

# On GW!

FALL 2005 GEORGE WASHINGTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER Vol.9, No. 2

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GWAA Web Page (URL) Address:

<http://gwaa.acps.k12.va.us/>

GWAA Mailing Address:

GWAA, PO Box 25453, Alexandria, VA 22313-5453

### Electronic Information:

The GWAA Web Page accepts articles and information for publication on a regular basis.

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### Articles may be mailed to Marlene Wiltshire:

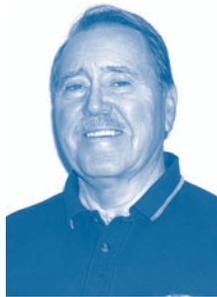
6911 Radcliffe Drive, Alexandria, VA 22307-1553, or preferably via E-mail: [Enelram52@aol.com](mailto:Enelram52@aol.com)

The GWAA Web Pages are maintained by and information may be E-mailed to either:

Dick Harman '58 and Dave Beach '55 at [wa4usb@arrl.net](mailto:wa4usb@arrl.net) or [david.beach@verizon.net](mailto:david.beach@verizon.net)

## A Message from the President

Greetings to my fellow GWHS Alumni:



Look at title of our newsletter. Listen to the salute that Huck Thomas issues at the close of each of the monthly lunches that still amazingly attract so many of our classmates. That *short little phrase...* "On GW!". What does that phrase mean to you? Do you remember at all our high school sports events when

we would sing the "On GW" song? I sure do. Remember through the years the great GW Bands marching out and playing that familiar fight song for us? Recall the rousing feeling of camaraderie that it would invoke in us?

I guess most of us know that we 'borrowed' the tune and most of the words from the University of Wisconsin. But, it doesn't matter. The feeling is still there for G.W. High!

I feel we were the luckiest youngsters... well, if not in the whole world, at least, most certainly... 'in and around these parts'. We're so lucky to have had the advantages of a great school, great teachers and a great city with history, charm and stability to help us grow up.

That's the overriding reason I felt a need to become so deeply involved with the GWAA. The old cliché of 'giving something back' is what it's all about.

Now what I would really feel good about is if our alumni could look closely at that *'short little phrase'* and see that the underlying message is that we ALL have to keep GW going ON and ON. So join, volunteer, and become involved. Just as our OTHER beloved song - our Alma Mater instructs us to do... let's "not forget our school so dear".

Thank you for the opportunity to be a member and president of a great alumni association.

**David L. Beach - GWAA President**

**"On GW"... "On GWAA" !**

## GWAA Members: please don't forget!

Please fill out and mail in the form on page 12 (on back of newsletter) as soon as possible.

### ANNUAL GWHS ALUMNI PICNIC & OUTING

Saturday, October 1, 2005

Fort Hunt Park, Pavillion "A"

Registration & Badge Pickup: 11:30 am to 1:00pm

Food Cost:

GWAA Member: \$9 (if paid before Sept.16)

GWAA Member: \$11 (if paid after Sept.15)

Non Member/Guest: \$14

**NOT A GWAA MEMBER? WANT TO JOIN? FILL OUT FORM ON PAGE 11 and MAIL.**

# George Washington High School

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Board of Directors

President	David (Dave) Beach, '55	703-534-1550
Vice Pres.	Randy WOODS <i>McKlveen</i> , '72	703-440-0684
Secretary	Phyllis GEORGE, '50	703-549-2553
Treasurer	Burton (Burt) Bostwick '59	703-527-5415
Director	Walter Lee Loftin, '48	703-780-1064
Director	T. Wayne Henry '60	571-275-6118
Director	Don (Huck) Thomas, '47	703-960-2313
Director	Marlene CURRIER <i>Wiltshire</i> , '52	703-765-2272
Director	Susan O'DRISCOLL <i>Cox</i> '55	703-250-5422
Director	Donna ENNIS <i>Teter</i> '65	703-658-2888
Director	J. Richard (Dick) Crompton	703-361-7640

## Committees

<b>Advertisements</b>	Dick Crompton	703-361-7640
<b>Benevolence</b>	Debby PALMER- <i>Mills</i> '65	703-549-4381
<b>Class Reps</b>	Wayne Henry, '60	571-275-6118
<b>Community Proj.</b>	Huck Thomas, '47	703-960-2313
<b>Database</b>	Jake Folk Jr., '54	301-261-0978
Co-Chairs	& Dave Beach, '55	703-534-1550
<b>Memorabilia/</b>	Randy WOODS <i>McKlveen</i> , '72	703-440-0684
<b>Historian</b>	& Roxann ONTKO <i>Patrick</i> , '69	703-548-8874
<b>Membership</b>	Jake Folk Jr., '54	301-261-0978
Co-Chairs	& Burt Bostwick, '59	703-527-5415
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Marlene CURRIER <i>Wiltshire</i> , '52	703-765-2272
<b>Nominat/Election</b>	Marilyn KAPSCH <i>Lyles</i> , '54	703-978-4844
<b>Picnic</b> Annual	Bobby Powell, '47	703-971-2246
<b>Roster Phone Book</b>	Sue O'DRISCOLL <i>Cox</i> , '55	703-250-5422
<b>Spring Social</b> Annual	Marilyn KAPSCH <i>Lyles</i> , '54	703-978-4844
<b>Web Site</b>	Dick Harman, '58	703-971-5477
Co-Chairs	& Dave Beach, '55	703-534-1550

## Class Representatives

Class	Name	Email	Home/Work Phone
'36-'38	Ann KNIGHT <i>Anthony</i> .....	Benson@GeneralMicro.com .....	540-785-4702
'39-'40	Jim Lowe .....	jimlowe@bealenet.com .....	804-443-3806
'41-'42	Dave & Millie CARTER <i>Sullivan</i> .....	davemili@verizon.net .....	757-436-5945
'43	Ruth ROWLAND .....	—none— .....	704-770-0406
	Bob Murphy .....	bobetty2@aol.com .....	703-549-0907
'44	Lorraine ELLISON <i>Duncan</i> .....	—none— .....	703-354-6971
'45	Howard Olmsted .....	walstock@patriot.net .....	703-370-3394
'46	Lois YOWELL <i>Bailey</i> .....	lbaileylow@adelphia.net .....	540-972-7103
'47	Huck Thomas .....	pmht47@aol.com .....	703-960-2313
'48	Nancy BURCHELL <i>Wilke</i> .....	—none— .....	703-960-8174
'49	Ann DARLING <i>McKlveen</i> .....	—none— .....	540-786-2127
	Marvin (Bobby) <i>Wilke</i> .....	mwilke2@adelphia.net .....	301-371-6422
'50	Sally WARD <i>Stumpf</i> .....	swdad33@verizon.net .....	301-262-8128
'51	Carlton (Shady) Schelhorn .....	gdadshady@aol.com .....	703-780-4633
'52	Marlene CURRIER <i>Wiltshire</i> .....	Enelram52@aol.com .....	703-765-2272
'53	Daniel (Dan) Lehman .....	honudan@aol.com .....	703-241-1168
'54	Nellie MANKIN Foster .....	nfoster7@juno.com .....	703-451-9135
'55	Peggy WADE <i>Barnett</i> .....	BARNETTPJ888@aol.com .....	540-752-9034
'56	Edward Snyder .....	jesnyder@erols.com .....	703-971-4816
'57	Jeffrey Barnes .....	JeffRBarnes@aol.com .....	703-684-2972
'59	Burt Bostwick .....	bostwick@emerecon.com .....	703-527-5415
	Sarah WEBSTER <i>Capponi</i> .....	scapponi@erols.com .....	703-323-7822
'60	Sarah HOWARD Schramm .....	—none— .....	703-548-5352
'61	Dick Sparks .....	rmsparks@verizon.net .....	703-768-1622
'62	Carole BERNHEIMER <i>Hammond</i> .....	cbhammond@cox.net .....	703-780-0567
'63	Peggy LYONS .....	GW63@aol.com .....	703-754-8685
'64	Ann DOSS <i>Keller</i> .....	akelco@earthlink.net .....	804-262-4091
'65	Richard Comisky .....	rjcomisky@aol.com .....	703-455-5978
'67	Mary Ellen WOODLEY <i>Johnson</i> .....	mejoh123@aol.com .....	703-780-9171 or 703-893-4651 (work)
'68	Dave Tong .....	sdtong@adelphia.net .....	703-729-2184
'69	Roxann ONTKO <i>Patrick</i> .....	KCOR13@juno.com .....	703-548-8874
'70	Nancy SMITH <i>Groves</i> .....	Ngrove@comcast.net .....	703-620-9394
'71	John McKlveen .....	JMcKlveen@erols.com .....	703-440-0684
'72-'74	Randy WOODS <i>McKlveen</i> .....	JMcKlveen@erols.com .....	703-440-0684

Class Representative positions are VACANT in '58 and '66.

## Benevolence Committee Report

from Debby Palmer Mills

The following names are those GWAA members who have passed away as of March 2005 through August 1, 2005.

- Raymond K. CARNAHAN, Class of 1953. Notice of death appeared in the Washington Post on March 23, 2005 but I wasn't sent an exact date of death. A card/note was sent to Frances Fletcher Carnahan, class of 1954 and family on 03/24/05.
- Spurgeon Learoy (went by his middle name) LENNON, Class of 1941. An exact date of death was not sent. A card/note was sent to the family on 03/29/05.
- Ruth M. BOLETCHKEK, Class of 1947. An exact date of death was not sent. A card/note was sent to the family on 03/29/05.
- Kathryn RIDDELLE Coleman, Class of 1941, died on March 11, 2005. A card/note was sent to her husband, Victor Coleman, who is an active member of GWAA, on 04/05/05.
- Jane QUILLAN Hastings died May 08, 2004. I received notification via a phone call from her brother, John Quillan, on April 12, 2005. Starting in 1944, Jane taught business for 20 years at GW High School and later at TC Williams High School. A card/note was sent to John on 04/13/05.
- Betty Jean STANLEY Smith, Class of 1947, died on April 21, 2005. Betty was the "Songbird of GWHS" singing with the GW Dance Band in the 1940's and was one of the high-stepping majorettes. A card/note was sent to her son, Gary Smith and her daughter, Darlene S. Moore on 04/26/05.
- Card/note sent to Stuart Allen on June 20, 2005 re: Fletie GEORGE Allen, class of 1955 who died on June 13, 2005.
- Card/note sent to Betty Kelley on June 20, 2005 re: Robert Emmett KELLEY, Jr., class of 1948 who died on June 14, 2005.
- Card/note sent to Carl Christensen on June 27, 2005 re: Bonita ("Bonnie") Louise FORREST Christensen, class of 1953 who died on June 23, 2005.
- Mark Miller BLAIR, Class of 1954, died on 06-28-05. A card/note was sent to his wife, Carol, on 07/01/05.
- The family of Marty ZILMER Neely was written a note on behalf of the Association. Marty, class of 1957, who died on July 28, 2005, had been instrumental at the inception of GWAA in establishing our By-Laws.

## HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

GWHS ALUMNI Help!  
We need your "OLD GW"  
memorabilia!  
Do NOT throw it away.  
Send it to us



We again want to thank those people who have been kind enough to donate their treasures and memorabilia to the George Washington Alumni Association. At the picnic last Fall many of the objects on display had been graciously donated. We will display some things again at the October 1st GWAA Picnic 2005.

But, now we have to look for an inexpensive place to store the items which we are accumulating. If anyone has access to storage space that is secure (lockable), conveniently located (Alexandria/Fairfax/Arlington), environmentally stable (never wet), please let us know. Our current needs would be something about 10x10x8 feet (800 cubic feet). Probably we would have two or three people authorized to access it from time-to-time on a fairly immediate basis.

Please contact:

Dave Beach 703-534-1550 david.beach@verizon.net  
Randy McKlveen 703-440-0684 jmcklveen@erols.com  
Roxann Patrick 703-203-3835 Kcor13@juno.com

P.S. - Does ANYONE know the whereabouts of the two "Old Oaken Buckets"? They were borrowed from the G.W. Middle School last year and someone forgot to return them. We would like to put them in our collection for all to enjoy. Please let Dave Beach know.

### A NOTE TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GWAA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:

It is a real honor to be in the same company as Ralph Schwab and Ted Arthur. They are the two hardest working people I have ever known.

The plaque you awarded me on April 23, 2005 is beautiful and it is something that I will always treasure.

I would like to mention three classmates who founded the Lunch Bunch with me. They are Lois Yowell Bailey, Marietta Carter Decker, and Betty McGhee Purvis. Each one of these ladies owns a share of this plaque.

How I look forward to the third Tuesday of each month. It is my opportunity to visit and lunch with the dearest, kindest and sweetest people on the earth.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.  
Sincerely, Robert E. McKlveen

## Class of 1955 – 50th Reunion

Our "Golden One" is all set for this year, November 25th and 26th, 2005. These are the two days following Thanksgiving Day, so plan your family visits to coincide with it. Our "G.O." reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn on First Street in Alexandria. The over-all activities will begin Friday the 25th at 1p.m. with the opening of our Hospitality Rooms on the 2nd floor and continue throughout the next day (Saturday the 26th). It will culminate Saturday evening with our gala dinner/dance starting at 6 p.m. until around midnight. The per-person cost for this two-day reunion will be \$75! However, if payment is made prior to September 1, 2005 the per-person cost will only be \$70. We have also negotiated a very attractive room rate (\$85 per night plus taxes) with the Holiday Inn. They have set aside a large block of rooms for one or both days. Those attendees who wish to reserve a room should directly contact the Holiday Inn (BEFORE October 26, 2005) at 703-548-6300 and in order to secure our low rate, specify that you are with the GWHS Class of 1955.

If you have any questions contact John Cox, 703-250-5422 or please check our '55 Reunion webpage for further details and announcements.

Click on "1955" at <http://gwaa.acps.k12.va.us/gwclindx.html>

## FUTURE REUNIONS

The classes of 1970, 1971 and 1972 have started meeting in order to plan our 35<sup>th</sup> reunion. It is now tentatively set for September of 2006. The exact date will be announced soon. When we formalize more information concerning this reunion we will be sure to post it on our websites. If you have moved or have anything you wish to discuss with us concerning the planning for the reunion, please feel free to contact us. E-mail Randy McKlveen at <[jmcklveen@erols.com](mailto:jmcklveen@erols.com)>, Phyllis or Bill Darrough at <[wdarrough@cox.net](mailto:wdarrough@cox.net)> or Sara Whitestone at <[Swhites973@aol.com](mailto:Swhites973@aol.com)>. We all look forward to seeing you there!



## G.W.H.S. Golden Friends Lunch Bunch

by Donald "Huck" Thomas ('47)

This group of GW faithfuls was organized in 1996 by Bob McKlveen. Since then, the group has grown to involve over 400 GW grads and friends. They meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 11:00 at the Old Country Buffet in Fredericksburg, VA., and Potomac Mills, Woodbridge, VA. Schedule for next eight months is as follows:

<u>2005</u>		<u>2006</u>	
Sep 20	Fredericksburg, VA	Jan 17	Fredericksburg, VA
Oct 18	Potomac Mills, VA	Feb 21	Potomac Mills, VA
Nov 15	Fredericksburg, VA	Mar 21	Fredericksburg, VA
Dec 20	Potomac Mills, VA	Apr 18	Potomac Mills, VA

The Old Country Buffet is located on Rt. 3, five traffic lights west of Rt 95 in Fredericksburg, VA., and take the Prince William Parkway exit on Rt 95 west five traffic lights to Smoketown station on the right at Potomac Mills.

Contact Ralph Schwab, 703-780-1733, Lois Yowell Bailey, 540-972-7103 or Donald "Huck" Thomas, 703-960-2313 for any information. The GWHS Golden Friends Lunch Bunch publishes a monthly newsletter "Lunch Bunch Gazette."

This publication is popular among GWHS alumni.



## First Wednesday Night Dinner

Randy Woods McKlveen ('72)

If you haven't yet made it to a GWHS "First Wednesday Night Dinner", you should plan on attending one soon. The dates and time are easy to remember, since they are always the "first Wednesday night of the month" from 6 to 8 p.m. So please mark it on your calendar! What? Still can't remember? Well, we also phone or send email reminders to those for whom we have contact information. If you would like to receive a reminder, call me (Randy McKlveen) at 703-440-0684 or send your email address to <[jmcklveen@erols.com](mailto:jmcklveen@erols.com)> and I will see that you receive timely advance notification specifying the where, when and particulars. We have tried out several different restaurants in the area, and lately have been enjoying our dinners at DaVinci's Family Restaurant in Falls Church. This casual and friendly gathering is open to all class-years and we genuinely welcome anyone new who wants to join our group. It is a very simple, informal dinner where we just catch up with each other, sort of like a mini reunion but with GW classmates that have spanned the years from 1943 up to 1973. It's fun getting to know more about all of these various folks with whom we share our school connection: learning where they lived, where they hung out, etc. It's also very gratifying to find out that we all have so much in common - who would have thought! I really encourage you to come and see what these dinners are all about. Hope to see you soon!



PART TWO

# Growing up in Alexandria

By Ann Knight Anthoy



Looking at the beautiful Carlisle House in Old Town today, it is difficult to remember that the exterior wasn't always visible from the street because the Carlisle Apartments were directly in front of the building! My Grandmother Padgett lived in the apartments, and in order to get to the Carlisle House, you had to go through the apartment building. We didn't come to appreciate the beauty and history of the building until much later in life, but in looking back, it gave us a rare opportunity to witness history. And growing up in Alexandria was a unique experience

because we did witness history. Who would have imagined that the warehouses of Old Town would one day become fine homes and restaurants. Even the Ramsay House underwent a transformation - from a popular "bar" to the visitor's center we have today. We weren't allowed to go in, but as kids we watched more than one familiar face enter!

Growing up on the "hill" was always interesting, especially because of my 5 brothers and sisters. And even today, the "Boo" Knight stories surface wherever I go. It seems as though everyone has their own story, whether it was the time he jumped up out of the casket, or maybe the time he began drilling with a jackhammer at King and Washington Streets. My favorite, however, was his pet goose, Henry who accompanied him everywhere. Boo and Henry were once asked to leave a baseball game in Washington, because Henry was making so much noise. Henry used to enjoy a little bowl of beer in the bars of Alexandria.

The sense of family went beyond our immediate household though - my Uncle Herbert Knight lived next door, my grandparents around the corner in a lovely house on Upland, my second cousin Julian Knight was on Upland too, as was my Aunt Libby. My Aunts Helen and Marian were just a few blocks away on West Maple. We were blessed, not only to have a large family, but also to have so many living nearby. There are many flashbacks to the simple joys of growing up in Alexandria, but one I will always remember is the Mutual Ice Company going door to door, and Jim who used to let us ride on his horse drawn carriage, giving us chunks of ice as we "helped" him.

Whenever I hear of Cora Kelly School, I am taken back to my grade school years. Miss Kelly was my 7th grade teacher at Jefferson, and you were expected to know all of the 100 countries of Virginia. If you didn't, you got a painful rap on your knuckles! But we were privileged to have teachers like Miss Kelly, and Dr. Lindsey, whom I had for math. He was a good teacher, but I have to admit to being just a little bit afraid of him. My uncle, Lin Knight, was a long time member of the school board, but thank goodness it wasn't while I was in school.

During the War, several of us returned to our home at 314 Park Road because our husbands were overseas fighting. Kenny, Kassy and I moved in, as did my

sister Carol Knight L'Abbe and her eldest, Mark, and our sister-in-law Dorothy Knight with her daughter Diane. Because she had family in the military, our mother displayed four stars in the windows, one each for the three of us, and one for our sister Priscilla Knight Underdahl who joined the Marine Corps. To this day, Priscilla is a member of American Legion Post 24, not only because she was entitled to membership, but to honor our father who worked tirelessly to preserve Gadsby's Tavern, home to the Post.

And there was a special star for the puppy of our beloved German shepherd, Miss Chuz, who was trained to go into battle as well. Miss Chuz won her own place in my heart - one day Kassy, who was two years old and quite adventuresome, wandered out of the yard and headed toward King Street which was only a block away - until Chuz grabbed on to the seat of her pants and started pulling her back.

While living on Park Road during the war, I can recall a small cemetery in a field adjacent to the back of the Masonic Temple - for some reason, the bodies were exhumed and removed, but we never knew where they were taken, or why they were moved. It remains a mystery to me today.

As a C&P operator, in October 1938, the lines on our manual board were flooded and we could not respond to everyone. Every light on the board was flashing. It was the Sunday night of Orson Welles' famous radio show, and the City of Alexandria had joined the rest of the nation in believing that the end of the world had come. As panic set in, we set about doing the best we could until thankfully, word came that it was a hoax. Even then, we had difficulty explaining it to the hundreds of callers.

In 1938, as a young bride, my husband and I moved to the Domar Apartments at 402 Washington Avenue, now known as Commonwealth Avenue (the rent for our one bedroom apartment was \$42.50 - two bedrooms rented for \$55.00 a month!) Every week, a very well known Alexandrian, who in the interest of fair play will remain unnamed, would come to visit his "girlfriend", first hiding a bottle of Three Feathers whiskey in the bushes. Throughout the evening, he would come down the stairs at the back of the building, take a drink, and climb back up. Feeling particularly devilish one evening, a friend and I decided to hide the bottle, and I still have this snapshot in my mind's eye of him crawling around frantically trying to find the missing bottle, which by that time we had consumed...

As I wrote in Part 1, my father was very active in the town, serving as Postmaster while the old building at Washington and Prince was torn down and the new facility established. I can still remember him working out of a small building in the 400 block of King Street that was serving as the temporary post office for the city. In later years, he served on the city council, and during one election, his name was mysteriously dropped from the ballot - while everyone knew he was a Republican, he ran as an Independent on a write in ballot and won! I still have one of the pencils he passed out with the slogan, "Vote Right - Vote F.C. Knight".

Growing up in Alexandria - simple pleasures, pleasant memories.

# Did you know?

**G**uy S. Gardner was born on January 6, 1948, in Alta Vista, Virginia, and grew up in Alexandria, Virginia where he graduated from **George Washington High School in 1965**. He's been married to the former Linda A. McCabe (an elementary school teacher) of Guilderland, New York for over 35 years. They have three wonderful adult children, Jennifer, Sarah, and Jason. His daughter Jennifer is married and has provided them with grandson McCabe.

**And oh, by the way, Guy has flown in space twice as the pilot of the Orbiters Atlantis and Columbia during 1988 to 1991.**

Guy received his Bachelor of Science degree with majors in astronautics, mathematics, and engineering sciences from the United States Air Force Academy in 1969 and a Master of Science degree in astronautics from Purdue University in 1970.

He completed U.S. Air Force pilot training at Craig Air Force Base, Alabama. In 1972, he flew 177 combat missions in Southeast Asia while stationed in Ubon, Thailand. In 1973-74, he was an F-4 instructor and operational pilot at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina. He attended the USAF Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base California, in 1975, and then served as a test pilot with the 6512th Test Squadron located at Edwards in 1976. In 1977-78, he was an instructor test pilot at the USAF Test Pilot School. In 1979- 1980, he was operations officer of the 1st Test Squadron at Clark Air Base, Philippines.

Guy was selected as a pilot astronaut by NASA in May 1980. During his 11 years as an astronaut, he worked in many areas of Space Shuttle and Space Station development and support.

In 1984, he was assigned as pilot on the first Space Shuttle mission to launch from Vandenberg AFB, California. That mission was later canceled. He first flew in space as pilot on the crew of STS-27, aboard the Orbiter Atlantis, on December 2-6, 1988. Next, Guy flew as pilot on the crew of STS-35, aboard the Orbiter Columbia, on December 2-10, 1990.



He left NASA in June 1991 to command the USAF Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base, California.

In August 1992, Guy S. Gardner retired from the Air Force as a Colonel and returned to NASA to direct the joint U.S. and Russian Shuttle-Mir Program.

Along the way, Guy accumulated a few special honors. Namely: Air Force Legion of Merit, 2 Defense Superior Service Medals, Defense Distinguished Service Medal, 3 Air Force Distinguished Flying Crosses, 14 Air Medals, National Intelligence Medal of Achievement, Distinguished Graduate of the USAF Academy, Top Graduate in Pilot Training, and Top Graduate from the USAF Test Pilot School, Test Pilot School Outstanding Academic Instructor, Test Pilot School Outstanding Flying Instructor, and Distinguished Astronaut Engineering Alumnus of Purdue University.

Since leaving government service, Guy has served as a high school mathematics and physics teacher at Washington-Lee High School in Arlington, Virginia, and at The Potomac School in Fairfax County, Virginia. He also student taught physics at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Fairfax County, Virginia. During the school

years 1998 - 2001, Guy served as a motivational/educational speaker to students across the country and added to his education by acquiring a Master of Arts Degree in Education from Virginia Tech in 2000 (Certified in Mathematics and Physics).

What does he do in his spare time? Guy's volunteer activities include: member of various advisory boards, speaker to school and civic groups, youth group leader, adult and youth Sunday school teacher, and Explorer Post leader.

Guy is currently the Director of Super Project Development at Purdue University in Indiana.

**HELPFUL HINT:** Do you want your email address CHANGED, ADDED or DELETED from our online GWAA Alumni E-Mail Addresses Page? There is a real easy way to do this online (on the internet).

First, go to the main GWAA site <http://gwaa.acps.k12.va.us/>. Then click on the link name "Alumni E-Mail Addresses" or go directly to: <http://gwaa.acps.k12.va.us/email.html>. Look at the bottom of the second paragraph, just above the BOX with all the CLASS YEARS. Click where it says, "CLICK HERE". A FORM should appear. Fill it out completely and click on the SUBMIT button. That, hopefully will send your change to us in a standard format that makes it easier for us to handle changes. Thanks.

## PREXIE PROFILES, by Larry McGuire '55

### Where Are They Now?

"On a bad snap from center, in a football game against Annandale, instead of running the ball he drop-kicked a field goal which won the game". In a basketball game against W-L, with just seconds remaining in the first half, he threw the ball full court and made it". "Magic Moments" indeed provided by the one and only Harley "Skeeter" Swift, GW Class of '65. These are feats still talked about today anytime Alexandrians gather to reminisce about the great athletes in GW history - he is always at the top of the list.

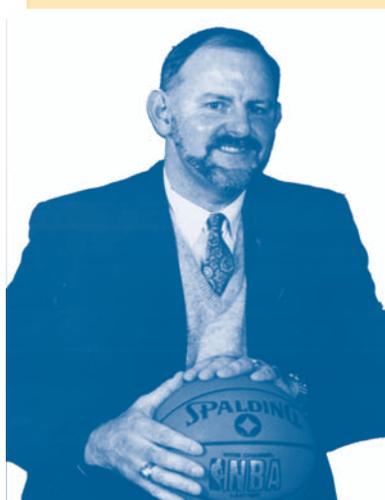
"Skeeter" lived in Old Town on Prince and Royal Streets back when the area consisted of bars, warehouses and wholesale plumbing operations - nothing like it is today. His parents owned one of the bars and when they separated, his mother took over running the bar.

He ran away from home when he was 15 and lived with the families of various friends while he attended GW. He didn't apply himself to his studies and by his own admission was not a good academic student.

His early years were spent during the time of integration. He rode his bike for miles looking to play 'pick-up' basketball and was accepted by the black as well as white players. Those early experiences not only prepared him, but inspired his participation in sports at GW where he could excel and he really shined in basketball. He was selected as a High School All-American and during his high school career he led the Prexies to a pair of berths in the State Group 1-A Basketball Tournament in Richmond.

His list of home-town honors could fill a book! They include the "Alexandria Sportsman Club Basketball Player of the Year in 1965", "Alexandria All-Time Dream Team Selection" in 1999, "One Hundred Greatest Athletes of the Past Century" honors in 2000, and Alexandria Sportsman Club Hall of Fame Membership in 2005. The Alexandria Gazette sponsored a "Skeeter Swift Day" on October 18, 1969 and his high school uniform jersey number, "42", was retired.

Accepting a basketball scholarship to East Tennessee State University, in Johnson City, Tennessee, "Skeeter" played there from '66 through '69. He garnered "Ohio Valley Conference" Freshman Player of the Year honors and was Player of the Year in '69. In his senior year he was named to the Associated Press All-American team, finishing 59<sup>th</sup> in scoring with a 21.7 average. He was on the All-Star Conference Team 3 years and was "Most Valuable Player" in the '69 Tennessee-Kentucky All-Star Game.



In 1969, the same year Kareem Abdul Jabbar was drafted #1 in professional basketball, "Skeeter" was drafted second by the New Orleans Buccaneers (ABA) and third by the Milwaukee Bucks (NBA). He chose New Orleans and in his first year was selected to the All-Rookie team '69-70. He led the (ABA) in 3-point field goal percentage at 39% and was a top ten all time free-throw shooter. While playing with the Pittsburgh Condors he led in assists. His pro career spanned a 6-year period playing with various pro teams, ending with the San Antonio Spurs of the NBA.

After his pro career, he coached basketball with various teams and in the 1979-80 season his team "Oak Hill Academy" won the National High School Champions title posting a 36-0 record. He was named "Coach of the Year" by the Roanoke Times and World New Times Land.

He was inducted into the "East Tennessee State University Hall of Fame" in 1982. They wouldn't give "Skeeter" his old GW jersey number "42" in college, but in 1990 the number they gave him, "54" was retired in his honor.

As a result of his induction into the "East-West Hall of Fame" along with the likes of Washington Redskins former head coach, Steve Spurrier, his picture is hanging in the Tri-City Airport in Blountville, Tennessee.

In October, 2004, he received an "Alexandria Mayoral Proclamation" for all he has done to promote the values of teamwork and sportsmanship in the city. On December 14, 2004 he was honored with the "Johnson City, Tennessee Mayoral Proclamation" for his outstanding achievements and they proclaimed their special pride in his contribution

to the community and the world of sports.

"Skeeter" and his wife of 13 years, Demetria, now live in Kingsport, Tennessee. She is a teacher and he is in the chemical sales business - still a playmaker breaking lots of sales records. He has 4 children from a previous marriage.

He has published a manual on ball handling and does speaking engagements about the benefits of sports participation.

Not bad at all for a young man who left home at age 15.

## MORE PREXIE PROFILES, by Larry McGuire '55

## Where Are They Now?

**Robert (Bobby) Via, GW Class of '49**, has fond memories of growing up in the Hume Springs/Del Ray Areas of Alexandria. Most of his younger days were spent with old friends from GW High, like the Ginn brothers (Pete, Olin and Jake), Billy Philyaw, Herman Wiltshire and Norman Grimm.

Bobby was an outstanding all-around athlete at GW. In football, he played halfback, a guard in basketball, and in baseball - catcher, pitcher, infielder or outfielder. He received a football scholarship to Wake Forest. Later, he was signed by the St. Louis Browns Organization to play professional baseball. However, his baseball career was shortened when he joined the Coast Guard in '51 for a tour of duty serving on the East Coast during the Korean War conflict.

Following his return, he coached football at the Boys Club level and soon moved on to coach varsity baseball and jayvee football at St. Stephens for Sleepy Thompson. He also officiated at football and baseball games in and around the Alexandria area and was one of the Directors of the Alexandria Recreation Department. As a member of the Boat Club and The Alexandria Sportsman Club, he received numerous honors.

Bob married his high school sweetheart, Joyce Tully. They have a son and daughter and 2 grandchildren. Bob and Joyce lived for a time on Luray Avenue in Del Ray and later moved to Wilton Woods, a subdivision of Telegraph Road. They divorced in 1972 and Bob relocated to Florida.

In 1987, after a 40 year career with Eastern Airlines, he retired to Colonial Beach. Bob enjoys the "relaxed" lifestyle of Colonial Beach and can't believe the traffic when he comes back to visit old friends in Alexandria.



The five-man coaching staff goes into a huddle to develop new plays for a Del Ray Boys Club team. Norman Grimm diagrams a play in the sand while Andy Bickford, Bob Hanna, Skippy Groves and Bobby Via look on. This strategy board for the most part learned its football at GW High.

**Charlie Yates, Class of '52.** Charlie's home during his youth was on West Custis Avenue in Alexandria. In his pre-teens he joined the Del Ray Boys Club where he played football, baseball and basketball. He continued these sports through his years at GW. He attended Shepherd College in West Virginia. He graduated with a degree in business administration. He married Jackie Stratton, GW Class of '52. They have 3 sons and 9 grandchildren.

For several years after graduation, Charlie worked for General Motors. Then he spent the next 10 years with a CPA firm learning that business before opening his own company - Yates and Jones, CPAs. He also taught accounting at Strayers University.

Throughout the years, Charlie has been an entrepreneur. One of his projects is the Fairfax Sportsplex, which he started in 1970 as an indoor tennis facility. The Sportsplex now offers a much broader range of activities such as soccer, volleyball, floor and roller hockey. Charlie more or less retired around the age of 55. However, he still keeps his hand in his business interests.

Now he's living the "Life of Riley", golfing, fishing and playing tennis. Charlie and Jackie, his bride of 52 years, moved from Alexandria to Marlborough Point in Stafford County around 1970 and then to Fawn Lake, a subdivision just west of Fredericksburg. 8 years ago. They also have a place in Marco Island, Florida where they spend the winter months and enjoy the close company of GW classmates, Fred Frazier and Bill Penn and their wives, who also have homes there. He still sees his old friends from GW like Sonny Meadows, Preston George, Eddie Wilder and Buzz Harris.

## Success Stories

I am Virginia Mims Alexander, (Ginger) Class of '57. I wanted my fellow classmates to know that it is never too late to get your college degree. I recently graduated from Meredith College, Raleigh, N.C. with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion.

I was the oldest in the class. Bunny King Neff, Class of '57 and her husband Jim attended the graduation exercises. Also, the Friday prior to my graduation on May 15, I became engaged to William A. Neustadt (Bill) and we are to be married on Saturday, June 11. I understand that this is a tradition for many Meredith "angels"...to get their degree and their engagement ring. Bill and I feel this is a wonderful way to start life again at age 65. We will honeymoon in Boston and New England and live in Raleigh. My address will stay the same but my new name will be Ginger Alexander Neustadt. . Thanks...Ginger



## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MESSAGE - Fall 2005

The Association is still experiencing a slow, but steady, increase in its membership growth. As of February, the Association had 1,324 regular (joint and single) members, 97 associate members, and 87 honorary members. **Our total membership was 1,508 on August 1, 2005.**

### CLARIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP TYPES:

#### **INDIVIDUAL (GWHS ALUMNI):**

**ONLY A GWHS ALUMNI can use the INDIVIDUAL type. It includes voting rights and covers only the individual for \$10 annually, \$27 for 3 years or \$40 for 5 years**

#### **JOINT (GWHS ALUMNUS):**

**ONLY MARRIED COUPLES who are BOTH GWHS ALUMNI can use the JOINT type. It includes voting rights and covers BOTH husband and wife for a total cost of \$15 annually, \$42 for 3 years or \$65 for 5 years.**

#### **ASSOCIATE (NON GWHS ALUMNI):**

**ONLY A NON GWHS ALUMNI who is a MARRIED OR WIDOWED SPOUSE of a GWHS ALUMNUS can use the ASSOCIATE type. It DOES NOT include voting rights and covers the individual for \$5 annually.**

When completing the Application form, which can be found on the next page, we ask that you be sure to circle (or check) the proper membership type. We ask that you redouble your efforts to encourage your classmates to join the Association and also ask that renewals are kept up. There have been several deaths of members during the months since spring; also, some members are not renewing. **I would appreciate receiving any comments as to why members choose not to renew. You can contact me via email at [DAVID.BEACH@VERIZON.NET](mailto:DAVID.BEACH@VERIZON.NET).**

We again thank you for your continued support of the GWHS Alumni Association.

## Have You Heard The One About...?

A married couple was celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. At the party everybody wanted to know how they managed to stay married so long in this day and age. The husband responded "When we were first married we came to an agreement. I would make all the major decisions and my wife would make all the minor decisions. And in 60 years of marriage we have never needed to make a major decision."

Joe had asked Bob to help him out with the deck after work, so Bob just went straight over to Joe's place. When they got to the door, Joe went straight to his wife, gave her a hug and told her how beautiful she was and how much he had missed her at work. When it was time for supper, he complimented his wife on her cooking, kissed her and told her how much he loved her.

Once they were working on the deck, Bob told Joe that he was surprised that he fussed so much over his wife. Joe said that he'd started this about six months ago, it had revived their marriage, and things couldn't be better. Bob thought he'd give it a go.

When he got home, he gave his wife a massive hug, kissed her and told her that he loved her. His wife burst into tears. Bob was confused and asked why she was crying. She said, "This is the worst day of my life. First, little Billy fell off his bike and twisted his ankle. Then, the washing machine broke and flooded the basement. And now, you come home drunk!"

Every Saturday morning Grandpa Walt found himself baby-sitting his three grandchildren... all boys. The kids always wanted to play "war," and Grandpa somehow always got coaxed into the game. His daughter came to pick up the kids early one Saturday and witnessed Grandpa take a fake shot as Jason pointed a toy gun and yelled, "Bang!" Grandpa slumped to the floor and stayed there motionless. The daughter rushed over to see if he was all right. Grandpa opened one eye and whispered, "Sh-h-h, I always do this. It's the only chance I get to rest."

One day a police car pulled up to grandma's house and grandpa got out. The officer explained that this elderly gentlemen said he was lost in the park. "Why, Bill," said Grandma, "You've been going there for over 30 years! How could you get lost?" Leaning close to Grandma so the police officer couldn't hear, he whispered, "Wasn't exactly lost. I was just too tired to walk home."



**GW Alumni Association**  
**P.O. Box 25453**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-5453**  
**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

PRESORTED  
 FIRST CLASS MAIL  
 US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 PERMIT# 6203  
 MERRIFIELD, VA

**GW MIDDLE SCHOOL New Main Entrance - AUGUST 2004**

**12th ANNUAL GWAA PICNIC RESERVATION FORM**

Saturday, October 1, 2005 Ft. Hunt Park, Pavilion A, Alexandria

**WALK-UP REGISTRATION & NAME TAG PICK-UP: 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.**

**on Picnic Day in front of Pavilion A.**

**RSVP: Send in this advance reservation ASAP, it MUST be posted no later than September 15, 2005 and received by GWAA by September 23rd. Cancellations after Friday, September 23rd are not refundable. Pre-printed Name Tags must be picked up at the Registration table before going through buffet food line.**

**CATERER: AMERICAN BBQ**

**BUFFET MENU: BBQ CHICKEN WINGS, GRILLED ON SITE, SPARE RIBS GRILLED ON SITE, MINCED PORK BBQ, 4-BEAN SALAD, CREAMY COLE SLAW, CORN COBBETTES (SMALL CORN ON COB), BAKED BEANS, ROLLS AND BUTTER, ICED TEA, LEMONADE, COOKIE TRAY.**

**Picnic Food Costs**

to a GWAA MEMBER (if paid before Sept. 16, 2005) **\$9**  
 to a GWAA MEMBER (if paid after Sept. 15, 2005) **\$11**  
 to a NON-MEMBER or GUEST **\$14**

<b>Name(s)</b>	<b>Please print clearly so we can prepare name tags. Ladies are requested to include maiden name.</b>	<b>Class Year</b>	<b>GWAA Member? (yes/no)</b>	<b>NON-Member? (yes/no)</b>
1.	_____	19____	_____	_____
2.	_____	19____	_____	_____
3.	_____	19____	_____	_____
4.	_____	19____	_____	_____
5.	_____	19____	_____	_____

<u><b>Total # Attending</b></u>	<u><b>Membership Status</b></u>	<u><b>Picnic Food Cost =</b></u>	<u><b>Total \$</b></u>
_____	GWAA Members (active status)	\$9.00 each = [ Cost = \$11 after SEP 15, 2005]	\$ _____
_____	NON Members and/or Guests	\$14.00 each =	\$ _____
_____	Children - ages 7 through 12	\$9.95 each =	\$ _____
_____	Children - BELOW age 7	FREE (no charge)	

**TOTAL AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Remove this entire page along the perforation on the right, then fill it out, insert in envelope and mail it to the address shown below along with your check made payable to the GWAA in the TOTAL AMOUNT \$ shown above.

**REMIT TO: GWAA**  
**PO Box 25453**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-5453**