



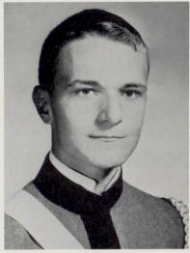
Florida Military School

Alumni Association



Vol. 9 Issue 1

MARCH 2012



***From the President's
Keyboard***

Harry C. Silvis '65
FMSA PRESIDENT

kennesawgraphics@comcast.net.

Zora Mae and I hope you had as good a holiday season as we did. We are continuing our search for a home in Florida. After we returned home we put backup contracts on two short sales in Palm Coast. Zora Mae continued her web search of homes and found a home in DeLand, that was larger than the other homes and it was a newer custom home. Again, we put in a back-up contract on the short sale and were very confident we would get the home, if we wanted it as the primary buyer wanted the bank to put a new roof on the house. We only waited a month for the bank to reject the primary buyer and another month to accept our lower bid. We now await the secondary lender's letter to go to closing and get the clear title.

Max & Sue Elliott, went on a three week cruise to Hawaii in late January and early February. Also on the cruise were Pete and Trudy Bulat 66'. We jumped at the chance to spend three weeks at the farm in Pierson, minding the farm. While there, with our daughter Leslie, we were able to spend three hours going over the house and measuring everything and getting pictures of everything.

We had a nice lunch with Thornton Ridinger 59' at the airport Restaurant. We had two meals at TOM'S PIZZA. First, was the pizza and the second was the cheese steak sandwiches, which, remain the best we have ever had. We are back home preparing for the move. We have purchased all the needed lighting fixtures and all new stainless steel appliances from BrandSmart, as you are rarely able to purchase homes with appliances anymore, especially in short sales.

I tried to visit my first FMS roommate Peter Layzell who we found last year, but he has relocated without leaving a forwarding address with his sister, Dawn.

We continue to receive a half dozen or so newsletters back from each mailing marked as *undeliverable*.

Please make sure that we have your address after you move, as the post office does not always handle your address change very well. *We do not want to again post you as missing!*

The columns remain intact at the school site and there continues to be new buildings being built even though there are many others that are empty. The deck of Howard Hall remains with the longest and straightest 2 x 12's I have ever seen.

Please use tdpilot2@gmail.com to get a hold of our web Master Sergeant, Asa Dean. All other addresses are now null and void.

At the annual meeting there were a few cadets that wanted to change the number of newsletters printed this non-reunion year from three to four. Zora Mae and I were going to eat the production costs of printing them if the \$300.00 was raised for the mailing costs. I must report that the money has not been raised, so we will have the three planned newsletters in 2012. As this is not a reunion year, there is at this time not much to report but, the obits.

You will find the current financial information of the association later in the newsletter. We are working hard to stay within our budget until the next reunion in 2013. We will have enough up front money to get everything started. The rooms and rental of facility costs are frozen, but the costs of food and the many add ons are fluid.

Last reunion they were actually cheaper than earlier reunions BUT, we cannot bank on that in 2013 as the providers of these services are dwindling. Our goal is to be able to retain the costs to you at the previous costs and not downgrade the reunion.

Ed Grove, the school barber for so many years has passed on. You will find his obit later in the newsletter.

I have revisited the current military high schools later in the newsletter with the three that are the most reasonable to attend. I spent a few hours with a good friend of ours not long ago, talking about sending her 9th grader to Riverside in Gainesville, GA. It was over when I told her it was over \$30,000.00 a year for tuition! By the way, families can now borrow the tuition and spread the payments over a longer period than tuition plans allow, much like college loans.

***THE FMSA OFFICIAL WEBSITE:
www.fms-assn.org***

MAILING ADDRESS: FMSA c/o Max Elliott
P.O. Box 5 Pierson, FL 32180

MILITARY HIGH SCHOOLS

REVISITED

By Harry C. Silvis '65'

A few years ago I wrote about why the military high schools disappeared and how many survived. We still get about a person every six months or so contacting us about sending their troubled child to FMS. We gently explain that FMS is long closed and explore with them why they want to send their child to a military school. Then we ask them if they can afford the \$40,000.00 a year average tuition, and most have not even looked at the costs. It appears that the average costs have increased \$16,000.00 in the last decade or so. The only bargain remains New Mexico Military Institute, which is the only state funded school. Its costs are comparable to FMS with inflation factored in.

Camden Military Academy, Camden, SC

In line with most military schools Camden Military Academy approaches the education of its students as more than just academics. It focuses on educating and developing the 'whole man' as its philosophy states. This school has been around for more than a 100 years. If you are looking for a military school for your son, CMA should be on your list.

- School Type: boys, boarding school
- Grades: 7-12
- Acceptance Rate: 80%
- Enrollment: 302
- Church Affiliation: Non-denominational
- Faculty to Student Ratio: 1:8
- Tuition: \$17,595
- Percentage of students receiving financial aid: 30%
- Admissions Deadline: Rolling

Carson Long Military Institute, New Bloomfield, PA

Founded in 1842 Carson Long Military Institute is the oldest military boarding school in the U.S. It has also been accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools since 1929. More importantly, Carson Long prides itself on being a preparatory school which prepares young men for life and learning. If you are considering a military school for your son, put CLMI on your list.

- School Type: boys, boarding school
- Grades: 6-12
- Acceptance Rate: 76%
- Enrollment: 137
- Church Affiliation: Non-denominational
- Faculty to Student Ratio: 1:7
- Tuition: \$16,500
- Percentage of students receiving financial aid: n/a%
- Admissions Deadline: Rolling

New Mexico Military Institute, Roswell, NM

New Mexico Military Institute offers a rigorous academic and military training designed to challenge and fully develop

cadets to their fullest potential. Generous financial aid is available. The Institute also has a two year college program as well as solid preparation for potential nomination for the five service academies.

- School Type: Coeducational, boarding school
- Grades: 9-12, PG
- Church Affiliation: Non-denominational
- Acceptance Rate: 60%
- Enrollment: 870
- Faculty to Student Ratio 1:12
- Tuition: \$11,732, \$8,492 for New Mexico residents
- Percentage of students receiving financial aid: 75%
- Admissions Deadline: Rolling

Camden is the closest to FMS in cadet numbers, grades & make-up. While **Carson Long** is the oldest Military school and is but, one-third the size of FMS. We must assume they have a lot of alumni money, due to their small size. **New Mexico** is huge. It is three times the size of FMS, and is the only coed school of the three, but it is a state operated school. I am still trying to find a state or county charter military school, so if you know of any, please advise us about them! We are ripe for one in Kennesaw as 10% of high school students are in JrROTC.

2012 FMSA ANNUAL MEETING DATE

Our by-laws require that we hold an annual meeting in DeLand each year in the month of October. For the last eight years, it was scheduled on the Saturday that the U of FL football had a bye date. This year, it will not be possible as the bye date is in September.

So, I have penciled in either the 20th or 27th of October. I picked these two dates as they do not conflict with the October Biketoberfest activities. Please contact me with which of these dates you want. I will set the firm date in the June newsletter. *Harry C. Silvis*

NORTH FLORIDA FMS CADET HOLIDAY GET TOGETHER

By Rex Riley & Robert Mouro

A few of the former cadets got together for a little Christmas get together at the home of Rex and Rose Riley (Class of 1970). We fried a turkey and enjoyed the Florida weather. For all those that missed the Christmas party, you really missed out on a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship.



The Dinner was so much, we had enough leftovers to feed the corps of cadets! The RUM cake made by John Hartman was a REAL RUM CAKE and it seemed to have a fifth in it at least! We are hoping to have more get together and more attendees this year. You can find pictures or the get together at the link below, or visit the Florida Military School Facebook page.

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/media/set/?set=a.10150524256241449.420780.157759031448&type=1>

If you are interested in attending one of the North Florida Military School get-togethers, please contact either of the cadets below:

REX RILEY RexRiley1@comcast.net
(904) 260-4345
11226 Cloverhill Cir W
Jacksonville, FL 32257

ROBERT MOURO RMouro2@aol.com
(904) 294-4265
777 Crystal Way
Orange Park, FL 32065

In Memoriam:



EDWARD P. GROVE **"The Butcher"**

Edward P. Grove, 82, passed away Tuesday, November 22, 2011. Born in Williamsport, PA on June 30, 1929, He played professional baseball with the Brooklyn Dodgers Organization from 1948-1951. He moved to DeLand, Florida in 1960 where he resided for 51 years. He was a barber at the Florida Military School in DeLand. He was a longtime supporter of Stetson Athletic Programs. Edward was preceded in death in 1985 by his wife Della. He is survived by is children, Jesse (Donna) of Lake Mary, James (Elizabeth) of Williamson, Georgia, Jamie Swann (Martin) of DeLand; six grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. There will be a graveside service at Oakdale Cemetery in DeLand on Saturday, December 10th at 11:00 A.M. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Halifax Health –Hospice of Volusia/Flagler and the American Cancer Society..

Published in Daytona Beach News-Journal on December 4, 2011



(See the full article about Ed Grove, as the FMS Barber, in the Newsletter December 2005, available on the FMSA website.)

VERN J. HENDERSHOTT Jr. '63



VERN J. HENDERSHOTT **Jr. , 66, Port Orange,** **Florida, a former aviation** **consultant, died Saturday,** **December 17,2011**

Published in Daytona Beach News-Journal on December 20, 2011

– Alex Nelson 63' wrote -

I can see his face clearly in my mind's eye. He looked like a pugnacious sort but wasn't. Sandy blonde hair in a flattop. I don't think he was there long. Time frame around 58-60.

Vern was a well-respected airplane builder (experimentals - specifically VAF, Van's Air Force, series airplanes, very popular designs). He posted often on the Van's builders forum and lent a lot of help to other builders. He held FAA mechanic and commercial pilot licenses. According to the forum, his wife passed away several years ago and he lived with his father, Vern, Sr., at Spruce Creek Airport, Port Orange FL.

Edward Adam "Ed" Kuharske '71



Edward Adam "Ed" **Kuharske, 57, of Idaho Falls,** **died Sunday, June 26, 2011.**

Above information was forwarded to us by
Linda Kuharske.

Ed had worked at the Naval Reactors Facility where they the U.S. Navy's nuclear-powered fleet by testing reactor designs, receiving spent nuclear fuel for processing and storage, and training nearly 40,000 Navy personnel to operate surface and submarine nuclear power plants. He also was a reserve deputy at the Bonnaville Sheriff's Office. Ed enjoyed car shows, drag racing at the Las Vegas Speedway as well as being an avid SCUBA diver, that. - *From Ed's Guestbook*

Treasurer's Report

10/22/2011 – 2/22/2011

Beginning Balance – 10/22/2011	\$6886.82
<u>INCOME</u>	
Sales	\$162.00
TOTAL INCOME -	\$ 162.00
<u>EXPENSES</u>	
10/24/2011- Printing calendars	\$150.00
11/4/2011- Newsletter postage	\$ 286.00
11/4/2011 –Printing newsletters	\$150.00
TOTAL EXPENSES -	\$ 586.00
(Income – expenses = \$424.00 loss)	
<u>TOTAL ASSETS – 2/22/2012</u>	
Cash/Bank Account BB&T	\$6462.82

Sue Elliott, Treasurer



Sue & Trudy get into the spirit of things.



Max joins in, too.

Perhaps you heard about them on the national news when their ship had to stop mid-Pacific while a Coast Guard plane flew urgently needed medications and blood to the ship for a seriously ill passenger. This was only one of several emergencies during the trip.

FMSA Cadets on the Go

January 20th, two cadets, Pete Bulat '66, and Max Elliott '58, decided to re-enact the FMSA cruise they took to the Caribbean on the *Carnival Glory* in December 2003.



This time, they decided to do it up right and instead of 7 days, they took a 15 day cruise to Hawaii on

the *Carnival Spirit*. They were joined on this trip by their wives, Trudy (the Purple Pumpkin Lady) and Sue. Six of Pete's relatives rounded out the group. It was a restful but exciting trip.



All great things have to come to an end and Pete & Trudy are left to ponder the old question, "How come dirty clothes take up more room than clean ones? They all fit in the bags coming out."

(Perhaps we can put together another FMSA cruise in the near future. They sure are fun.)

Max Elliott
Post Office Box 5
Pierson, FL 32180

Address Correction Requested

ODDS & ENDS

Reunion 2013 -

Sounds like a long way away but it really isn't. If you have thought about locating that long lost roommate, or organizing a special activity or gathering for your class....start now. You will be surprised at how much time that takes. Any good activity needs lots of preplanning. There are all sorts of fun things you might want to do with your class, besides the usual dinner gatherings on Friday night. Boat trips, a night at the races (dog), just to name a few. Or perhaps someone would like to organize a golf tournament?

Soon we will be asking for a theme. Put on your thinking caps for this one. **Any suggestions?** This is also the time for your input on type of activities, and food, etc for the weekend. We would rather you give us input now than listen to you grumble later.

Miscellaneous FMSA Items

We still have a bunch of left over items for sale. (See the last few issues for the items, and prices, etc). They do take up space and we would love to send them your way. Just let us know what you would like.

Pins, Patches, CD's, and DVD's.

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From the Editor -

On these "off" non-reunion years it is very difficult to find stories for the newsletter. This is one reason we have gone to the three issues in those years (as well as for financial reasons).

It would really be helpful if you would send ideas and stories (pictures, too) to Sue Elliott so she can make the newsletter more interesting. I am sure you don't want it to be just a listing of obituaries, although we do want to receive those as well. We know you are doing some interesting things. Let us hear about them.