



# Florida Military School

## Alumni Association



Vol. 4 Issue 3

NOVEMBER 2007

### From the President's Pen...

- - Max Elliott '58



Twenty FMSers were in attendance for the 5<sup>th</sup> FMSA Annual Meeting on 13 October, 2007 at Sky Harbor Station, DeLand, Florida. The agenda and minutes are posted on our FMSA web site and will be included in this newsletter, space permitting. I want to note that **Ms. Earp (Faculty)** was present, keeping her record of perfect attendance intact! The lunch at Skydive DeLand, as always, provided an opportunity for folks to get together and chat. Following the socializing and lunch, the meeting was held in the hanger of **Steve and Sydney Nash (65)**. After the meeting, there was a gathering and steak fry held at the Elliott's. **Dennis Eyre (59)** functioned as Chief Chef and the steaks were done to perfection!

**Harry Silvis (65)**, the Chairman of the Election Committee, on 11 August 2007, submitted their report which stated that as no other slate was presented, the current Board has been elected and will remain in place. Thanks to Harry and members **E.J. Jones (65)** and **John Kendrick (65)**.

**Thornton Ridinger (59)**, **Sue Elliott (60-HM)**, **William and Judy Dubberly (60)** and I met with **Col. Ward** in July and discussed the 2009 reunion plans. We also garnered some more FMS history and ideas for the reunion book we are working on. Hopefully, we will be able to complete, publish, and distribute the book for the 2009 reunion. If anyone has anything they would like to contribute, please contact us.

Since the last newsletter, I have had e-mail, phone or personal contact with all of our current FMSA Board and our Official Vender, **Harry Silvis (65)**, as well as **Joe Leer (63)**, **Paul Ward (71)**, **Jim Clayton (FMS Friend)**, **John Kendrick (65)**, **David Scarborough (65)**, **Bill Prentiss (Faculty)**, **Steve Nash (65)**, **Morgan Speer (69)**, **Carl Voelcker 67**, **Paul Denson (64)**, **Alex Nelon (63)**, **Robert Mouro (66)**, **Bill Nesmith (66)**, **Jim Turner (1959)**, **Bob Kernohan (66)**, **Ray Gilbert (64)**, **Robert McNeil (68)**, **Bob Green (66)**, **Mark Berry (70)**, **Earl Lamar (63)**, **Andy Staley (68)**, **Mike Davis (69)**, and **Harlow Landphair (58)**. As before, if I have left anyone out, forgive me and let me know and I'll put it in the next newsletter. If you have news, please contact Sue or me and let us know.

On a sad note, we have learned of the deaths of several members. We learned from **Bob Kernohan (66)**, that **Milton Kuharske (66)** recently passed away. The widow of **William Gise (60)** wrote to inform us of his passing. **Joe Clenney (Faculty)** relayed the passing of **Dan Redding (Faculty)**.

The FMS historical plaque has been remounted! If anyone cleans the column, please completely cover and protect the plaque first.

Sue and I are still searching to find those who have never been found and to re-find those who have been found previously and then lost. Please don't get lost! Keep us apprised of your mailing address changes. Again, please keep me posted and send me any changes in your contact information. **AND: If you know of any other FMSers that we don't have, please send me their contact information!**

We have recently located, all from the class of 1961, **Bob Ambuhl**, **Oliver Carpenter**, **Bill Dallenbach**, **Darryl Eitel**, **Charles Tanski**, and **Homer Jamerson**. Welcome aboard, guys! I note that Oliver and Bill did not wish to participate with us.

We have lost contact with **James Johnson (60)**, **Gareth Jones (60)**, **Terry Yakovitz (62)**, **Wilson Bettis (63)**, **Jim Dean (63)**, **William Edrington (63)**, **Peter Bakos (64)**, **Alfred Destin (64)**, **Neil Sigvartsen (64)**, **Clair Virgil (64)**, **Joseph Hardy (65)**, **Bob Hauptfuhrer (65)**, **F. Lee Hinebaugh (65)**, **Richard Owens (65)**, **Randall Prentice (66)**, **Mike Cantin (67)**, **Ted Culbertson (67)**, **Joseph Feltrup (67)**, **Joseph Camp (68)**, **Bobby Ginn III (68)**, **Terry Flicker (69)**, **Scott Williams (69)**, **John Sharp (70)**, **Mike Mueller (71)**, **Susan Scovell (71)**, **Robert Kirkland (72)**, **Nick Easterling (73)**, and **Cathy Chitty (75)**. If you know the whereabouts of any of these, please let us know.

As always, I invite you to visit the FMSA web site ([www.fms-assn.org](http://www.fms-assn.org)) and see for yourself the fine job that our Web Master, **Asa Dean (60)** continues to do for us! Once again, and I can't say it enough, many thanks, Asa!

FMSA Official Website:  
[www.fms-assn.org](http://www.fms-assn.org)

## Prentiss' 50<sup>th</sup> Becomes A FMS Reunion

**By Lee Hansen ('63)**

Fifty years ago Bill and Sallie Prentiss were newlyweds when Bill began his education career as an instructor and academic leader at Florida Military School.

So when Bill and Sallie planned their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary recently their thoughts naturally included FMS. They decided to make their celebration both an anniversary party and a school reunion.

A long line of parked cars along a shaded residential street just north of Universal Studios in Orlando marked the party site, the couple's home. Mrs. Prentiss and other family members had prepared an assortment of delicious taste treats for their guests. Within a short time former cadets had joined other well-wishers from throughout the area and filled nearly every room in the house to capacity.

Col. Prentiss (that just seems proper) said he'd borrowed one of the FMS Alumni Association's mailing lists to use for mailing invitations. Former cadets turning out for the special event included, in alphabetical order: **Ed Albers, Spyder Byland, Rick Cleveland, Frank Craig, Bill Dubberly, Tom Elliott, Lee Hansen, Sonny Hewitt, Steve Nash, Bill Parrish, Bruce Preston, Skip Randle, Thornton Ridinger, Stewart Robinson, and Hollis Turner.** Many other former cadets and faculty called or wrote with best wishes and Chaplin Dinkins sent a bouquet of flowers.

Col. Prentiss said one surprise was an email from **Joe Leer.** The 1963 cadet Regimental Commander is now a physician living in Brisbane, Australia.

FMSA President Max Elliott and his Association Secretary wife, Sue, joined forces with Harry Silvis to create a beautiful, framed picture with both of the Prentiss' photos at the top and adorned with the FMS coat of arms and the inscription *FMS Alumni salute you on your 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.*



It just wouldn't be an Annual Meeting without Miss Earp. She has made it to every one of the meetings and gets a star for perfect attendance.

As usual, the group enjoyed the social time prior to the meeting and also the good food at the Perfect Spot. In addition to the 20 cadets there were four or five spouses or friends in attendance.

It was good to see the familiar old faces with a sprinkling of new ones, too.



Speaking of familiar faces, it was good to see Jim Turner there looking so good after his rough year with health problems.

And, of course, there was the usual business meeting in Steve's hanger



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## 2007 BUSY YEAR FOR FMSA WEB SITE

**By Harry Silvis ('65)**

Web Master Sergeant Major Asa Dean has had a busy year updating the Alumni web site located at [www.fms-assn.org](http://www.fms-assn.org). He moved the web site to a new hosting service, to give us better services. He has added a new category of the Lances and added the 19 we have found so far. He has added the Alumni newsletters as they are published. 80 pictures were added from the reunion in 2006. Three articles by cadets were added. Two FMS handbooks were added as well as other FMS publications. Added info about the sinking of the riverboat in the tornado, as well as a note from Ruth, the owner of the riverboat.

Asa brought FMS on to *YouTube* when he took part of the DVD made by Goldrush and uploaded it on to *YouTube*. If that is not enough Asa is looking into the how's and costs of doing a live web casting the 2009 reunion and having a way of people not at the reunion talking with people that are.

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## Florida Military School Association Treasurer's Report 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting October 13, 2007

At the 4th Annual Meeting on October 21st, 2006, a cash balance of \$5,542.44 was reported.

Income for the past year totaled \$310.82 as follows:

Donations	\$296.62
Directory Sales	\$14.20

Expenses totaled \$1,496.14 as follows:

Newsletter expenses:	\$1,359.89
Corporation Annual Fee:	\$61.25
Memorial Plaque Restoration	\$75.00

For the year, expenses exceeded income by \$1,185.32

Our current bank balance is \$4,357.12

Respectfully submitted,  
Thornton Ridinger, Treasurer

## FMSA ELECTIONS

The FMSA Election Committee Report

August 11, 2007

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## 2007 FMSA ANNUAL MEETING

First, I would like to thank my committee: John Kendrick & EJ Jones for their able assistance.

The committee would like to report to the Secretary & the President that there were no additional slates nominated for the Board of Directors' positions in FMSA, so the current slate is elected.

The current slate consists of:

- Max Elliott, President
- Sue Elliott, Secretary
- Thornton Ridinger, Vice President/Treasurer
- Jerry Alleyne, Member at Large
- Dennis Eyre, Member at Large
- Lee Hansen, Member at Large
- Asa Dean, Webmaster & Member at Large

So submitted: Harry C. Silvis 65'  
John W. Kendrick 65'  
Ernest J. Jones 65'

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## In Memory --- Milton T. Kuharske

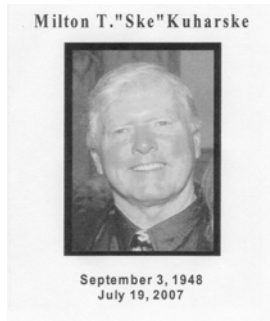
Milton T Kuharske, Class of 1966, passed away on July 16, 2007 in Gettysburg, Pa.

Milt is survived by His wife Terry, Daughters Regan, 29, Jordan, 27, Taylor, 26 His son David, 40, Sisters Nancy and Marylyn, and Brothers Charles, Edward and Sam.

Milt was from Groveland, Florida and attended FMS for 2 years, graduating with the Class of '66. He was on the basketball team '66, Lancers '66 and was A Co Guide Sergeant '66

He attended the University of Alabama before enlisting in the USMC. With his FMS training, it was no surprise that he was Honor Man at Parris Island, SC. He moved to Gettysburg, Pa where he built a successful contracting business.

He will be missed by all that knew and loved Him



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## FMSA 2009 REUNION UPDATE

Remember, the dates are July 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2009. Everyone has enough lead time so they can make their plans to attend. You will note that we are starting on a Thursday and running through the Sunday this time. With advance planning, this could make a great family vacation.

The Holiday Inn has guaranteed us our 2002 rates of \$59 for a single/double or a Triple/Quad, and \$99 for a Jr. Suite.

Thornton Ridinger, ('59) is coordinating the plans for the Golden reunion classes (1957-1960). Special activities for those classes will be planned for Thursday

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## This last minute article



This last minute article appeared in the Deland Beacon newspaper. Bill Bradford was an FMS faculty member and still lives in Deland. He is retired but he isn't "rusting" away. Good going, Bill. Keep up the good work.

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## Need a Holiday Gift?

You don't need to look far. Why not try something from Harry Silvis' FMS gifts? Maybe a personalized photo frame with the FMS crest? Or possibly an ariel photo of FMS? Or a smaller stocking stuffer...a pin or a hat?

Contact Harry to order something today. All sales from the CD of annuals, Pic CD of 2002. 2006 reunions, DVD of 2006 reunion benefit the FMSA coffers, too. There are still DVD's available from converted films from 56,58,62 & 65. Contact Harry @ 770-421-1415, fax 770-421-1745 or email him @ kennesawgraphics@bellsouth.net.

### Florida Military School Alumni

c/o Max Elliott  
Post Office Box 5  
Pierson, Florida 32180

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## THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

By Steve Nash ('65)

In February of 2007 my home in the town of DeLand was severely damaged by a tornado that ripped across the state from the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic. I was lucky to only be displaced for five days living with my daughter and her husband. The insurance company that we have was very good to us and gave us no trouble when money was asked for and now, ten months later, we are in very good shape and our home is ours again.

I returned home from a trip to North Carolina to find several large palm trees in my yard and wondered where they came from. The tags revealed that the Alumni at Florida Military School had done this and I couldn't believe it. It seems like personal interest in the plight of others is a waning concern these days and this altruistic act was heart warming. I can't thank this fine organization enough for this; the trees were planted immediately and look wonderful.

I hope that sometime when we have our meetings my home can be shown and is always open to cadets from any class. Thanks again your generosity and caring are exemplary of the training from our early years.

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## FMS BOOK

Plans are underway for a quality, coffee-table edition of the Florida Military School history. The work has begun to flesh it out. Contributions are still welcome.

A discussion was held as to how we would finance the endeavor and it was decided that once the total cost was determined, we would solicit patrons or sponsors. There would be various levels of sponsors and their names would be listed in the book and they would receive special recognition at the 2009 Reunion. It was also discussed that a special reception be held for these sponsors. Basically, it is hoped the book would be self-sustaining and no additional FMSA funds would be needed. Any extra funds would be applied toward the reunion expenses, which as we have determined in the past, are never fully covered by the registration fees.

Photos and such are now being selected to augment the narrative for the various years. If you have any submissions or suggestions, they are more than welcome.