

Presidents Letter:

Inside this

Edition:

President's

Letter

College

News

Alumni News

Alumni

Reunion &

Photos

In Memory

Greetings Fellow Alumni,

Let me first say that it is an honor for me, to serve as the 2010-2011 Alumni Association President. Each year, through our board, people pass through the chairs, equally striving for alumni support through our Endowment Fund, Scholarships, and mostly alumni participation. I charge each alumni graduate, of this college, to make a pledge of some kind of support to help the college, The Southern Association of Schools and Colleges, which is an accreditation for the college to award the Associate of Arts Degree, looks closely to the participation of the Colleges Alumni, how many participate, not how much.



The Alumni Reunion this year was a huge success and turn out. On behalf of our Association, Alumni, and the College, we wish to extend our appreciation To Danny Hurt, of Wilbert Vault for sponsoring the Friday Night Event; Batesville and Aurora Casket

Company for their co-sponsorship of the Alumni Breakfast; Morris Moore, '67, for his continued support of the Always putting forth countless time to organize the alumni functions, to the Faculty of the College for their participation, Billy & Linda Yarbrough, Tracy Hamm '98, Kent Kressenburg, '09, & John Yopp, III, of the Southern Funeral Director Magazine, for taking pictures. The Friday night event was slated with a surprise honor to Dr. Harris Oliver Yates, whom has 50+ years of consecutive instruction with our college. Students of 2011 class felt they should honor Dr. Yates, whom was recently diagnosed with Pulmonary Fibrosis, with a Bobble-Head, which is a scary likeness. These are available for sale from the college, for \$30.00 each. The proceeds, will be given to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation in honor of Dr. Yates. Please support this cause!!! May you all have a happy and joyous Happy Thanksgiving!

Ryan "Opie" Padgett, 01' CFSP

CORRECTION:

In the last edition of the newsletter, summer 2011, Nicole Partin Received a scholarship, which was awarded by: Mor-bid.com, not Embalmers Who Care, we apologize for this oversight.

College News:
John A. Gupton College
Top 10% Summer Semester 2011

Jennie Alexander	Gallatin, TN
Nathaniel Barnwell	Mt. Juliet, TN
James Cooper	Greenfield, TN
Brandon DeBoe	Marion, KY
Paige Foss	Lewisburg, TN
Sara Kilgore	Tullahoma, TN
Cody Miller	Selmer, TN
Eric Ryniker	Nashville, TN
Kim Seaman	Sacramento, TN
Eric Seavers	Martin, TN

Graduation Exercises to be held:

The plans for the 2011 graduation have been finalized and listed below:

John A. Gupton College 2011 Graduation

***Friday, December 2, 2011, 2:00 pm at Blakemore United Methodist Church,
3601 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37205***

CFSP Designations earned by faculty:

College President B. Steve Spann, 82', CFSP and Director of Alumni Relations, Tracy Hamm-Allen, 98', CFSP both were awarded the designation of CFSP in 2011. The Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice, awards the designation of CFSP (Certified Funeral Service Practitioner) to those who voluntarily seek to enhance their career through completing the Academy's certification process. The Academy consists of Funeral Service Professionals whose goal is the support continuing education. Congratulations to both in their achievements.

Pictures below: courteous of Kent Kressenburg, '10.





2011 ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION

WILBERT RECEPTION: Nashville Wilbert, namely Danny Hurt, once again provided a fantastic evening for the Alumni on Friday night. This years Wilbert Reception was a change of atmosphere, being held in the Latitude Lounge, gave a more ample space and friendly environment for all to socialize, Prizes were given out, and the introduction of Dr. Yates, Bobbie-head figures, thanks to the efforts of the creativity of Students to honor Dr. Yates. Their was great food, drink and fellowship, this reception gave those present an opportunity to meet new friends and renew old friendships. Thank you Danny & Wilbert!!!!

Aurora
Because you care.

ALUMNI BREAKFAST: For several Years Batesville and Aurora Casket Companies have Sponsored Breakfast. We had a wonderful breakfast filled with good people, great food, and good fun. Be sure to pass forward!!! Thanks to our Casket Representatives for their continued support.

BUSINESS MEETING: 50 Year Pins Presented:

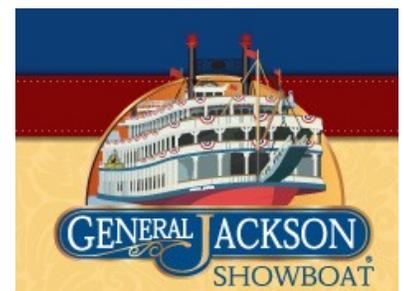
College President Spann recognized graduates of the Class of 1961 that were present. Included for their 50th anniversary were Wayne Day, Gary Don Dew, and Robert Clyde Allen. Mr. Willis Swain, Class of 1959 was unable to attend on his 50th anniversary and was give his 50 year pin.



ENDOWMENT FUND: The Endowment fund has surpassed the initial target goal of \$250,000 to the amount of 280,000 -292,000.00 dollars and the Board had voted to invest the money in a more stable vehicle. In the new future there should be scholarships made available from the Endowment. When the endowment fund was first established the target goal was to sustain the college in a difficult year, however since the college has grown tremendously over the past several years, this would not meet the college's needs should an emergency arise. So it's on ongoing effort to raise the amount of funds necessary to sustain the college. The New target goal is \$1,000,000.

STATE OF COLLEGE REPORT: College President Steve Spann reported that enrollment was 95 students in the summer; with fall enrollment of 107 new applications and 95 students pre-registered. The Funeral Director Course had 9 in the spring and 17 expected in fall beginning August 9. He reported that the Nation Board scores for 2010 were 86% passage rate, meeting the criteria and guidelines of ABSE. He commented that all is well with enrollment and the apartments are steadily remaining filled. Mr. Spann continued with his report stating that the lease from the State of Tennessee would end in December. He made the alumni aware that reaccreditation for the ABFS would take place in 2014 and SACS in 2016.

GENERAL JACKSON CRUISE: This year we opted for a evening cruise and meal aboard the General Jackson, about 70 people signed on for a evening of good entertainment and food, This was the best turn out the college had experienced on Saturday night in recent years.



CURRENT FACULTY:

Tracy Hamm Allen-	Director of Mortuary Services
Pepper Bruce-	Library Director
Lisa Moffit-	Registrar
Terri Purcell-	Director of Admissions
Rachael Johnson-	Financial Aide Director
Donna Collard-	Director of Funeral Service Education, Comps & Workhorse

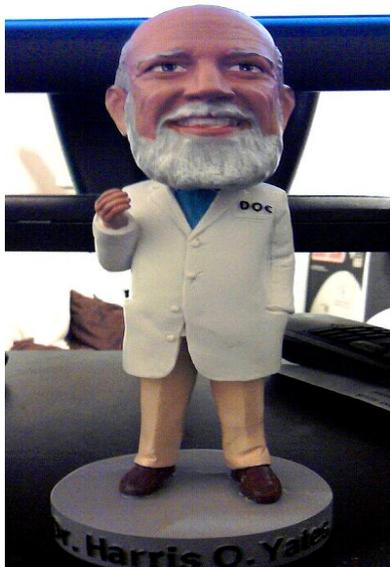
Congratulations to Tracy Hamm-Allen & Rachael Johnson for recently obtaining their MA degrees.

NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED:

President	James Ryan “Opie” Padgett, CFSP, 01’
First Vice President	David Horner, ?
Second Vice President	Tim Bond ?
Secretary	Morris Moore, ‘67
Treasurer	Keith Stapleton, ’78?

DR.. YATES BOBBLE HEAD ON SALE NOW!!!!!! (Which one is real?)

-



The proceeds from the sale of these items will go to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation in Honor of Dr. Yates, Please make a point to purchase one or ten, they are only \$30.00 each. This is for a really good cause.





Lisa Barlow
Inside Sales Manager
lbarlow@vantageproducts.com

960 ALMON ROAD, COVINGTON, GA 30014
1-800-481-3303 FAX: 770-788-0361

In Memory:

Kelly, Terri Leigh, 39, ***Class of 2008***, of Rockfield, KY died Aug. 3, 2011, at her home. The Russellville native was born Oct. 24, 1971. She graduated from Russellville High School and had attended John A. Gupton College of Mortuary Science in Nashville. Funeral service was a calling for her, and she truly enjoyed being able to help families in their time of need. She had worked as an apprentice funeral director and embalmer for Stoner Family Funeral Home, but most recently worked as a customer service representative for Financial Edge in Bowling Green. She married Greg Kelley on March 2, 2002, in Russellville. She loved life and most of all enjoyed riding on her Harley-Davidson motorcycle with her husband. Memorial services were held at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 9th, 2011 at Hillside Chapel and Events Center, 5737 Cemetery Road. Stoner Family Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Donnelly, Patrick J. age 54, class of 1991 of Rochester / Varysburg NY. He Passed peacefully Tuesday April 26, 2011. He worked at Dillow Taylor Funeral home in Jonesboro TN before moving back to NY, to work at Vay Schleich & Meeson Funeral home, transferring to Newcomer Funeral Home in Rochester NY where he was the manager .. Donations in his memory may be made to the Hildebrandt Hospice Care Center 2652 Ridgeway Ave Rochester NY 14626.