



The Metz Cardinal

April 2010 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:

Time has flown and once again it is time for the Annual Metz Alumni Banquet. More than 120 attended last year's event and we would like to thank them for their attendance and support. Former teachers attending were honored and included: Kenneth Hart, Eva Jo Hoyle, Michael Pruitt, Jim Wilson and Harry Yoder. They shared memories of their experiences as instructors at Metz and these were enjoyed by those in attendance. We would like to extend a special invitation to those who were not able to attend last year.

Good news, the price for the Alumni meal remains the same as last year. This price is our cost for the banquet and includes gratuity for the servers. We have additional expenses i.e., stamps, printing, supplies, decorations, etc., which is not reimbursed by the banquet price. I ask you to please send in voluntary contributions or put some in the contribution box which will be present at the banquet to help defray those expenses and allow us to continue to have memorable Alumni Banquets.

Thanks also to everyone's patience and participation for the picture on the ramp of all the attendees for the 2009 Alumni. It took much time, but was well worth the effort.

This year we will again be honoring Metz Alumni who have served since World War II including those who are presently serving in our military services. Information of those serving is included in this newsletter. Also you are asked to share your military memories at the Banquet.

Again, my thanks to my hard working committee members: Kay Harper, Vice-President; Colleen Reed, Treasurer; Madge Baze; Historian/Keeper of the Records/Hostess of Committee Meetings; and Terry Logan, Newsletter Editor. Special thanks to Nancy Thompson and Linda Moore for assistance to the committee. Respectfully yours,

Joe Willis, Alumni President

JUNE 5, 2010 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 5:00 p.m. The business meeting will begin at 6 p.m., followed by a delectable buffet dinner. **We appreciate that the Country Club will provide the dinner for a cost of \$13.50 per person, which is the same price as last year.** Meal reservations with payment must be made in advance. **Please complete and mail the enclosed meal reservation form with payment by May 22.**

**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**

**HONORING METZ ALUMNI VETERANS
WHO SERVED DURING PEACETIME AND WAR**

To our Alumni Veterans, we would like to say "Thank you for your service to our country!" Last year's newsletter as well as this 2010 edition is dedicated to our Alumni Veterans as well as any veteran who attended Metz School.

The following are Veterans who have served since World War II. Alumni were asked to send a picture and brief paragraph about their service. Some entries are not complete with rank, and parental information. What is seen is what has been provided.

Harold D. Brewer. Corporal Harold Brewer son of Roy and Iva Brewer, and husband of June Ann Handly graduated from Metz in 1948. He entered the Army in 1951; he went to Fort Knox, KY for training before going to Korea. He Served in the 73rd Tank Division from 1952 to 1954.



Lewis W. Buhr, served in the Marine Corps from May 1952 to May 1958. Lewis trained in San Diego and Camp Pendleton, California. He was then transferred to Air Wing and finished his training on the East Coast.

Billie Joe Brooks. Cpt. Billie Joe Brooks graduated from Metz in 1963. He entered the Army in June 1967 and served as a signal Officer 1/5 BN, 25th Infantry Division, in Vietnam.



He also served as Company, C Co, 125 Sig BN-25th Infantry Division, Vietnam.

Joe also served as Brigade Signal Officer, 1st Bge, and 1st Inf. Div. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters. He was discharged in August 1972.

Edith Charles Collins.

Cadet Nurse Edith Charles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Charles and the wife of Lewis F. Collins, graduated from Metz High School in 1942. She entered the United States Cadet Nurse Corps in July 1943, in Fort Scott, Kansas. Edith trained in Fort Scott, Kansas and graduated in September 1945.



Louis A. "Jack" Finwick.

Pfc. Jack Finwick, son of Elmer Finwick, graduated from Metz in 1951. He entered the Army in May 1954 and received his basic training in Fort Chaffee, Arkansas. He served in Augsburg, Germany from January 1955 to April 1956. He served in the positions of Communications, 42 Mortar Gunner, was Flame Thrower Certified, and also served as a Mail Clerk. He received Medals for Good Conduct and European Theater.



Gary L. Johnson. Son of John and Hazel Johnson, husband of Lora Baze, graduated from Metz in 1959. He served in the United States Army from 1966 to 1969, spending one year in Vietnam. Gary then served 30 years in the Missouri Army National Guard, retiring as Chief Warrant Officer 4.



Charles "Charlie" Morris. Son of Ted and Ellen Morris of Kansas City, KS, husband of Dorothy Shrum, attended Metz from 1952 to 1954. He moved back to Kansas City, KS his Senior year and entered the United States Air Force in

November 1954 where he received his GED. Basic training was completed at Parks AFB, California. He also received training at Tech School as Jet Engine Mechanic at Chanute AFB, Rantoul II. He married Dorothy in June of 1956 then in August he was off to the 32nd Tac Recon Unit stationed at Spangdahlem, Germany where Dorothy joined him in 1956. Unit transferred to Phalsbourg, France in July 1957. Back to the states in Feb. 1959 ending his active military duty. Charlie then worked for TWA and went to A & P school, also tried various other civilian jobs. On Sept. 1961, joined the USAF 422nd Continental Air Command at Richards-Gebaur AFB as a Reserve Technician/Civil Service and was recalled to active duty in Oct. for the Berlin Crisis. In 1968 became a flight engineer for the C124 aircraft then later the C130. From 1959 to 1981, serving as a reserve technician, his duties took him through the Vietnam conflict, the Central America conflict, Korea and to every continent. In 1981 he moved to New York with the FAA and transferred to the Air National Guard 602nd Air Rescue Unit out of Riverhead Long Island. In 1985, due to a transfer by the FAA to Washington, D.C., he retired from his military/reserve duties. In 1987 he transferred back with the FAA in Kansas City, retired from the FAA in 1994 and continues to be involved with the airplane industry through his DAR function for the FAA with his own consulting company. Many awards and accolades, too numerous to mention, in his almost 40 years of service to his country and the government.

Edgar J. Pullin. Sfc. Edgar Pullin, son of Roland and Mildred Pullin, graduated from Metz in 1962. He entered the United States Army in 1964 where he received his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO.



In 1965 he trained at Ft. Ord, California – AIT. Then in 1966 at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Auenition-1966. From 1966 - 1968 he was stationed in Fort Benning, Georgia. He served in Alaska from 1968-1971, Korea from 1973-1974, Fort Eustis,

Virginia-Tech school from 1974 to 1983, Germany 1983-1985 and in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, 1985-1986 when he retired. Edgar received two Metorious Awards, two Achievement Awards and five Good Conduct Awards.

Joe Rinehart.

Msgt. Joe Rinehart after graduating from Metz attended for two years at the University of Missouri-Columbia, then transferred to Southwest Missouri State in Springfield. He then taught school for one year.



Joe became interested in the National Guard and spent two years working as a civilian doing administrative work.

Joe then joined the United States Air Force and spent twenty-one years with the Air Force retiring as a Master Sergeant in October 1972. He spent two years in England, one in Korea, and one in Vietnam. After Vietnam he spent 10 ½ years at Forbes AFB in Topeka, KS. He was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, Air Force Good Conduct with four oak leaf clusters, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with four bronze oak leaf clusters, Air Force NCO PME graduate, National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star, Korean Service Medal with two bronze stars, Vietnam Service Medal, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm and the United Nations Service Medal.

Robert E. Seater. Lt. Robert Seater, son of Mr. Albert Seater graduated from Metz in 1960. He enlisted in the United States Navy in June 1960. Bob received his basic training at San Diego, California and was assigned the engineering rating of Machinist Mate.



He advanced to Master Chief Petty Officer, chief Warrant Officer and retired as a Line Officer. While on active duty, attended San Diego State University, graduated with a Bachelor's and Master's Degrees. He was a member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the highest all-university academic honor students may receive.

Bob served on seven ships: USS Richard B. Anderson (DD-786), San Diego, Ca., USS Stoddard (DD-556), San Diego, Ca., USS Unley (AS-31). Holy Loch, Scotland, USS

Tanner (AGS-15), Pearl Harbor, HI., USS Kitty Hawk (CV-63), San Diego, CA., USS Ranger (CV-61), San Diego, CA., USS Jason (AR-8), San Diego, California. He also received the following medals during his service: Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Navy Expert Pistol Shot Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and Navy "E" Ribbon. He retired from the Navy on April 1, 1982 after 21 ½ years of service.

Jack Sumner

Wayne Sumner

Both served in the United States Army with tours of duty in Europe.

1958 – 1962

Wayne B. Westerhold.

Corp. Wayne Westerhold, son of Eula and Fred Westerhold graduated from Metz in 1949 Wayne received basic training at Camp Polk, Louisiana. He was then transferred to Fort Dix, New Jersey for Military Police training. Wayne was then shipped



out to Oberamaugh, Germany for advanced Military Police training. He was then stationed in Salzburg, Austria at Camp Roeder with the 572 Military Police for the remainder of his service.



Joe Willis.

Graduated from Metz in 1960. The following is the story that goes along with this photograph of Joe taken in 1966. I was given a punishment detail for taking too long eating lunch, (over 5 minutes).

Special Services was setting up a stage for a show for our group of basic trainees at Fort Rucker, Alabama. We



were the first group of trainees since the Korean conflict. When setting up the microphones on the stands, I noticed they were having problems with wrapping the cords around the stand. I showed them how to turn the stand portion into the microphone, thus avoiding wrapping the cord around the stand. The person in charge of special service asked how I knew this and I explained my band and music experience. He asked me to be on the show and approved it through my sergeant. I had a repertoire of what now is considered "classic rock" songs, and this went over well and made me very popular with the other recruits. What started out to be a punishment detail turned into a very profitable experience as I performed many paid concerts, shows, and dances for the Special Service during my tour of duty at Ft. Rucker. It helped me pay off my '65 Mustang, pay for insurance and for my dates.

OLDEST VETERAN IN ATTENDANCE RECOGNIZED AT 2009 ALUMNI

George E. Liles. George, the son of Ray and Rosey Liles, graduated from Metz in 1945. He served in the 2nd Infantry Division, then the 2nd Signal Company as a Teletype Operator in Fort Lewis, Washington.



2009 METZ ALUMNI



IN MEMORIAM

We extend our condolences to the families of the following Metz graduates who have passed away since the 2009 Alumni meeting.

Ophelia Long Elledge Class of '31

Russell Clutter Class of '35

Lavern Ransom Farrell Class of '37

Neil Wilson Class of '44

Wayne Sumner Class of '54

A.J. White Class of '54

William "Bill" Burchell Class of '66

Teacher: Josephine Clark

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

NEW ADDRESS INFORMATION



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: Terry Logan at 417-884-5262 and leave a message with your name and new address.

2011 ALUMNI NEWSLETTER INFORMATION



The familiar saying, "I came from a small town you probably never heard of," describes our hometown very well! Despite that fact many people have

passed down her main street and graduated from Metz High School.



Metz would graduate her first four-year high school class in 1923 and her last class in 1984. There would be a total of 783 students who would graduate from this tiny but mighty little school.

In the upcoming newsletters we want to spotlight these former Cardinals and find out where they are and what they have become since they have left the halls of dear ole MHS!

We would like to start our first



spotlight with the Classes of 1923 up through 1950. When you send in your reservation forms, give us a short paragraph on what you have been doing since you graduated. Please feel free to send photographs; they will be scanned and returned to you. There are many graduates who have gone on to bigger and brighter places, and we want to hear all about it. For those of us who remained close to home, we want your story as well!

The 783 graduates of Metz High School are an elite group, despite the fact there are many who are no longer with us, those who remain should be proud to have graduated from this special place in time.

METZ SCHOOL DISPLAY AT BUSHWHACKER MUSEUM AND VIDEO OF THE MILITARY MEMORIAL DEDICATIONS AT THE BALLTOWN CEMETERY

The Bushwhacker Museum, 212 West Walnut Street, Nevada, will again be highlighting a Metz School display. Alumni are encouraged to come early on June 5th 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 an excellent short introductory video. **Museum hours are 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Tuesday thru Saturday. The fee for adults is \$5.**

Special thanks once more to Robert Seater for coordinating and installing the Metz temporary exhibit at the Museum. It will be on exhibit again this year. Items from the Metz Bank display are being used at the Bushwhacker Museum this season, so the exhibit at the Bank at Metz will not be open during the 2010 reunion.

In conjunction with the Bushwhacker Museum visit, you will also have the opportunity to view the video showing the Military Memorial Dedications at the Historic Balltown Cemetery. The 1-hour video will be shown in the meeting room above the museum beginning at 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at no cost. We hope you will come early and enjoy lunch in Nevada, watch the video and visit the Bushwhacker Museum prior to the evening Banquet at the Country Club.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

UPCOMING BUSHWHACKER MUSEUM EXHIBITS:

- *Crawford Band/Comedians*, beginning in May.
- A Traveling Smithsonian Exhibit-“*New Harmonies.*” The Celebration of America’s Root Music. Each week there will be a different program spotlighting various music. The exhibit will be on display from October 1 to November 6.

ALUMNI NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE ONLINE

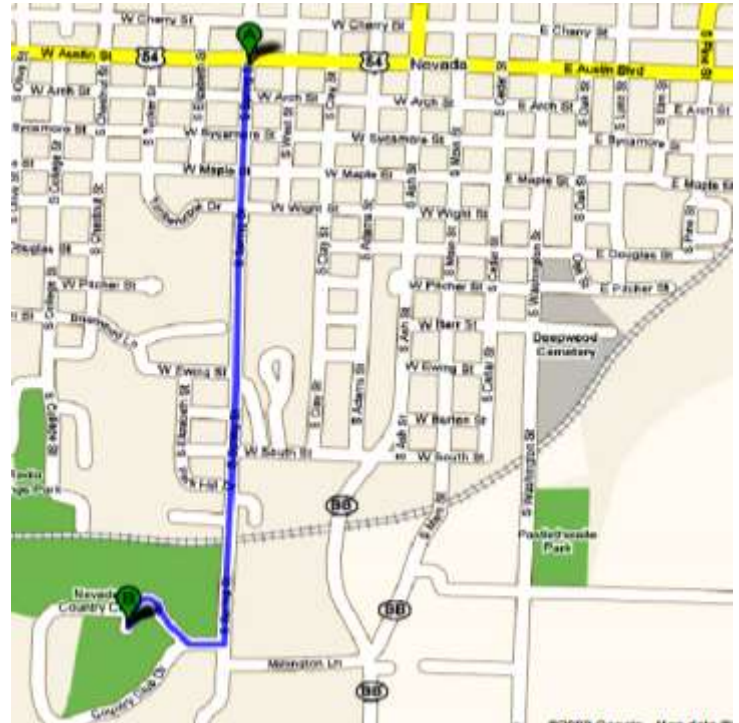
Previous Alumni newsletters are available online at the Tri-County Genealogical Society's website www.rootsweb.com/~motcogs/ Click on *Resources* and then the *Vernon Co Towns* button. Follow the *Metz* link. Copies of the newsletters and past Metz School yearbooks are also available in the Nevada Library Genealogy Department.

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.**



JUNE 5, 2010 REUNION DAY EVENTS

Lunch on Your Own in Nevada

Balltown Cemetery Dedication Video 12:30 p.m.

Tour of Bushwhacker Museum 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Registration for Reunion Begins 5:00 p.m.

Alumni Meeting & Reunion Banquet 6:00 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you on June 5 at the Reunion, and remember to tentatively mark the first Saturday after Memorial Day for the 2011 Reunion!