVID-19 began. I, personally, have missed having these events and the opportunity to visit with everyone and discuss what is going on in everybody's day-to-day lives. This is certainly the odd event that none of us have ever experienced, and if most of you feel as I do, I'm sure we all hope we never see another like it.

We are still going to have our raffle go forward this fall even though we will not be having our annual meeting in October. You will find the details regarding the raffle further down inside this newsletter. Please help us with this if possible as it is generally our largest source of annual income for your association.

We still went forth with awarding the Bill Cregar Scholarship this past spring. Congratulations to Trey Harden for being the recipient of this, and, as always, many thanks to those of you who still continue to work on the buildings and seeing that they are properly maintained. Also, thanks to you Betty and Wade for keeping all our business details that come up taken care of in the usual timely manner.

Later in this newsletter, you will see an item about our election of officers for 2021. Let us know if you would like to be an officer or serve on a committee.

Hopefully, this next year will bring us all some relief from COVID-19 in some shape or form and allow all of us to go back to having our events in the manner we all enjoy.

G. H. Peery, III, President

2020 – THE YEAR WE MISSED

You have probably heard that the gym, fitness center, museum and school building were closed for much of the first half of 2020 and are still only open on a very limited basis.

Among the events we had to cancel so far this year are the March Game Night, Kids Movie Nights, Bill Cregar Scholarship Dinner, Ceres Day, June Chicken B-B-Q, July Beef Roast, Aug. Pig Roast and Corn-on-the-cob, Sept. Ham Dinner and Oct, Homecoming.

Other Bland County events, in addition to schools, sports, Churches and businesses, are Ruritan Car Show, Bland County Fair, and Festival of Leaves. We hope 2021 will be better.

2020 CERES HOMECOMING

For the first time in 20 years, there are no plans for Homecoming going on this time of year. It is with deep regret that we feel it wise to cancel the Ceres Homecoming for 2020. Many of you (us) are getting older and there are virus cases all over the state. It would be most difficult to practice "distancing" as required. Someone commented yesterday that we would never forgive ourselves if one of you should be exposed to the virus while in Ceres.

Let's start our plans now for the biggest and best Ceres Homecoming ever in 2021. Make a big note now and put it on your refrigerator to remember Ceres Homecoming on **October 16, 2021.**

However, we are going ahead with our annual **RAFFLE**. As mentioned earlier, the only fund raisers that we have had this year were two Game Nights in January and February. We feel we should not ask local vendors who have had a hard year for small prizes so we are going with just larger prizes. (See a partial list below.)

Raffle

Raffle tickets are enclosed. We hope you will sell or purchase these tickets. Tickets are \$1 each and are in packs of approximately 10 tickets. This is our big fund raiser of the year. For additional tickets, call 276-682-4255. A partial list of prizes appears below. In order to allow more selling time, the winning tickets will be drawn on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 2020. We are also enclosing a transmittal sheet for funds you might want to submit.

Raffle Gifts

The following raffle gifts have been received to date:

- Rifle, Ruger American Predator 6.5 Creedmoor Bolt -Acton w/scope donated by CAA
- Computer Tablet donated by CAA
- Framed P. Buckley Moss Print donated by Moss Foundation
- Handmade Quilt made by Nebo Hobo Quilters
- Basket of snack goodies by Harner's Old Country Store and Deli
- Hand-made rug by Janet White
- Hand-made throw by Crabtree Sewing
- Several Gift Certificates

2021 CALENDARS

In keeping with our custom to give a calendar and note pad booklets to each Homecoming guests, the 2021 calendars were ordered in February when we could get a better price. Some of you depend on having your CAA calendar each year. Since Homecoming has been cancelled this year, we will be doing something different. We considered letting you request a calendar to be mailed to you.....but found the cheapest postage rate will be almost \$3 each. Instead, calendars will be available by request or at our December events. These will be on a first come – first serve basis since we only have 150 calendars.

REPORTED DEATHS

Deaths reported since the last Newsletter:

Richard Henry "Dickie" Call, Sr.
Arthur Jackson "Jack" King
Julie Wright Clark Hays
Virginia Frances Perkey Shupe
Sandra Stowers Lewis, sister of Joanne
Groseclose
Joyce Tate DeWilde
Donna Strock Bell. daughter of Elaine & Doug
Dillow & sister of Angela Harden
Robert Randolph Davis
Arthur M. "Bill" Woodward
Mae Hancock Hanshew
Amy Jean Cox Cook
Billie Ann McNeil Muncy, mother of Rebecca
Peery
Leah Nicole Umbarger, granddaughter of
Kenny and Jean Umbarger
Arnold C. Compton
James F. "Jim" Wilson
Martha Penley Umberger, sister of Molly
Penley Thompson
Harold Thomas Blankenship, Jr., CAA
member
Aaron Heath Faulkner, son of C. L.
Faulkner, Jr.
Polly Mae Cregger Hayton

Ellis Shupe
Hayden Church
William David Tickle, Sr.
Stuart Elwood Waddle
Geneva Cox Leedy, sister of Fred Cox and
Ruth Hamm
Jan Jenkins, mother of Crystal Jenkins
O'Sullivan
Aleene Umberger Niday, former Ceres teacher
Diane Bohara Lindamood
Faith Umberger Niday
Larry Dorn Waddell
Thomas Greenwood Wilson, son of the late
James F. "Jim" Wilson
Martha "Lee" Williams Brown, sister of
Carrol Williams Crabtree
Frances Louise Monk, sister of Betty Harden
Curtis James Sexton, Sr.
Garrett Wayne Lambert
Verdie Lambert Townley
Craig Randolph Winesett
Helen Dean Ingram (Mrs. Donnie Ray Ingram)
James David Neel, son of Vernon M. Neel
Vernon McArthur Neel
Grace Neel Foglesong
Louise Repass Aliff
Rachel Jean Young
Vaden H. Miller, Jr., widower of Ruth Fields
Miller
Thomas Daniel "Jake" Hanshew
Frieda Repass Hanshew

These will be remembered at the 2021 Homecoming.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of Terry R. Umbarger
By Sue Umbarger

In memory of Donna Houck Compton
By Ernest R. "Ronnie" Houck

In memory of William H. Hubble
By Betty C. Hubble
By Evelyn H. Groseclose
By Richard and Susan Guynn
By Wayne Umbarger

In memory of Arthur "Bill" Woodward
By Billie B. Henley
By Betty Smith Yates
By Betty C. Hubble
By Viola M. Snow
By Frances C. Davis and family
By Lorraine Waddle
By Sue T. Repass

In memory of Mae Hancock Hanshew
By Lorraine Waddle

In memory of Sheridan Foglesong
By Doris C. Foglesong

In memory of Robert "Bob" Hubble
By Alma K. Hubble

In memory and honor of G H, Jr. & Ann Peery
By Denise Peery Huff

In memory of William "Bill" Kegley
By Elaine Hanshew Kegley

In memory of Betty Baugh Young
By C. Roland Young

In memory of Bill and Jan Jenkins
By Crystal Jenkins

Donations to Endowment Fund

In memory of James F. "Jim" Wilson
By Kenneth and Rebecca Brin
By Becky Wilson Whited
By Betty C. Hubble

In memory of Harry Wilson
By Becky Wilson Whited

Donations to Cregar Scholarship Fund

By Sarah and David Paulette

Donations of \$10 or more at Homecoming

Bobby and Judy Atkins
Elmer and Ann Beardshall
H. Frank Cassell
Donald and Sharon Compton
Virginia and Don David
Maryann Davidson
Charles Ray and Shirley Davis
Ira and Nancy Cregar Gelser
George P. Groseclose
Thomas S. Groseclose, Jr.
Donald Haag
David "Pat" and Barbara Hancock
E. Ronald Houck
Larry D. Hubble
Jason and Sara Kidd
Elizabeth Neel Kimberlin
Pascor Atlantic Corporation
Jerry and Molly Thompson
Larry D. Waddell
James F. Wilson, Endowment & CAA

REMEMBERING CHARTER MEMBERS

ARTHUR M. "BILL" WOODWARD and his wife, Doris Catron Woodward, were very instrumental in helping form the Ceres Alumni Association. Doris served as an outstanding early Association President and Bill was the organizer and master mind behind so many of our projects. Bill's vast mechanical and carpentry skills were constantly put to use as long as he was able. Bill never missed attending Homecoming and was here in a wheelchair in 2019. Sadly, we lost Bill this year. Our sympathy is extended to Doris and family.

JAMES F. "JIM" WILSON was a graduate of Ceres High School and always showed his keen interest in the Ceres Alumni Association. Jim established the CAA Endowment Trust Fund, was one of its largest contributors and served on the Endowment Board until very recently. Jim loved Ceres. Last year at Homecoming, Jim requested the remaining

two members of their HS class be seated together in honor of their 50th graduation anniversary. Sadly, Jim was hospitalized and could not attend. He showed interest in CAA until his death. Sympathy is extended to his daughter, Diane and family, following the deaths of Jim and his son, Tom, a short time later.

ELECTION OF 2021 OFFICERS

The By-Laws of the Ceres Alumni Association require that an election of officers be held each fall for the coming year. In the past, this election has taken place at the Homecoming annual meeting in October.

This year, mail-in ballots will be sent to all paid members in December along with a newsletter announcing the raffle winners.

If you are interested in being an officer or serving on a committee, please let us know by calling 276.682.4255 or mailing a note to P. O. Box 32, Ceres, VA 24318 by October 22nd.

This is your organization so you must have a say in the officers. Thankfully, no campaign speeches will be made.

FITNESS CENTER

After being closed for some months due to the COVID-19 virus, the Fitness Center is again open with special restrictions such as wearing masks, disinfecting equipment and limited participants. That is, open as of the date this is written. We never know if another shutdown may take place.

The fitness room contains state-of-the-art exercise equipment and is available for use 24/7 at a minimum cost of \$5.00 per month. Fitness Center is handicap accessible. To join the Fitness Center and receive a key, a short training session is required. Call 276.682.4380 to schedule your training.

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

In answer to many requests, a system to let you know what dues have been paid has been devised. If you see a number or an "L" typed after your name on your mailing label, that indicates you have paid Lifetime dues or through that year number. No number means no recent dues have been paid. Dues are \$25 per calendar year (January – December), \$100 for 5 calendar years, or \$250 for lifetime dues. Dues may be mailed to CAA, P. O. Box 32, Ceres, VA 24318.

WILLIAM CREGGAR SCHOLARSHIP

We usually have a meal in April to raise funds for the annual William M. (Bill) Creggar Memorial Scholarship award. Because of the COVID-19 virus, this year's meal had to be canceled. However, we were still able to continue the award this year. Seniors from the Bland County School where Bill worked for so many years were invited to apply for this scholarship. The applications were not opened nor reviewed by any member of the Ceres Alumni Association. Teachers from three different counties, outside Bland County, reviewed the applications and wrote his/her recommendation for a winner. The judges agreed that the application of Trey Harden was outstanding. Congratulations to Trey and thanks to all the others who applied.

If you would like to help support the Bill Creggar Scholarship fund, donations may be mailed to CAA, Scholarship Fund, P. O. Box 32, Ceres, VA 24318.

TO RESERVE THE GYM

The statement below will apply *WHEN* the virus restrictions are lifted. Hopefully, the virus spread will soon be controlled and we can all return to normal lives. Meantime, stay safe and well.

Call 276.682.4380 or 276.682.4255. Some 2019 uses were for Birthday, Anniversary and Graduation celebrations, wedding receptions, family reunions, very well attended Vacation Bible School, walking, stretching exercise and Jujitsu classes, basketball practice, and meals by bereaved families.

MUSEUM GIFT SHOP and ANNEX

For a list of items in the Museum Gift Shop, call 276.682.4587 or write CAA, P. O. Box 32, Ceres, VA 24318. Now available for purchase Travel Mugs, Long and short sleeve T-shirts, hoodies, caps, wood school miniatures, brass school miniatures, coffee mugs, note stationery, pens, sweat shirts with and without pocket, 6-pack coolers and many other items. Items can be shipped. When you visit the Museum, be sure to see the red Farm Equipment building. We are proud that we had to create more space for all the items we had to display.

RECENT MUSEUM DONATIONS

Helen Keck was kind enough to donate an apple cider mill and press and a corn sheller. Glen Repass has spent many hours restoring them to better-than-new condition. Thank you, Helen and Glen.

H. Andrew Hubble and his daughter, Diana, kindly donated a genuine antique cast iron shoe last 3-way cobbler tool; Anvil Bigpelican. This was an essential tool used in the making and repairing shoes for the family. Thank you, Andy and Diana.

FUNDS TRANSMITTAL FORM (on next page)

This form is for your convenience, not a way to request donations. Some folks have requested this form.

UPCOMING 2020 EVENTS (IF RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED)

ELECTION DAY NELSON'S CAFÉ

November 3, 2020
6:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Vote and enjoy breakfast or lunch

**COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS POT LUCK SUPPER**

December 12, 2020
Starting at 6:00 PM

CHRISTMAS PORK ROAST

Take Out
More details later

Ceres Alumni Association

**P. O. Box 32
Ceres, VA 24318
276 682-3989**

E-Mail Address

ceres_alumni_association@hotmail.com

Web Site

www.ceresva.org
Elmer Beardshall, Web Master

Reminders

Monthly Board Meetings
7:00 PM on 3rd Thursday in each month except
Annual meeting - 3rd Saturday in October
(Subject to change by the Board)

Everyone is welcome

Check the web site **www.ceresva.org** or **Ceres Alumni Association** on **FACEBOOK** for other events as they are scheduled.

Officers for 2020

President	G. H. Peery, III	276.682.4381
Vice President	Lorraine Waddle	276.688.4450
Secretary/Reporter	Sara Kidd	276.210.7888
Historian	Elaine Kegley	276.228.2343
Newsletter Editor	Crystal Jenkins	276.682.3741
Treasurer/Membership	Betty C. Hubble	276.682.4255
Association Directors and term ending year:		
J. W. Cassell – 2020	Janet R. White – 2021	
Evelyn H. Groseclose – 2020	Darleyne Atwell - 2022	
Elizabeth Kimberlin – 2020	Frankie Gray – 2022	
Sue T. Repass – 2021	Rebecca M. Peery – 2022	
Margaret Stevenot - 2021	Wade Hall – Past President	
Endowment Trust Fund Directors & term ending year:		
Dean Kirk – 2020	Glen Repass – 2021	
Melissa Renninger – 2020	Judy Cassell – 2022	
Robin U. Repass – 2020	William H. Crabtree – 2022	
Edd Houck – 2021	Michelle Groseclose – 2022	
Iris C. Pruett – 2021	Betty C. Hubble – Treasurer	
Permanent Board Members (Past Presidents): Archie Atwell, Anne Britton, Donna Compton*, Frances Davis, Wade Hall, Betty Hubble, G. H. Peery, III, and Doris Woodward		
*Deceased		

Ceres Alumni Association (C. A. A.)

Funds Transmittal

Return to: C. A. A., PO Box 32, Ceres, VA 24318

Name(s) and Address: _____

Funds Enclosed:	Dues for 1 year	@ \$ 25.00	\$ _____
	Dues for 5 years	@ \$100.00	_____
	Lifetime Dues	@ \$250.00	_____
	Raffle Tickets		_____
	Donation to Endowment Trust Fund		_____
	Donation to Association		_____
	Donation to William M. Cregar Scholarship Fund		_____
	Donation to _____ in Memory/Honor of _____		_____
	Other		_____
	Total Enclosed	\$	_____