



The Kemperite

Message from the President

It has been an extremely busy but productive first half of the year. We held a successful reunion in May, which included voting new members on to the Board, we have started the process of getting an Alumni Directory published, started revamping the website, and are planning a shooting competition with Wentworth in October for which the proceeds will go to the Alumni Association to use for things like a new scholarship fund for children of alumni. I hope to see all of you in October where we can show Wentworth that our school may be closed, but Kemper Alumni can still beat them any day.

If you want to get a hold of me, feel free to call me or email me. My number is 501-312-5876 and my email address is Williams29LL@sbcglobal.net

Kemper Proud,

Laura Spice Williams, KMS 83

1st Annual Kemper Invitational Benefit Trap Shoot Little Rock, Arkansas It's Kemper VS. Wentworth!

- When: October 13, 2007
- Where:
Trapshoot:- Remington Gun Club, Lonoke, Arkansas
BBQ: 13621 Beckenham Dr., Little Rock, Arkansas
- Hosted By: Laura Spice Williams
- Cost: \$75.00 per shooter or sponsor a squad of 5 for \$375.00 (Includes use of club shotgun, ammo and ticket to BBQ)

Come support your school by shooting or cheering on our shooters at the 1st Annual Kemper Invitational Benefit Trap Shoot. Laura Spice Williams, KMS 83, is hosting the event in her home town of Little Rock. The Trap

shoot will be held at 9 A.M. at the Remington Gun Club in Lonoke Arkansas. This event is geared for shooters or non-shooters alike so even if you have never picked up a shot gun come on out and give it a try. We will give a trophy to the Alumni Association with the best average. We will also give awards to the squad with the highest score. Each participant will shoot 25 targets. It will be followed by a Barbecue Saturday afternoon at Laura's home in Little Rock where our very own Chief Ignacio will grill his famous pork chops for the participants. For more information contact Laura Williams at 501-312-5876 or go to our web page at Kemperalumni.net

Kemper Loses another one of Our Own in Iraq

Travis W. Atkins, KMS '95, was killed in Iraq on June 1. The following is his obituary which appeared in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle.

“Army Staff Sgt. Travis William Atkins, 31, was killed June 1, 2007, near Yusufiyah, Iraq, when a suicide bomber detonated an explosive device as Travis was apprehending him. At the time of his death, Travis was leading a dismounted patrol as a squad leader of Delta Company, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry). Travis was born in Great Falls, the son of John (Jack) and Elaine (Frankel) Atkins. Travis spent his first five years in Helena and then moved with his parents to Bozeman in 1981. Travis attended Bozeman schools and also one year at Kemper Military School in Booneville, Mo. Prior to enlisting in the U.S. Army, Travis worked for concrete contractors, painting contractors and as a small engine mechanic in Missoula, Belgrade, Bozeman and West Yellowstone. Travis enlisted in the U.S. Army on Nov. 16, 2000. After completing infantry basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., Travis was assigned to Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Ky. Travis deployed with the 101st to Kuwait in early March 2003 and participated in the invasion of Iraq later that month as an infantry fire team leader. During his 2003 tour in Iraq, Travis was tasked out to the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-DELTA for a period of time. Travis was honorably discharged as a sergeant, E-5, from the U.S. Army in December 2003, whereupon he again worked for concrete and painting contractors and also attended the University of Montana in Missoula. Travis reenlisted in the U.S. Army in December 2005 and was assigned to Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), at Fort Drum, N.Y. Travis was subsequently reassigned to Delta Company in the same battalion and deployed to Iraq again in August 2006. Travis was promoted to staff sergeant, E-6, effective May 1, 2007. Travis was all Army, all Infantry. One of his recommendations for an award describes Travis' enthusiasm for his profession. It reads: During Operation Iraqi Freedom, CPL Atkins skillfully led his fire team on a raid in Southern Baghdad. During the raid his team was tasked with clearing a mosque reported to house up to thirty armed Iraqi suicide fighters. Leading from the front, using speed and violence of action, CPL Atkins' team successfully seized and secured the Brigade Task Force objective, capturing all personnel inside by surprise. His team was able to find several weapons, uniforms and intel. Travis received numerous awards and decorations during his relatively short military career, including the Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge and Air Assault Badge. Travis loved to hunt, fish, camp and snowmobile. He was a superb marksman, a crafty fisherman, a skillful camper and an extreme snowmobiler. As much as he loved the outdoors, Travis' first love was for his 11-year-old, Trevor. He cherished the time he could spend with Trevor and included Trevor in all of his outdoor activities. Travis was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents and his paternal grandfather. He is survived by his son, Trevor Oliver of Coon Rapids, Minn.; his parents, John (Jack) and Elaine Atkins of Bozeman; his sister, Jennifer (David) Schultz of Vancouver, Wash.; his paternal grandmother, Virginia Atkins of Hartford, Conn.; his paternal uncle and aunt, Sumner and Carolyn Atkins, of Marco Island, Fla., and his maternal uncle and aunt, Ephriam and Marion Frankel of Milwaukee, Wis. Visitation will be held at Dahl Funeral Chapel in Bozeman from noon until 7 p.m. on Monday, June 11, 2007. The family will be present at the visitation to greet friends from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. A Vigil Service will be held at 7 p.m. Monday at Dahl Funeral Chapel. A funeral mass will be held at Resurrection Parish in Bozeman beginning at 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 12, followed by interment and military honors at Sunset Hills Cemetery. Memorials may be made in Travis' name to the Bozeman Public Library, 626 E. Main St., Bozeman, MT 59715, for the benefit of the military history section and the landscaping fund.

2007 May Annual Meeting Report

The May Annual meeting and Spring Reunion was a hit. Friday night we had a drop in meet and greet, Saturday we attended the Commissioning Ceremony and Graduation of Erin Mauk at Wentworth. We also had lunch provided by our gracious hosts at Wentworth. The Annual Meeting was held Saturday night. Our Board of Directors were unanimously accepted, along with two new members, Michael Mehlhaff, JC 72 and Johnny Kartsonis, JC 90. We had a very interesting question and answer session about the future of the campus and the future of the Alumni Association. Feel free to check out the minutes of our meetings on Kemperalumni.net

Your 2007-2008 Board of Directors:

Laura Spice-Williams, '83 President
Laura Gramlich, '89 Vice-President
David Diehl, '54 Treasurer
Neill Horton, '97
Weston Rogers, '59
John Kartsonis, '50
Johnny Kartsonis, '90
John Mammano, '91
Mike Dundee, '68
Harrison "Ace" Johnson, '57
Michael Mehlhaff, '72



May Reunion Attendees



CWA (Ret.) Abraham Ignacio and Mr. Irl Lutz

Check Out the All New Website and Message Board

Neill Horton, KMS '95, has totally revamped our web-site and message board. Check it out at www.kemperalumni.net It has a completely new look, and he is working on getting new links and new features going like "Kemper Stories, a quartermaster section, and a way to donate online. Thanks, Neill!

New Alumni Directories Are Coming!

In an effort to bring alumni from around the globe back together, the Kemper Military School & College Alumni Association is proud to announce the publication of an all-new Alumni Directory.

Scheduled for release in the fall of 2008, our Alumni Directory will be the most up-to-date and complete reference of Kemper Military School & College compiled since the closing of the school! This comprehensive volume will include current name and name when a student (if different) as well as class year(s) and degree(s) earned from Kemper Military School & College. Each biographical listing will also include home address and phone number, names of spouse and children, in addition to detailed professional information.

The new 2008 edition will list alumni alphabetically with the information outlined above, by class year, by geographic location and by occupation in our special career networking section.

The Alumni Association has chosen the Harris Connect to produce this special edition. Harris Connect will soon begin researching and compiling the data to be included in the directory by mailing a questionnaire to each alumnus/a. Please be sure to fill it out and return it as soon as you receive it. **(If we don't have your current address, please contact the Alumni Association at Kemperalumni.net as soon as possible and update your info so we can make sure you receive a directory questionnaire!)**

With your participation, the 2008 edition of the Kemper Military School & College Alumni Directory is sure to be a great success. Look for more details on the project in future issues of this newsletter.

Update Your Info For Our July Mail-out

We will be sending out a printed version of the Kemperite this month. Please update your info immediately if you haven't done so lately so we will have your correct address. You can update your info on our website at www.kemperalumni.net or you can call Laura Williams at 501-312-5876. We need our database as up to date as possible to get ready for the alumni directory questionnaire mail-out.

Donations Needed Immediately!

In order for us to continue operating, sending out mail-outs, keeping a website up and running, and purchasing Kemper memorabilia for a future museum we need funds. Every donation helps no matter how small. If you would like to donate, please send your check to

Kemper Military School and College Alumni Association
David Diehl, Treasurer
32 Forrest Knolls Est.
Decatur, IL 62521-4422

Alumni Requests

Ed Chandler, KMJC '54-'56, is looking for a Kemper Athletic Letter. If you happen to have one you would be willing to part with you can email Ed at

Edward.V.Chandler@saic.com

Matthew Bernson, '91, is looking for two teachers, Tom Reese and Major Joe Palkovick. You can contact him at robotchef73@yahoo.com

Ron Vonderahe, '62 (Lt. 1st Platoon, Fox Co.), writes "thank you for the correspondence. I was KMS 62. KMS is pure history and a very good chapter in my life. Ps. Please see if you have email or address for Sgt. Smith. He was ROTC, Army Instructor, and one very good person." rlvda@yahoo.com *I don't have info on him but maybe someone will see this and update us. -LSW*

Final Taps

Our thoughts and condolences go out to the families of the following Kemper Alumni:

Travis W. Atkins, KMS '95. Travis Atkins was killed in Iraq in June 1. He is survived by his parents Jack and Elaine Atkins of Bozeman, Mont, his 11 year old son, Trevor of Minnesota, and a sister Jennifer of Washington.

Bruce Rigby: KMS '73. 1953-2005. K. Klein let us know that he passed away in Florida in 2005.

Stephen Hancock, KMS 1959. Leigh hancock let us know that Stephen passed away on April 12, 2006.

Gordon C. Gregory, JC '40: Daniel Ochsenschlager let us know that Gordon Gregory passed away on Febuary 23 in Aurora, IL. Gordon was a former St. Charles Planning Commissioner, and started Gregory and Associates, a consulting firm in St. Charles. He is survived by his sons, Eric and Arden, Daughter Candice Carlyon and five grandchildren.

Bob Dyer, former Kemper Instructor. Jim Bob Herring let us know that Mr. Dyer passed away on April 11, 2007 in Boonville. Mr. Dyer was very active in the local Boonville and Columbia music scene.

Alumni Updates

If you see someone you would like to contact, email Williams29LL@sbcglobal.net and I will send them your contact info.

1940's

Richard R. Nelson, '45, via web update. Richard is currently retired and living in Houston, Texas.

Volney O. Hildreth, '47, via web update. Volney is currently residing in the Dominican Republic. He writes "Father and son of same name also attended. Formerly admissions and alumni director and trustee. Close friend and associate of General Cleland.

Robert E. Stilling, '44, via web update. He is retired in Yuma, Arizona. He writes "My two years at Kemper were the best time of my teenage years."

1950's

John Kartsonis, '50. John attended the May reunion. He is retired in Kansas City, MO.

Richard L. Boos, '51, via web update. Richard is retired in Tucson, AZ.

Tom Maxwell, JC '55. Tom attended the May Reunion. He currently resides in Boonville, MO.

Edward J. Cass, '56, via web update. He is an attorney in Punta Gorda, Florida.

Dennis DeVault, '57, via web update. He is retired in Wilton, ND, and writes "Don't remember a lot about those days except that they did prepare me for when I went into the armed forces. I know it was probably an over all good experience but I was not an outstanding cadet."

Dale T. Finley, '57, via web update. Dale is retired and residing in Fort Worth, Texas.

Ace Johnson, '57. Ace attended the May Reunion. He is currently a businessman in Independence, KS.

Richard M. Atchison, 58. Richard is retired from the military and living in Springfield, VA.

Rudy E. Dracka, '58, via web update. He is retired in Clinton, Ohio.

Joe Sailor, JC '58, via web update. Joe is in Vinton, VA. He writes "KMS, some of the best and best remembered years of my life; tis a shame we did not realize this back then! Today, I have spent some time to just reflect on KMS and my days there, mainly because of a very real tragedy occurring yesterday at a college very dear to my wife and I these last 20 + years. This school is VA Tech in Blacksburg VA, whom was brought to national attention by a lone foreign gunman killing 32 students and faculty and wounding at least 15 more : (. When something such as this oh so terrible tragedy w/o any reasonable explanation happens, perhaps the only way people can cope, even when one is not directly connected other then by feelings and seniment; is to turn to the good days of family and friends. This is what I have done today, by coming back to KMS for a few minutes."

1960's

Mike Featherston, '61. Mike attended the May Reunion. He is an Insurance Agent in Memphis TN.

Daniel Staffin, '61, via email update. Dan is retired in Illinois.

Denny Carlson, 62 via email update. Denny left his email but no address. He writes "After watching the movie Gettysburg the other day I got on the pc to look up Gen. Kemper, just for the hell of it. It put me onto links for KMS which got my interest immediately. I' a Kemper "Old Boy" from 59-62 or 63 (I can't remember which year.) I still see my old roommate and a few other old classmates thatn live here in Des Moines, but am often curious on some of the other friends I had from my old days as a cadet. I

went to a wedding in KC in 2003, and drove over to Boonville the next day, but the school was closed and locked up – no one to talk to. I did finally go to the Stein House to drink some beer, something I never could have gotten away with in the days I was playing soldier. Thanks”

Edward A. Petersen, III, '62, via web update. Edward is a stockbroker in Lawton, OK. He writes “Graduated from USAF Academy 1966’ retired from USAF 1988 as LtCol.”

Thomas Potter, '62, stopped by the campus. He is in Olathe, KS.

John “Mike” Wisniewski, '63, via web update. Mike is retired in Vero Beach, Florida.

Bill Harrison, '65, via web update. He is a Principal Consultant in Longview, TX.

Craig H. Anderson aka “Doc”, '68, via web update. Craig is in Aerospace and Defense in Long Beach, CA.

Anthony A. Mead, '68, via web update. Anthony is a Medical Death Investigator in West Palm Beach, FL. Anthony writes “ Since Kemper went on to get masters in Criminal Justice. Presently, Operations Manager for Medical Examiners Office in Florida. Hobbies, Rodeo, Skydiving, Repelling, and Scuba.

Joe Wilson, '68, via web update. Joe is at the University of Northern Iowa, in Cedar Falls, IA.

Philip J. Mazgaj, JC'69, via email update. Philip is in Elma, NY.

1970's

Robert J. Davidson, JC '70, via web update. Robert is in sales in Noblesville, IN.

Sid D. Spector, '70, via web update. Sid is retired in Joplin, Missouri. Sid is looking for Pete Barnes, his roommate, and writes “Rick Wheeler Died. I saw him a week before it happened”. *Thanks for letting us know. Our condolences to his family and friends. –LSW*

Chris Stabile, '70. Updated his email address via the web. You can email at mbs1@centurytel.net

Tym Wilson, '70, via web update. He is in Newton, NC.

Michael Mehlhaff, '72, Mike attended the May Reunion. Mike is currently the Deputy State Treasurer of South Dakota. He resides in Pierre.

Robert D. Hellyer, '74, via web update. He is in Fairfax, VA.

Jim Everett, '78. Jim attended the May Reunion. Jim is a Business owner in Columbia, MO.

Ulrika Merrick, '78, via web update. Ulrika is in Surry, British Columbia.

John B. Stephens, JC '78, via web update. He is a teacher in Columbus Georgia.

Terri Jennings, '81, via web update. Terri is an RN in Pembroke Pines, FL. Her email address is jenningsnurse1@aol.com. She writes “living in S. FL, going active in USAF, anyone around here in FL email me. Sorry to hear of the closing of KMS.

Kerry Kennedy, '79, via website. Kerry is in Virginia Beach, VA.

Katty Garcia Velozo (Schneider), via email. Katty writes: First of all I am happy to see that Kemper is still alive and it will be until the last student dies. I was a student but also the former wife of **Sgt. Michael G. Schneider, '79** (the supply Sergeant). I did attend some classes like history, Spanish, and English. My oldest daughter was born while our stay in Boonville, Mo. I am very fond of “good places and good people; and at Boonville and Kemper I found both. It is my dream to one day go back and hopefully my daughter will go with me. I live in Homestead, FL. If any one asks, Ret. SFC. Schneider has been working in the Saudi Arabia area since his retirement, has remarried and now

has 3 boys. You guys are doing a great job and I will try to help in any way I can. May God bless each of you and that you may achieve the dream to “reunite” all Kemper Students.

1980's

Ray Kendeigh, '80, via web update. Ray works for the Federal Government out of Columbiana, Ohio. He writes “Hello.... Let's keep the spirit alive”. *Amen, and thanks for all you have done for us to help do just that. -LSW*

Harry “Pete” Lamb, '82, and Camilla “Cammy Kresin-Lamb, '80, via web update. They said “Thanks, Laura”. Your welcome ;) -LSW

Jeff Bartholomew, '81, via web update. Jeff is in Cortland, NY. He says “Hello to all my friends from Kemper!

Evan Morris, '82, via web update. Evan is a realtor/chef in North Las Vegas, NV. He writes “Would love to see and hear from all my family I made through the years at Kemper, that's right, Kemper was my family and I would not be who I am today if it was not for Kemper. I would like to see a fund drive to help save what is left of Kemper if anything. And once again I would like to thank all those who helped to shape my life.”

Brian Paine, '82, via web update. Brian is in Grants Pass, OR.

Rick Ragsdale, '83, via web update. Rick is a Senior Project Manager/Engineer in Glen Mills, PA.

Chris Burns, '84, via web update. Chris is with Airtran Airways in Orlando, FL.

J. Michael Skinner, '84, via web update. J. Michael is currently the CEO of The Basics.Biz in Omaha, NE.

Shaun Thomas Doughty, '85, via web update. Shaun is a Systems Engineer with the military.

Bryant S. Hayward, '85, via web update. He is in Parker, Colorado.

Shaun Doughty, '85, via web update. He is currently serving in the military as a Senior Field Engineer.

Bryan Brooks, '86, via website. Bryan lives in Westminster, CO.

Shannon Shackelford, '87, via web update. Shannon is working in finance in Boca Raton, FL.

W. David Huffman, '88, via web update. David is an Electronic Systems Tech. in Andrews, TX.

Jason A. Brittain, '88, via web update. Jason is a fabricator in Tampa Bay.

Elizabeth Mullins, '88, updated her current info via an email. Elizabeth is a Title Searcher in South Carolina. She is at 218 Bronlow Dr., Irmo, SC 29063 or her email address is emullins@sc.rr.com

1990's

Burrell K. Baker, '90, via web update. Burrell is a firefighter in Kansas City, MO.

Jennifer H. Honza, '90, via web update. Jennifer is an English Teacher in Hampton, Virginia. She writes “The two years I spent at KMS have had a huge impact on my life. I remember that school itself, as well as my classmates, and many of my teachers with deep affection.”

Johnny Kartsonis, '90. Johnny attended the May Reunion. Johnny is currently in Belton, MO.

Bhisham K. Perti, '90, via web update. Bhisham is in Columbia, Missouri.

Gia L. Shelby, JC '90, via web update. Gia is a registered nurse in Augusta, MO.

Willis Smith '90 and Liz Church Smith, '91, had their first son in 1991. He is now 16 and their daughter is 15. They are in Florida.

Aristotle E. Evia, '93, via web update. He is an attorney in San Francisco, CA. He writes "Please feel free to connect me with other Kemper Alumni in the San Francisco Bay area."

John M. McKay, '96, via web update. John is a student in Athens, GA. He writes "I was a KMS for 1 year, starting in June of '95. Finished Phase One along with 2 other cadets before the rest of the New Boys. Joined Band Company in the fall of '95 and played Sousaphone. Left mid-spring of '96 having already achieved the rank of C/Sgt. After only 7 months. Have endless memories of KMS; some wonderful, some awful."

Joshua and Rebecca Hart Felker, '97. Joshua and Rebecca attended the May Reunion. They are currently in Selma Texas. Rebecca is a stay at home Mom and Joshua is in Real Estate.

Dominic P. Oto, JC '96. Dominic attended the May Reunion. He is currently a school teacher in Longmont, CO.

Angela C. Finley, JC '97, via web site. Angela is working in Computer Science in Quincy, IL.

Brian Oberg, '97. Brian attended the May Reunion. He is currently a Battery Commander in the U.S. Army in Killeen, Tx.

Darrell R.V. Tran, JC '97, via web update. He is currently serving in the U.S. Army in Ewa Beach, Hawaii.

Miller Livingston, '98, via web update. Miller is a banker in Fayetteville, AR.

Kathryn R. Brock, '99, via web update. Kathryn is in Wichita, KS. Kathryn writes "Attended KMS the summer of 1999 for the extended summer program. Looking to catch up with some old friends. Currently getting ready to leave for the Army National Guard, basic training as 74D/CBRN (Chemical, Radiological, and Nuclear Specialist) HOOAH! And can't forget Nunquam Non Paratus!"

David Barnes, '99, via web update. He is in Collinsville, OK.

Patrick Russell Gleason, '99, via web update. Patrick is a student in Chico, CA.

Ken W. Jordan, JC '99, via web update. He is in the insurance business in Midlothian, Texas.

Matthew D. Wagner, '99, via web update. Matthew is an IT Help Desk Technician in West Des Moines, IA.

Nathan L. Pollitt, via web update. Nathan is a heavy equipment operator in Georgetown, OH.

2000's

Hugh Lee Gaston, '00. Hugh is a Petroleum Landman in Okmulgee, OK.

Joe Hasler, '00, Joe is an army officer in Clarksville, TN.

Morgan B. Isgrig- Davidson, '2002, via web update. Morgan is an Insurance coder in Little Rock, AR. You can email her at morgan.davidson@baptist-health.org

Jonathan Eckert, '03, via web update. Jonathon is a pharmaceutical merchandiser in Springfield, IL.

Staff

Major Mike Basista updated via the web. Hi is a Senior Army Instructor at the Army and Navy Academy.

Bob and Joan Bosma attended the May reunion. Bob is still working with Army ROTC (Mizzou) and Joan is currently a housewife. They still reside in Boonville.

Pat Hanna via web update. He is in Boonville, Missouri.