

CERES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (C.A.A.)

Dedicated to maintaining the pride and spirit of Ceres

Newsletter

Year 2012

NOVEMBER

Edition No. 3

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NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

Appreciation is expressed to O. P. "Pudge" and Mary Jane Umbarger for sponsoring this newsletter. They had planned to attend the Ceres Homecoming in October but a last minute health problem prevented them from doing so. We look forward to seeing them next year. If you or your company would like to sponsor a future newsletter, please contact any officer or mail your check for \$165 to P.O. Box 32, Ceres, VA 24318.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, folks, I hope this finds everyone healthy and happy as we begin the holiday season. The CAA had a very successful Fall with the fund raisers. All were well-attended and folks were very gracious with their donations. Once again, without your efforts, these events would not be the success that they are. Many thanks to the members who work and give of their time to help make this possible. Also, I must thank Wade and Betty for their behind-the-scenes work that they do on a regular basis. They really work to make this a great organization.

Our annual homecoming was quite successful this year. Thanks to all who helped to put it together. Many people worked together by selling raffle tickets, gathering door prizes, or helping with the final preparation and decorating. Thank you all who helped to make it a success.

The county youth basketball league is just beginning, so if any of you have an opportunity to stop by almost any weeknight, you will be able to see first-hand what a portion of your donations go for. Hopefully, this will make it seem all worth while, the effort that goes into what we all do and why we do it is evident when you watch the children who enjoy the opportunity to play together. This has become such a nice facility within our community and a great way for it to be used.

The holiday season offers many activities for members to be involved. The museum is selling peanuts in addition to the usual Ceres souvenirs. On the other hand, the barbecued pork roasts will not be sold this year due to waning interest last year. If you would like to see this project included next year, please express your opinions at our quarterly meetings.

Be sure to share with your friends and families the opportunity to join our association and make a difference in our community. The Ceres Alumni Association is a community group, not an exclusive social club. You do not need to have attended school in Ceres to be a valuable part of what we do.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all, **G.H. Peery, III**, President

12th ANNUAL HOMECOMING

The Ceres Alumni Association sponsored its twelfth annual Ceres Homecoming on October 20, 2012. The weather could not have been nicer and the fall colors decorating the valley provided the ideal backdrop. The front of the gym was decorated by a huge hay roll turkey and spider, corn and lots and lots of pumpkins, thanks to the Peery family.

The Homecoming was well attended and enjoyed by all. The theme was REMEMBERING. Honored this year were those high school students who attended Ceres High School through 1961-62 when the high school closed; 50 years ago, and those elementary students who attended Ceres Elementary School through 1991-92 when the elementary school closed; 20 years ago. The day started with registration and a chance for guests to tour the buildings on the former Ceres school campus and visit with old friends. Attendees were given a 2013 date book and tickets for door prizes. A special treat this year was the unveiling of the H. C. Groseclose/FFA stained glass window from the former Sharon Presbyterian Church which was artfully displayed in the museum by Glen Repass and his helpers.

After noon, everyone gathered in the decorated gymnasium. Ellis and Eleanor Shupe opened the program with a beautiful rendition of "Sunny Side of Life." G. H. Peery, III welcomed everyone.

At 1:00 PM, a delicious and bountiful meal, catered by Loretta Worrell Catering Service, was served. The fall decorations in the gym were provided by Becky Kimberlin, Lorree and Buddie Waddle and their committee members.

Archie Atwell led the annual "Rose of Remembrance" segment of the program. Thirty-eight (38) members, family and local citizens whose deaths were reported to the Association since the last Homecoming were remembered with a long stem rose presented to family members who were present. Those remembered were: Doyle N. Shupe, Harold Burton "Hap" Harner, Lawrence Toms, III (son of Mabel Cregger Toms), Harry Cassell, Robert F. Barger, Frances Stowers, Juanita Tibbs Dame, Earnest Snavelly (widower of Nancy Cregger), Laura Lee Shupe (daughter of Linda Hubble Shupe), G. Levi Shewey, Jr., Ida Mitchell Brown, Anna Catherine Davis Jefcoat, Mary Clemons Smith, Eula Mae Neel Hume, Robert C. "Bubbie" Atkins, Ed Cornett (who provide transportation for our basketball team), Ira Randolph Winesett, Jimmy Shewey, Irene Atkins Bruce, Ralph A. Austin, Shirley Mae Cregar, Barbara (Mrs. Eddie) Hubble, Roddy R. Crabtree, Thomas E. Mallory, Jr., Dorothy Umbarger Wright, Loetta Pauley Fortner, Mabel Webb, Lucy Clemons Cook, Dillard Clemons, Junior Hounshell, Ray Edwards, Peggy Shufflebarger Hubble, James P. Box, Ralph Anderson, Ruth P. Atkins, Richard Tibbs, Josie Hubble Lambert and recently reported Eddie Cregar.

An interesting and unforgettable program which carried everyone down memory lane was provided by Iris Crabtree Pruett, Joan Umbarger Chandler, Erin Pruett Buttery, and Vivian Harner Cooper. Yes, this was a day of remembering.

During the business meeting, minutes of the last Board meeting, Treasurer's report, Museum report and current membership list, as presented in the program, were approved.

The following Association officers were elected for 2013: President – G. H. Peery, III, Vice President – Betty C. Hubble, Recording Secretary and Reporter – Michelle H. Groseclose, Membership Secretary – Lorraine S. Waddle, Historian – Kathy M. Hubble, Treasurer – Robert I. "Buddie" Waddle. Wade Hall will hold the position of Past President. The Association's Board of Directors for the period through 2013 will be Frankie Gray, William H. Hubble and Rebecca Peery, and J. W. Cassell, Evelyn H. Groseclose and Elizabeth N. Kimberlin through 2014. Elected to serve three-year terms through 2015 were Jonan C. Cassell, Sue T. Repass and W. Nelson Tibbs. The Association Endowment Fund Directors will be Judy Cassell, William H. Crabtree, and DeWayne Hubble through 2013 and Dean D. Kirk, Robin U. Repass and Jerry Thompson through 2014. Elected to serve three-year terms through 2015 were Edd Houck, Joyce Keen and Glen Repass. Automatic past-president board members are Archie Atwell, Anne H. Britton, Donna H. Compton, Frances C. Davis, Wade F. Hall, Betty C. Hubble, and Doris C. Woodward.

A much anticipated event of the day was the drawing of the winning tickets in the annual raffle. 42 raffle prizes were awarded to: Barbara Rose, Judy Hannah, Monte Jennings, Nicholas Tibbs, George Lambert, Dan Barron, David Danner, Larry Cox, Ashley Bennett, Cheryl Owens, Lewis Umbarger, James Young, Della Neel, Mary Ann Cooper, Nancy Brown, John Hobbs, J. C. Dillow, Harold Blankenship, James B. Muncy, Jr., Brenda Finch, Settie Leggett, Eva Winesett, Alma Hubble, Jamie Becoalt, Danny Bridges, Linda Davis, Ethel Cox, Norma Rush, Freddie Brown, Ed Repass, Diane Jones, Marlene Barger, Tony Russell, William Washburn, Ellen Wildgoose, and O. Paul Umbarger. The six largest prizes of the day were a \$100 gift certificate donated by C.A.A and won by Barbara Shannon, a \$200 gift certificate donated by C.A.A and won by Eric Workman, an I-Pad donated by C.A.A. and several members and won by Tyler Umbarger; a handmade quilt donated by "Just for Fun" Quilters and won by Elmer Beardshall; a framed P. Buckley Moss print donated by the Moss Foundation and framed by Farmer's Daughter Framing won by Vicki Kensinger; and a Remington rifle w/scope donated by the Association and won by Dean DeRosa. Linda Davis of Bland sold the most raffle tickets; Della Mae Neel of Ceres was second. Prizes were given to both. Over 100 door prizes were given to those attending the Homecoming.

Appreciation is expressed to all the donors of the raffle gifts and door prizes, especially those who gave more than one gift. The following businesses and individuals donated prizes: Ceres Alumni Association, P. Buckley Moss Foundation and custom framing by Farmers Daughter, "Just for Fun" Quilters, Muncy Associated Management Service, Inc., Dean Kirk of Builders Supermarket, Brenda Kidd Thompson, Chick-a-Bee Farm, Grayson National Bank, Wytheville Southern States, Wytheville Office Supply, Elaine Kegley, J. C. Kidd, Crabtree Family Sewing, Bill and Betty Hubble, J. W. and Judy Cassell, Buddie and Lorree Waddle, Jonan C. Repass, Archie and Darleyne Atwell, G. H. and Rebecca Peery, Nelson and Diane Tibbs, Bill and Betty Crabtree, Dunn's Bland Square Restaurant, Evelyn H. Groseclose, Della Mae Neel, Jack King – State Farm Insurance, Wade and Becky Hall, Wright Automotive, Old Post Flea Market, Fowlkes Machinery, New Peoples Bank of Bland, Sue Repass, First1Bank of Wytheville, Harner's Market, Regina Lowman, Linda Davis,

Affordable Tractor, Randy Townley – Bland Auto, the Gilbert Raymond Repass family in his memory, Big Walker Lookout, and BB&T of Bland.

Thanks were extended to all who helped make this day such a success, including to the Ceres Ruritan Club for allowing the guests to tour the former school building and for its upkeep and to all who brought “Toys for Tots.” Toys for Tots may still be donated until December 1, 2012 at Harner’s Market in Ceres.

REPORTED DEATHS

The following deaths were reported since the last newsletter was published:

Richard Tibbs
Josie Hubble Lambert
Eddie Cregar (recently reported)
Greta Houck
Paula Duncan
W. C. Thomas, Jr.
Bobby Carver

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of Richard Tibbs
By Beulah T. Newberry

In memory of Randolph Hanshew
By Beulah T. Newberry

In memory of Roddy Crabtree
By Beulah T. Newberry

APPRECIATION

Thanks to Nancy K. (Mrs. Richard) Tibbs, the Museum now houses the original cash register from the former Ceres Cash and Carry Store that was operated by Curtis and Clela Tibbs. This is certainly a piece of Ceres history. Nancy, you can’t know how much we appreciate it. It was Richard’s wish that it be in the Museum. Thanks also to Bill and Betty Crabtree who went to North Carolina to get it.

The H. C. Groseclose and FFA stained glass window from the former Sharon Presbyterian Church is now on display in the Museum, thanks to Glen Repass and his helpers. The afternoon sunshine brings out the beauty of the window. We hope to install a light behind the window in the near future. Stop by to see all the Museum’s recently added treasures. Thanks to all the donors.

YOUTH BASKETBALL UNDERWAY

Bland County youth will be practicing and playing in the gym daily except Fridays until early February. We welcome children from all areas of Bland County to our community. It is wonderful to see the kids enjoying the gym.

DO CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IN THE MUSEUM

Now available – Wakefield, VA Nuts – 12 oz. tins

Salted and unsalted Peanuts - \$8.50
Peanut Brittle Squares - \$8.50
Butter Toasted Peanuts - \$8.50
Double Dipped Milk Chocolate Peanuts - \$8.50
Cashews, salted & lightly salted - \$14.50

To arrange pickup appointments, call:

Anne Britton at 276 682-4587,
Sue Repass at 276 682-4396,
Michelle Groseclose at 276 682-4450, or
Laura Peery at 276 682-4381.

FITNESS ROOM

The fitness room contains state-of-the-art exercise equipment and is available for use 24/7 at a minimum cost of \$5.00 per month. Use of our fitness room equipment is frequently being ordered by doctors following or in conjunction with physical therapy. This is far less expensive than trips to Wytheville, Bluefield or Marion for additional physical therapy treatments and can be continued for a longer period of time. We are proud of our Fitness Room and feel it is a great asset to the community.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

As of mid-November, there were 157 paid CAA members. Dues are \$25.00 for one year or \$100.00 for five years. Memberships are based on calendar year (January – December). **Anyone** having an interest in the Association or in the community is eligible to join. We appreciate your support.

REMINDER – WI-FI HOT SPOT NOW IN CERES

A Bland County sponsored WI-FI hot spot is located in the Museum. Service is available throughout the Ceres Community Center Complex.

QUARTERLY MEETING

Don't forget the next quarterly membership meeting in the Groseclose Museum on Saturday, January 19th at 1:00 PM. Everyone is welcome.

SPECIAL NOTE

TAKEOUT PORK ROAST CANCELLED

The planned December roast of pork loins and Boston butts has been cancelled for this year. Hopefully we can continue this event next year.

Check the web site www.ceresva.org for upcoming 2013 events as they are scheduled.

Ceres Alumni Association

**P. O. Box 32
Ceres, VA 24318
276 682-3989**

E-Mail Address

ceres_alumni_association@hotmail.com

Web Site

www.ceresva.org
Elmer Beardshall, Web Master

Reminders

Monthly Board Meetings
7:00 PM on 3rd Thursday in each month except
quarterly meetings - 3rd Sat. of Jan, Apr., July, Oct.
Everyone is welcome

Henry C Groseclose Agriculture & FFA Museum
Open by appointment
Call 276 682-4587

Officers for 2012

President	G. H. Peery, III	276.682.4381
Vice President	Betty C. Hubble	276.682.4255
Secretary/Reporter	Michelle Groseclose	276.682-4450
Membership Secretary	Lorraine S. Waddle	276.688.4450
Historian	Kathy M. Hubble	276.682.4504
Treasurer	Robert I. Waddle	276.688.4450

Association Directors and term ending year:

Jonan C. Repass – 2012	Rebecca Peery – 2013
Sue Repass – 2012	J. W. Cassell – 2014
W. Nelson Tibbs – 2012	Evelyn H. Groseclose – 2014
Frankie Gray – 2013	Elizabeth Kimberlin – 2014
William H. Hubble – 2013	Wade Hall – Past President

Endowment Trust Fund Directors & term ending year:

Joyce Keen – 2012	DeWayne Hubble – 2013
Glen Repass – 2012	Dean Kirk – 2014
James Wilson – 2012	Robin U. Repass – 2014
Judy Cassell – 2013	Jerry Thompson – 2014
William H. Crabtree - 2013	Robert I. Waddle – Treas.

Permanent Board Members (Past Presidents): Archie Atwell, Anne Britton, Donna Compton, Frances Davis, Wade Hall, Betty Hubble, G. H. Peery, III, and Doris Woodward