

The Metz Cardinal

April 2009 Newsletter of the Metz School Alumni Association

Metz Alumni Assoc., c/o Colleen Reed, Route 1 Box 110, Rich Hill, MO 64779 (660-643-7420)

Dear Metz Alumni, Former Students
Teachers, and Employees:

Once again it is time for the Annual Metz Alumni Banquet. We would like to thank the more than 100 in attendance last year and extend a special invitation to those who were not able to attend. Former Metz teachers/educators in attendance last year and honored were Jerry and Rozanne Fite-Sparks; Janet and Terry Azevado, Joe Marlow, and Michael Pruitt. They shared reminiscences with those attending, and Alumni also shared their memories of their Metz School years.

Bill Askew, Executive Chef at the Nevada Country Club, presented a banquet fit for Royalty. He again will be presenting our banquet at the Country Club. Due to the increase in price of food stuffs, there will be an increase in cost of \$1 per person, which is very reasonable for the quality of the meal.

This year we are honoring Metz Alumni who have served or are presently serving in our military services. Information on numerous World War II veterans is included in this newsletter, and we ask you to please send in similar information of your service years to be published in the 2010 newsletter. Also please share your military experiences at the banquet.

My thanks to my hard working committee: Kay Harper, Vice-President; Colleen Reed, Treasurer; Madge Baze Historian/Keeper of the Records/Hostess of Committee Meetings; and Nancy Thompson, Newsletter Editor.

I hope to see you at the banquet.

Joe Willis, Alumni President

MAY 30, 2009 METZ ALL-SCHOOL REUNION

The Alumni Meeting and Dinner will be held at the **Nevada Country Club**, Country Club Drive, Nevada, MO, with registration and visiting beginning at 4:30 p.m. The business meeting will begin at 6 p.m., followed by a delectable buffet dinner. To facilitate visiting, all tables will be set up to accommodate 6 to 8 persons. **We appreciate that the Country Club will provide the dinner for a cost of \$13.50 per person. Meal reservations with payment must be made in advance.** Please complete and mail the enclosed meal reservation form with payment by May 9.

**TENDER ROAST BEEF IN AU JUS
BAKED HAM
GOLDEN FRIED CHICKEN
SCALLOPED POTATOES RICE PILAF
MIXED GARDEN VEGETABLES
PASTA SALAD FRESH FRUIT
DELUXE GARDEN SALAD
GELATIN SALAD
HOT DINNER ROLLS & BUTTER
ICED TEA, COFFEE, ICED WATER
CAKE**

NEW ADDRESSES

If you have a new address, please notify the Alumni Association to ensure you continue receiving the Alumni Newsletter. The easiest way to do this is on the registration form or call Nancy at 417-922-3224 and leave a message with your name and new address.

IN MEMORIAM

We extend our condolences to the families of the following Metz graduates who have passed away since the 2008 Alumni meeting.

Doris Liles Myers Class of '40
Larry Wayne Reed Class of '63
Loren Glen Rinehart Class of '48
Bob Spillman Class of '62
Irene Weddle Fix Class of '33
Edward Call Class of '52
Nettie Compton Johnson Class of '30
Vernon Matheney, Jr. Class of '71

This information was taken from various area newspapers, and we would appreciate information on anyone who may have been inadvertently omitted. Please contact Madge Baze at (417) 667-0653 with information.

HONORING METZ ALUMNI VETERANS WHO SERVED DURING PEACETIME AND WAR

To our Alumni Veterans, we say "Thank you for your service to our country!" We are proud of you. Enough cannot be said to show our gratitude for what our veterans have done for our country. Both the 2009 and 2010 Alumni newsletters will be dedicated to honoring veterans who attended Metz School to show our respect and appreciation.

The following World War II veterans' information and photos were obtained from the 1944 Metz School Yearbook and The Men and Women in World War II from Vernon County, (copies of both in the Nevada Library Genealogy Department). If you know of other World War II veterans who are Alumni but are not listed below, please forward information and a picture so that they can be included in the 2010 newsletter. **Additionally, all other veterans who have served since World War II are asked to please send a picture and brief paragraph about their service to be included in next year's newsletter.**

Clay Dryden Baze. S 1/C Clay D. Baze, son of Mr. & Mrs. L. M. Baze, husband of the



former Madge Lyons, graduated from Metz in 1929. Entered Navy in Sept., 1943; trained in Farragut, Idaho and Oceanside, Calif.; went overseas in July, 1944; served in New Guinea and the Philippines; awarded Philippine Liberation, Asiatic Pacific and Am. Theatre Ribbons and Victory Medal; was discharged in Nov., 1945.



Edith Charles
Class of 1942



Lloyd Charles
Class of 1943



Ramon L. Charles. Lt. Ramon L. Charles, son of Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Charles, husband of the former Gwendolyn H. Biggs, graduated from Metz in 1935 and Wichita U., Kansas. Entered Army Air Corps in 1942; trained in U. of Michigan and Chanute Field, Ill.; was discharged in 1946.



Rex W. Charles. Sgt. Rex W. Charles, son of Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Charles, husband of the former Jean Douglas, graduated from Metz in 1937 and Ft. Scott Jr. College, Kansas. Entered Army in Oct. 1942; trained in Ft. Benning, Ga. and Camp Atterbury, Indiana; served in England, Belgium and Germany; was taken prisoner in Dec., 1944; awarded ETO Ribbon with two Battle Stars, Purple Heart, Combat Inf. Badge, Am. Theatre Ribbon and Good Conduct and Victory Medals; was wounded in Germany in Dec., 1944; was discharged in Nov., 1945.



Roy H. Charles. S/Sgt. Roy H. Charles, son of Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Charles, graduated from Metz in 1933. Entered Army Air Corps in June, 1941; trained in Ft. George Wright, Wash.; served in

Tunisia, Sicily, Italy and France; awarded Pres. Unit Citation, ETO Ribbon with six Battle Stars, Good Conduct Medal and Am. Defense Ribbon; was discharged in Sept., 1945.

May 1944; trained in Farragut, Idaho; served in California; was discharged in Dec., 1945.



Robert M. Handly. Pfc. Robert M. Handly, son of Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Handly, husband of the former Mary E. Comke, graduated from Metz in 1936. Entered Marines in

May, 1944; trained in San Diego, Calif.; served in Guam, Tinian and Iwo Jima; awarded Asiatic Pacific Ribbon with one Battle Star; was discharged in May, 1946.



Raymond Clutter
Class of 1935



Russell Clutter
Class of 1941



Gerald Jadlot
Class of 1936



Willard Kleitz
Class of 1941



Marjorie Foreman
Class of 1942



Guy Goodwin
Class of 1942



Homer P. Lyons. Sgt. Homer P. Lyons, son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul I. Lyons, husband of the former Clara M. Easton, graduated from Metz in 1939. Entered Army Air Corps in 1943; trained in Sheppard Field, Texas, Kingman, Ariz., Amarillo, Texas and Maxwell Field, Ala.; served in Am. Theatre; awarded Am. Theatre Ribbon and Victory and Good Conduct Medals; was discharged in 1946.



Buford Graham
Class of 1938



Marvin Graham
Class of 1943



Howard L. Lyons. S/Sgt. Howard L. Lyons, son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul I. Lyons, husband of the former Melba L. Hall, graduated from Metz in 1939. Entered Army Air Corps in Feb., 1943; went overseas in Nov., 1944; trained in Miami, Fla. and Long Beach, Calif.; served in Burma, China and India; awarded Air



Roy M. Gregg. PhM 3/c Roy M. Gregg, son of Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Gregg, husband of the former Dorothy Cooper, graduated from Metz in 1930. Entered Navy in

Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Dist. Unit Badge, Asiatic Pacific Ribbon with two Battle Stars and Am. Theatre Ribbon.



Melvin K. Mitchell. Pfc. Melvin K. Mitchell, son of Mr. & Mrs. J. K. Mitchell, husband of the former Marion Vandenberg, graduated from Metz in 1938. Entered Army in July, 1944; trained in Camp Roberts, Calif.; served in Rhineland, Central Europe and Ardennes; awarded EAME Ribbon and Victory and Good Conduct Medals; was taken prisoner by the Germans; was discharged in Jan., 1946.



Everett F. Murphy. Pvt. Everett F. Murphy, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Q. Murphy, attended Metz High School. Entered Army; trained in Camp Haan, Calif.; served in England, France, Luxembourg and Germany; awarded ETO Ribbon with five Battle Stars; was discharged in Jan., 1946.



Bill Myers
Class of 1941



Robert Myers
Class of 1938



Frank Nation
Class of 1942



Ralph Nation
Class of 1942



Kenneth E. Neptune. Pfc. Kenneth E. Neptune, son of Mr. & Mrs. Edd Neptune, husband of the former Verna Reynolds, graduated from Metz in 1936. Entered Marines in May, 1944; trained in San Diego, Calif.; served in California; was discharged in Nov., 1945.



Gene Payne
Class of 1942



Everett Perry
Class of 1938



Gene Potter
Class of 1938



Velda Rose Prough
Class of 1943



Vernon Pryor
Class of 1941



Lyle Ragan
Class of 1932



Elizabeth Robinson. Cadet Nurse Elizabeth Robinson, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. O. D. Robinson, graduated from Metz in 1944. Entered Cadet Nurse in Sept., 1944; trained in Ft. Scott, Kansas.



Omar J. Robinson
Class of 1942



Thornton Robison
Class of 1930



Don Willsey
Class of 1937



Glen Willsey
Class of 1933



John T. Shirley. S 1/c John T. Shirley, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Shirley, husband of the former Louise La Prade, attended Metz High School. Entered Navy in 1944; trained in Great Lakes, Ill. and Norfolk, Va.; served in Pacific; awarded Am. Theatre and Asiatic Pacific Ribbons and Philippine Liberation Ribbon with four Battle Stars; was discharged in 1945.



Henry L. Wilson. Pvt. Henry Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl D. Wilson, attended Metz, Mo. and Menard, Texas High Schools. Entered Army Air Corps in March, 1946; trained in Amarillo, Texas.



Edward Stone
Class of 1943



Gene Summers
Class of 1943



Ernest Worthington
Class of 1933



Marvin Wikoff
Class of 1938

Harry Sumner. T/5 Harry E. Sumner, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Sumner, husband of the former Kathleen Thomas, graduated from Metz High School in 1936. Entered Army in Nov., 1943; trained in Camp Roberts, Calif. and Ft. Benning, Ga.; served in France and Germany; awarded Combat Inf. Badge and ETO Ribbon with two Battle Stars; was discharged in 1946.



Jack Fritts
Class of 1943

Glen Westerhold
Class of 1946

Donald Ratzlaff
Class of 1948

Wesley Ratzlaff
Class of 1947

James B. Cox
Class of 1940

George E. Liles
Class of 1945

Gerome Mustain
Class of 1933

Gene Willsey
Class of 1946

During the Reunion, special recognition will be given to the Metz Alumni Veterans in attendance: the youngest, the oldest, and the one who traveled the greatest distance to attend.

METZ SCHOOL DISPLAY AT BUSHWHACKER MUSEUM AND PICTURES FROM PREVIOUS REUNIONS

The Bushwhacker Museum, 212 West Walnut Street, Nevada, will be showcasing a Metz School display during its 2009 season, May-October. Alumni are encouraged to come early on May 30th and visit the Museum to see the highlighted Metz display as part of the "Never Ending Story" of Vernon County, as well as the many other new exhibits in the Museum this year. A tour of the historic 1860s-era jail, now on the National Register of Historical Sites, is included in the Museum visit as well as a short introductory video. Additionally, there are exhibits on the Osage Indians, the Civil War, pioneer farming, and recreated rooms of an early 1900s doctor's office and home (that of Dr. Hornback, who practiced medicine in Metz before moving to Nevada more than 100 years ago). There is a large military display which will also be of special interest. Museum hours are 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The fee for adults is \$3.

Our thanks to Robert Seater for coordinating and installing the Metz temporary exhibit at the Museum! Because items from the Metz Bank display are being used at the Bushwhacker Museum this season, the Bank at Metz will not be open during the 2009 reunion.

In conjunction with the Bushwhacker Museum visit, there will also be a special slide show of pictures from previous reunions shown in the Nevada Library Meeting Room. This is the room at the street level entrance to the Museum. The pictures will be shown continuously from 12 until 2 p.m.

We hope you will come early and enjoy lunch in Nevada, watch the slide show, and visit the Bushwhacker Museum prior to the evening Banquet at the Country Club.

ALUMNI NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Previous Alumni newsletters are available online at the Tri-County Genealogical

Society's website www.rootsweb.com/~motcogs/ Click on *Resources* and then the *Vernon Co Towns* button. Follow the *Metz* link.

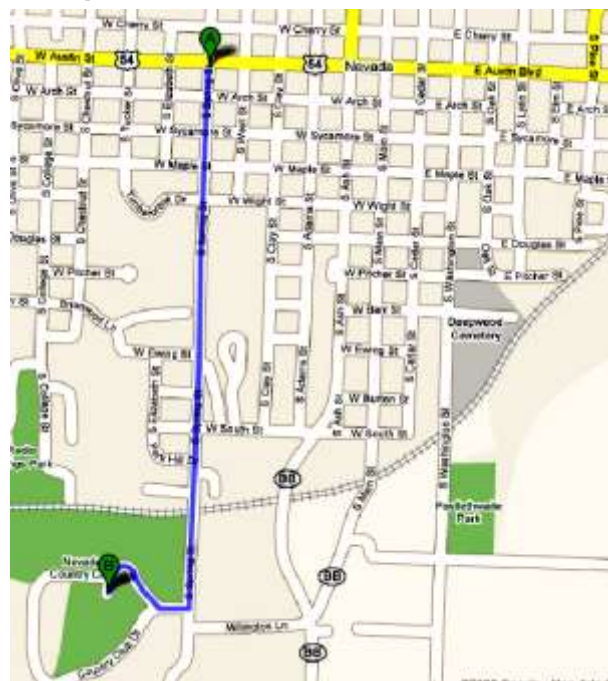
Copies of the newsletters and past Metz School yearbooks are also available in the Nevada Library Genealogy Department.

NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

Again this year, the price you pay for the banquet meal is the price that we are charged by the Country Club, so no money is made from the meal. The cost of printing and mailing the newsletter and purchase of gift cards for banquet honorees comes from past donations to the Alumni treasury. If you enjoy receiving the newsletter, please consider a donation to the Alumni Assoc. to help ensure its continuation.

DIRECTIONS TO NEVADA COUNTRY CLUB

From U.S. Hwy 54/West Austin Blvd. in Nevada, MO, turn south onto Spring Street. Proceed south and cross the railroad tracks (about 1.1 miles). Turn right (west) onto Country Club Drive at the sign and stay to the right at the Y. Proceed around the curve and up the hill to the Clubhouse. Parking is available around the circle drive. **Enter via the ramp on the east side of the building.**



MILITARY MEMORIAL DEDICATIONS HISTORIC BALLTOWN CEMETERY

In 2003 Metz School alumni Robert Seater (Class of '60 and retired U.S. Navy officer) personally undertook the renovation of historic Balltown Cemetery located west of Horton. He and his assistant, Steve 'Tex' McKinley (Class of 1983) have trimmed trees, removed brush, and installed a new chain link fence along the west side of the cemetery. They are repairing and resetting stones as needed across the cemetery. The Civil War lot has



Civil War Burial Lot in historic Balltown Cemetery, completely renovated and restored by Robert Seater and his assistant, Tex McKinley, both Metz Alumni.

been completely restored with new granite coping and engraved corner posts, and a new black granite memorial honoring all veterans and all branches of service was erected.

On November 9, 2008, several hundred people gathered at Balltown Cemetery for the rededication of the Mt. McGregor Post #252 Grand Army of the Republic Civil War burial lot and dedication of the new military memorial.

Arnold Schofield, historian with the Historical Society of Kansas, was master of ceremonies for the day's events. Participants in the Civil War burial lot rededication included Holmes' Brigade Civil War Reenactment Unit, Colonel John T. Coffee Camp 1934 Sons of Confederate Veterans, Phelps Camp 66 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and Women's Relief Corps (portrayed by Cottey College students). The Cottey College Wind

Ensemble under the direction of Gary Johnson (Class of 1959 and Retired U.S. National Guard), provided patriotic music during the afternoon.

Participants in the dedication of the new military memorial included Mr. Schofield; Lawrence Cripps, U.S. Air Force, Retired; Nevada High School Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps; Bill Martin; State Representative Barney Fisher, 125th House District and Lt. Col. U.S. Marine Corps, Retired; and the 'Parade of the American Soldier.' The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2175, American Legion Leon Ogier Post 2; Sheldon American Legion Post 175; and the Vietnam Veterans of America Don E. Pollock Chapter 918 participated in laying of the wreath at the new memorial. The Butler American Legion James P. Arnold Post 46 provided the gun salute and "Taps" was by Cottey College buglers.

During the ceremony, State Rep. Barney Fisher presented Seater with a Missouri State House Resolution honoring his volunteer work in the cemetery. Additionally, Patty (Shields) Edmonds Vacca (class of 1948) presented

both Seater and McKinley with plaques on behalf of the community, thanking them for their work.



The dedication ceremonies were sponsored by the Tri-County Genealogical Society (Nancy Lyons Thompson, class of 1967), Balltown Cemetery Board (Frank Drummond, President, class of 1960), and the Vernon Co Historical Society. A video of the event is being produced.

**ATTENTION METZ ALUMNI VETERANS:
SUBMIT YOUR INFORMATION**

Please send in information regarding your military service so it can be published in the 2010 newsletter. Include your name, branch of service, highest rank attained, years in the military, where trained, where served, medals received, your parents and spouse's names,

and anything else you would like to tell us about your service. Additionally, we would like to have a picture of you in uniform. You can mail a picture (it will be returned to you) or you can email to TriCountyGenealogy@centurytel.net For those attending the reunion this year, you can bring a picture, and we will scan it at the reunion.

MAY 30, 2009 REUNION DAY EVENTS

Lunch on Your Own in Nevada	
Tour of Bushwhacker Museum	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Slide Show of Previous Reunions	12 noon - 2 p.m.
Registration for Reunion Begins	4:30 p.m.
Alumni Meeting & Reunion Banquet	6 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you on May 30 at the Reunion, and remember to tentatively mark the first Saturday after Memorial Day for the 2010 Reunion!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Metz Alumni, c/o Colleen Reed
Rt 1, Box 110
Rich Hill, MO 64779