

# CERES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (CAA)

*Dedicated to maintaining the pride and spirit of Ceres*

## Newsletter

Year 2023

August

Edition No. 1

### NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

This newsletter is sponsored by William H. "Bill" Crabtree in memory of his late wife, Betty Williams Crabtree. Betty will be missed. Thank you, Bill.

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

Hope everyone is having a great summer. It started off a little cool but as summer progressed so has the temperature. As we prepare for our August pork barbeque, we have been well pleased with the attendance at our other events. All of them except one have exceeded 200 in attendance. We had a great May Day event. The weather was good, our food sales were good, and I think all the flea market folks had a good day as well.

The folks that put on the Ceres Bible School did a wonderful job. They also had a large attendance of children as well as adults. All the area churches took turns feeding everyone each night. On the night of July 4<sup>th</sup>, they had an incredible fireworks show with a huge attendance. Many thanks to those who took the lead and to everyone who helped with this event. When you come to this event, you get a bird's eye view of what a giving community we live in. The CAA has 2 more dinners this summer, so please come out and enjoy the fellowship with your friends and neighbors. Also, as we head into fall do not forget the Halloween activities that the folks in the old Ceres school will be putting on. Last year the CAA worked with those folks for the Halloween kids, and that was the largest attendance I have ever seen in Ceres. Everyone worked so well together to put on this event, and it was a huge hit. Many thanks to Melissa Renninger and her helpers for putting on that event. Again, many thanks to everyone who helps with our summer events. Without your help these events would not be as successful as they are. Remember this is your association, and we are always looking to you folks for new ideas about things you would like to see happen in little old Ceres.

G. H. Peery, III, President

### May Day Celebration

By Lorraine Waddle

On Saturday, May 6, 2023, hundreds flocked to Ceres, Virginia to join in the celebration of Ceres May Day. As usual each year, the Ceres Alumni Association hosts this event on the first Saturday of the month of May. Many activities are scheduled on this special day beginning with breakfast consisting of sausage, bacon, ham, gravy biscuits and eggs. Lunch, consisting of brown beans, corn bread, hot dogs with all the trimmings, is also available made possible by the Ceres Ruritan Club. The day would not be complete without the ice cream, and this year, funnel cakes were offered. Flea market sites are available for individuals wishing to sell their wares. Home crafted jewelry, quilts, aprons, toys, etc., are among some of the items. Also, demonstrations on by-gone farming methods and way of life are on display. One of the highlights of the day is the antique farm tractors and other vehicles on the grounds.

When touring the grounds, fond memories of my childhood with May Day activities are recalled. One memory of mine is of May Day celebrations held at the elementary school that I attended many moons ago. I still have a photograph of my first-grade class members decked out in crepe paper dresses in different colors (pink, yellow, blue, and green) marching with streamers of the same colors around the flag pole. Do any schools do this anymore? It was such a fun time for us, but I can still hear my mother fussing about trying to make the crepe paper dresses.

I surely hope this special May Day at Ceres will become a fond memory for you. Be sure to include this date on your calendar (first Saturday in May) for next year's celebration, and come to see what fun we have on May Day.



**REPORTED DEATHS**

Nadine Lambert Bridges, former Ceres School Aide  
 Andrew W. Cassell  
 Joseph Douglas Cassell  
 Betty Williams Crabtree  
 Nellie Earls  
 Felicia Atkins Hayton  
 Louise Cassell Meck  
 Jonan Cassell Repass  
 Raymond Edward "Ed" Repass  
 Beattie "Jack" Smith  
 Wayne Sutherland  
 Frank Chandler  
 Darrel Tibbs, son of Diane Adele and the late  
 Nelson Tibbs  
 Sarah Katherine Wellford, granddaughter of Dare  
 Neel Dillman  
 Della Clemons Umbarger

**MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

In memory of Terry Ray Umbarger  
 . By Sue Umbarger

In memory of Dora Ann Lindamood Ferina  
 By Kathy and Philip Crandall

In memory of Joey Cassell  
 By Jeffrey D. Cassell

In memory of Jonan Repass  
 By Jeffery S. Cassell  
 By Rita W. Repass

In memory of Kenneth Bruce Repass  
 By Rita W. Repass

In memory of Raymond "Ed" Repass  
 By Betty C. Hubble  
 By Evelyn H. Groseclose

In memory of Dean D. Kirk  
 By Betty C. Hubble  
 By June Ellen Atwell Russell  
 By Helen Kirk Boone

In memory of Louise Cassell Meck  
 By Sue T. Repass

In memory of Sarah K. Wellford  
 By Barbara L. Goins

In memory of Sharon Sue Thompson  
 By Sue T. Repass

In memory of family and friends  
 By Beattie "Jack" Smith

In memory of Andrew W. Cassell  
 By Lorraine Waddle  
 By Betty C. Hubble

In memory of Betty Williams Crabtree  
 By Lorraine Waddle  
 By Betty C. Hubble

In memory of Felicia Atkins Hayton  
 By Lorraine Waddle  
 By Betty C. Hubble

In memory of Beattie "Jack" Smith  
 By Lorraine Waddle  
 By Betty C. Hubble

In honor of Phyllis Patrick Kirk  
 By June Ellen Atwell Russell

**DONATION TO CREGGAR SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In honor of Jeffery D. Cassell  
 By Melanie Cassell

**DONATION TO CAA OPERATING FUND**

By Edgar Wimmer  
 By JoAnne Grosecos  
 By Jerry Grosecos  
 By Anonymous giver of \$170.00

**MEMORIALS TO THE ROOF FUND**

Memory of Elizabeth Compton Brooks  
 By Nancy Compton Simmons

Memory of Howard and Reva Crabtree  
 By Betty Crabtree Hubble  
 By David Danner

Memory of William M. Cregar  
 By Sarah Paulette

Memory of O. Claude Davis  
 By Frances C. Davis

Memory of Randolph Davis  
 By Lois P. Davis

Memory of J. C. Dillow  
 By Leslie Dillow Gregory

Memory of William H. and Gary Michael Hubble  
 By Betty Crabtree Hubble

Memory of Donald Lambert  
 By Joyce Call

Honor of David Paulette  
 By Sarah Paulette

Memory of George H. Peery, Jr.  
By Annie C. Peery

Memory of Kenneth Bruce Repass  
By Rita W. Repass

Memory of Terry Umbarger  
By Frances Harden Umbarger

Memory of Larry Waddell  
By Brenda W. Tate

Memory of Robert "Buddie" Waddle  
By Lorraine "Lorree" Waddle  
By Dr. Rhonda K. Carton-Wood

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**UPCOMING ANNUAL HOMECOMING**

**October 21, 2023**  
**CATERER NEEDED**

Plans for our 22<sup>nd</sup> annual homecoming are under way. Part of our early planning includes the selection of a caterer for our lunch. We are now taking quotes/bids for someone to provide approximately 100 to 150 meals (final number a week prior the event). We are asking for your suggested menu and price per person. Bids may be mailed to P.O. Box 32, Ceres, VA 24318, sent on Facebook Messenger to Sara Kidd, or emailed to bethub@embarqmail.com.

**Annual Raffle - Drawing 10/21/23**

Our annual raffle is our major fund raiser of the year to maintain the buildings and pay for utilities. Your assistance in selling or buying these tickets will be greatly appreciated. We always have some very nice gifts. **Raffle tickets are enclosed.** Tickets are \$1 each and are in packs of 10 tickets. For additional tickets, call **276-682-4255**. A partial list of prizes appears below.

**Raffle Gifts**

The following raffle gifts have been received:

- Rifle, Henry Golden Boy 22 Long Rifle\* (or \$400) donated by CAA \*Must meet firearm requirements.
- Framed P. Buckley Moss Print donated by the Moss Foundation and framed by Farmers' Daughter
- Battery operated Chain Saw donated by CAA
- Framed P. Buckley Moss Print donated by Jimmy Wilson Family
- Hand-made Throw donated by Crabtree Sewing
- Hand-carved Wood Bowl made and donated by Glen Repass
- Hand-made Quilt made and donated by Nebo Hobo Quilters
- Wood salad set donated by Bill Crabtree
- Several other Gifts and Gift Certificates

**UPCOMING EVENTS FOR REMAINDER OF 2023**

**PIG ROAST AND CORN-ON-THE-COB**

**Music by Wayne Dunford**

**Water Activities (weather permitting)**

August 19, 2023 starting at 5:00 PM

Price: By Donation

**? DINNER**

**Appalachian Hoedowners Dancers at 5:00 PM**

**Music by Central Pickers starting at 6:00 PM**

**Water Activities (weather permitting)**

September 16, 2023 starting at 5:00 PM

Price: By Donation

**22nd ANNUAL CERES HOMECOMING**

Former Ceres School Campus

Saturday, October 21, 2023

More Details Later

**ELECTION DAY NELSON'S CAFÉ BREAKFAST**

November 7, 2023

6:00 AM – ? AM

Vote and enjoy breakfast.

By Donation

**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS**

**POT LUCK SUPPER**

December 9, 2023 starting at 6:00 PM

Drinks and paper products furnished

**CHRISTMAS PORK ROAST**

**Boston Butts and Pork Loins**

Take Out

December 15 2023

More details later

Check the web site [www.ceresva.org](http://www.ceresva.org) or  
**Ceres Alumni Association** on **FACEBOOK**

For other events as they are scheduled.

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**TO USE THE FITNESS ROOM**

You must watch a short video on the use of the fitness equipment before getting your own key to the facility. To schedule your training, call 276 682.4380. A \$5 monthly donation is charged for the Fitness Room use.

**TO RESERVE THE GYM**

To reserve the gym for your use, you may call 276 682-4380 or 276 682-4255. Some past uses were graduation celebrations, wedding receptions, family reunions, exercise, basketball practice, and meals by bereaved families, etc. **After using the gym, please remove your trash and clean up.**

## ***ROOF DONATIONS - 2022***

James and Janet Allen  
Deborah B. Anderson  
Lisa U. Arundale  
Robert and Judy Atkins  
Archie and Darleyne Atwell  
Charles Atwell  
Bastian Union Church  
Elmer and Ann Beardshall  
Daniel Bennett  
Billy's Welding, LLC  
County of Bland  
Bland Co. Girls Scouts #51184  
Ella Jean Blankenship  
Henry M. Blessing  
Kathy U. Bowlin  
Joyce Bruce  
Judy C. Buck  
CAA Fund Raisers  
Harold Sloan Cain  
Dr. Rhonda K. Carton-Wood  
Andrew Cassell  
Judith H. Cassell  
Melanie L. Cassell  
Otho T. Cassell  
Ceres Vacation Bible School  
Ceres Volunteer Fire Department  
John and Jean Cline  
Donald and Sharon Compton  
John H., Jr. and Carrol Crabtree  
Rayan D. Craddock  
David R. Danner  
Mr. and Mrs. D. G. David  
Frances C. Davis  
Lois P. Davis  
Dean DeRosa  
Dare N. Dillman  
Harry A. Dillman  
Linda Dillow  
Priscilla E. Dillow  
Linda H. Dodson

Brenda R. Finch  
Robert "Doc" Foglesong  
Nancy Cregar Gelser  
Frankie and Penny Gray  
Barbara Goins  
Leslie Dillow Gregory  
Evelyn H. Groseclose  
Vince and Joanne Groseclose  
Groseclose Family (George)  
Richard and Susan Guynn  
Donald Haag  
Wade F. Hall  
Lisa A. Hall  
Roy Neal Hammons  
Pat Hancock  
Judy H. Hannah  
Betty A. Harden  
Shirley S. Harvey  
Steven L. and Esther Hider  
Janice L. Horne  
Edd and Dana Houck  
Betty C. Hubble  
Larry D. Hubble  
Robert H. Hubble  
Renninger Family Farm  
Melissa Renninger  
Denise P. Huff  
Crystal Jenkins  
Charles and Rebecca Johnson  
Helen S. Keck  
Jason and Sara Kidd  
Jimmy and Jennifer Kidd  
Becky Kimberlin  
Steven and Erin Kivett  
Sara Jane Knight  
Joe and Darlene Lambert  
Robert Longworth  
Randy and Simone Manis  
Louise C. Meck  
Regina Modzelewski  
Virginia Louise Morgan

Randy and Frances Moler  
Robert and Betty Munsey  
Della Mae Neel  
Philip and Janette Nielsen  
Beulah T. Newberry  
Larry and Dianne Nunley  
Sarah Paulette  
PayPal Giving Fund  
Annie C. Peery  
G. H., III and Rebecca Peery  
Lisa D. Phillips  
Michael A. Pruett  
Albert Glen and Robin Repass  
Rita W. Repass  
Sue T. Repass  
Steve and Judy Rich  
Linda Schwaitzberg  
John B. Scott  
Nancy C. Simmons  
Ronald and Margaret Stevenot  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Stevenot, Jr.  
Seldon Stowers, Jr.  
Faye F. Sutherland  
Brenda W. Tate  
Brenda K. Thompson  
Erin Thompson  
Molly P. Thompson  
Larry Tibbs  
Frances H. Umbarger  
Johnny Umbarger  
Wayne R. Umbarger  
Venco Business Solutions  
Danny Waddle  
Lorraine Waddle  
Janet R. White  
Edgar and Barbara Wimmer  
Mrs. Georgia F. Woods  
Bradley Yoder  
Lawrence and Shirley Yoder  
***ROOF DONATIONS - 2023***  
J. Billy Dillman

**Ceres Alumni Association LLC**  
**P. O. Box 32**  
**Ceres, VA 24318**

**Web Site**  
[www.ceresva.org](http://www.ceresva.org)  
 Elmer Beardshall, Web Master

**Reminders**  
 Monthly Board Meetings  
 7:00 PM on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in each month except  
 Annual meeting - 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in October  
 (Subject to change by the Board)  
**Everyone is welcome**

*Officers for 2023*

|                      |                  |              |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| President            | G. H. Peery, III | 276.688.4450 |
| Vice President       | Sara L. Kidd     | 276.210.7888 |
| Secretary/Reporter   | Racheal Gray     | 276.613.0182 |
| Historian            | Laura B. Mustard | 276.682.0162 |
| Treasurer/Membership | Betty C. Hubble  | 276.682.4255 |
| Past President       | Wade Hall        | 276.682.4380 |

**Association Directors and term ending year:**

|                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Evelyn H. Groseclose – 2023 | Janet R. White – 2024      |
| Elizabeth Kimberlin – 2023  | Darleyne Atwell – 2025     |
| Sandra Sayre – 2023         | Frankie Gray – 2025        |
| Sue T. Repass – 2024        | Rebecca M. Peery – 2025    |
| Margaret Stevenot – 2024    | Wade Hall – Past President |

**Endowment Trust Fund Directors & term ending year:**

|                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Melissa Renninger – 2023 | Glen Repass – 2024         |
| Robin U. Repass – 2023   | Judith Cassell - 2025      |
| Lorraine Waddle - 2023   | William H. Crabtree - 2025 |
| Edd Houck – 2024         | Michelle Groseclose – 2025 |
| Iris C. Pruett – 2024    | Betty C. Hubble – Treas.   |

**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 (CAA)**

**Funds Transmittal Form (for your convenience)**

**Return to: CAA, PO Box 32, Ceres, VA 24318**

Name(s) and Address: \_\_\_\_\_

|                                                          |                       |                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Dues for 1 year . . . . .                                | @ \$ 25.00            | \$ _____        |
| Dues for 5 years . . . . .                               | @ \$100.00            | _____           |
| Lifetime Dues . . . . .                                  | @ \$250.00            | _____           |
| Raffle Tickets . . . . .                                 |                       | _____           |
| Gym Roof Replacement Fund . . . . .                      |                       | _____           |
| Donation to Endowment Trust Fund . . . . .               |                       | _____           |
| Donation to Association . . . . .                        |                       | _____           |
| Donation to William M. Cregar Scholarship Fund . . . . . |                       | _____           |
| Donation to _____ in Memory/Honor of _____               |                       | _____           |
| Other                                                    |                       | _____           |
|                                                          | <b>Total Enclosed</b> | <b>\$ _____</b> |