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Harding College

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## Homecoming plans announced

*25th anniversary for class of '27;  
'32, '37, '42, '47 classes also celebrate*

Program plans are being completed for the 27th annual homecoming celebration of Harding alumni, Wednesday and Thursday, June 4-5. It will be the 25th anniversary of the class of '27, and the classes of '32, '37, '42, and '47 will hold reunions.

Homecoming activities will begin at 10 a.m., Alumni Day, June 4, with a special chapel program directed by the class of '27. Members of this class are: Raymond L. Hazlet, Ruby Matlock Knight, Ola Mae Loter Langston, Lewis T. Oldham, and Clint Surber.

Class reunions begin at 8 a.m., Wednesday. The class of '37 will meet for breakfast at the Mayfair Hotel. At noon members of the class of '42 will lunch together in the Emerald Room of Ganus Student Center, and graduates of '47 will have dinner there at 6 p.m. The class of '32 will announce plans later.

Other events for alumni include a reunion of former chorus members on Wednesday evening; the annual mother-daughter luncheon of the W.H.C. social club at noon on Wednesday; an ice cream supper for former Sub-T Club members; the traditional softball game between students and alumni at 3:30 p.m., Alpha Honor Society Dinner; Campus Players production, "The Silver Whistle;" and breakfasts for former members of the Gata and L.C. social clubs and the Campus Players Thursday morning.

Graduation exercises will be at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, and Baccalaureate services will be held the preceding Sunday.

The college will have 117 new alumni when members of the class of '52 are formally accepted into the Association at the annual luncheon-business meeting at noon on Thursday. This meeting will also be the occasion of installing of new officers for 1952-53.



**Miss O'Banion received the award from Dr. Millikan (right) and Ken Wells (left) of the Foundation.**

## College honored

Harding College received the Distinguished Service Award for outstanding service in Americanism education from Freedoms Foundation, Feb. 22, in ceremonies at Valley Forge, Penna. The presentation was made by Dr. Robert A. Millikan, internationally known atomic scientist, and accepted for the college by Marguerite O'Banion, secretary to the president.

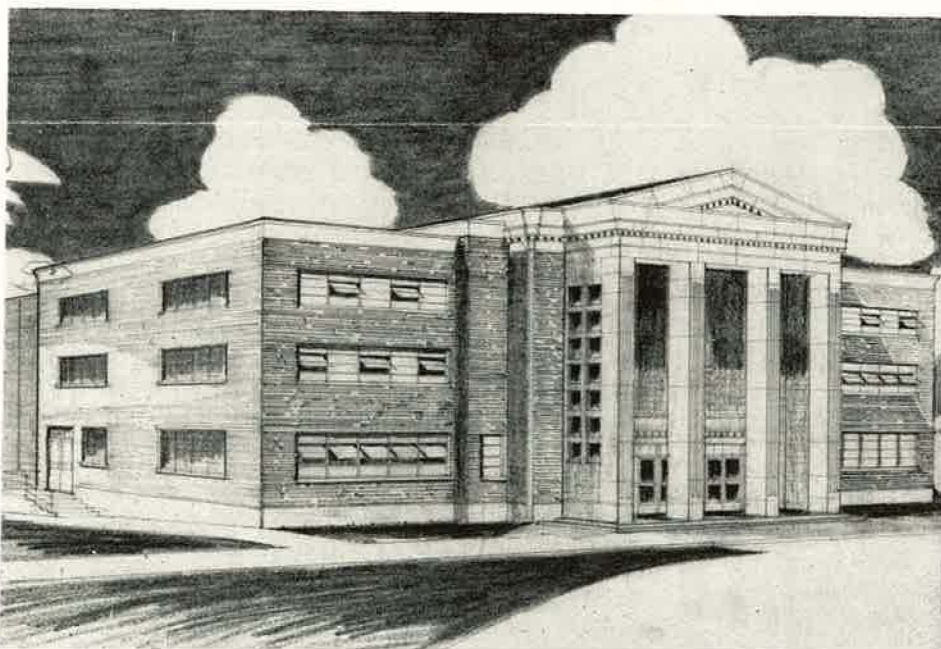
Harding's Americanism education activities include: Motion pictures, a newspaper column, a speakers' bureau, a Monthly Letter, a dramatized radio program, and the Freedom Forums. An estimated 25,000,000 people are reached each week by these media.

Freedoms Foundation awards were established in 1949 to stimulate activity in Americanism. This is the third year Harding has been a winner.

## Have you voted?

Ballots listing candidates for the offices of president and vice president of the Harding College Alumni Association were mailed to the membership in March. All voting is to be completed by noon, June 5.

Candidates for president are: Dr. Joe Pryor, '37, and Dr. Jack Wood Sears, '40. Vice president candidates are: Billy Norris, '35, Rex Westerfield, '49, C. W. Bradley, '44, Charles Cranford, '51, and Jeannette Norris Baggett, '50.



**The new auditorium-administration building: Alumni will meet in the auditorium for the chapel program June 4.**



## President's Corner

By Clifton L. Ganus, Jr.

AT LEAST ONE GOOD THING came of the recent tornado that hit near Searcy. It brought us a letter from Jim "My kingdom for a horse" Berry, whose card has reposed in our inactive file for several years. Jim, who was treasurer of the sophomore class in 1941, wanted to know how hard Searcy and Harding were hit by the big blow. Perhaps others have wondered.

Our being spared was almost miraculous, and when the first siren screamed toward Searcy, bringing in the dead and injured, Harding's students and faculty became a selfless part of the corps of workers who cared for the victims. That night our dormitories and infirmary became hospitals and housing for many dazed and injured people. Our gymnasium was converted into a huge bedroom, with 200 folding cots, many of which were occupied for several days by the homeless. In a few days they were moved from the campus, but the rehabilitation work continues.

Jim also gave us some news about himself. He has been a soldier, chemist, and sales clerk since leaving Harding in 1941, and describes himself now as a "poor but extremely happy farmer" in Clearmont, Wyoming. His 600-acre ranch is nicely located for visitors to drop in, he said, just a quarter-mile off Custer Battlefield Highway. Jim is married, and sent a picture of his "haying crew"—Linda, 10, Mike, 5 and a ten-month-old boy. We've mounted the picture in our scrapbook of alumni children, for visiting friends to see. We were certainly glad to hear from Jim. Why don't more of you follow suit?

We want to thank many of you who have responded to our request for names of prospective students. We will do everything we can to sell those young people on Harding. A little plug from you, whenever possible, will be appreciated also.

The dinner meetings given by various chapters have been successful. The Memphis chapter has set up an outstanding program of activities. Dallas-Fort Worth claims the largest dinner meeting so far—102 present. The figures aren't in on the Nashville, Tenn., meeting yet. We are grateful for all the help you have given. Just keep it up.

This is my last message as president of the Harding Alumni Association. For eight years I have tried to serve in that capacity, although much of that time I was away from the campus. I am only sorry that I could not have given more time to the work. My failings as president were not due to lack of interest in our Alma Mater, nor was my negligence intentional.

It seems, in viewing the record, that the Association has come a long way. Several factors have helped: first, we have grown; added to our number year by year. Second, many of you have developed a very active interest in the work, and helped in every way you could. But most important, we have a very able, efficient, and loyal secretary, Miss Catherine Root, who has given full time to making the wheels go around in the Alumni Association.

I wish I could say this to you face to face, but many of you will not be here Alumni Day. So I will take this opportunity to say "thank you" to everyone who has so loyally supported the school and the Association. To those who have been well-meaning, but a little negligent, may I beseech you to be more active and a little more liberal in support of the school that so greatly needs and merits your support.

My deepest appreciation to you all. May God bless you and yours till we meet again.

## the Alumni write

714 Richton Ave.  
Sheffield, Ala.

Recently we attended a party at Mars Hill Bible School for Harding alumni and prospective students. The program was very interesting, and it was good to see Harding friends.

It is a joy to hear about the wonderful improvements that are being made at Harding. We hope to visit there soon and see them for ourselves.

Homer and Blanche Rickman Horsman ('50, '45)

c-o Postmaster, New York

How many times I have intended to write and thank you for the addresses of alumni here in Germany. Thanks so much for your help. It has been wonderful to visit and worship with those I knew at Harding.

Munich is only an hour's train ride from here, so I attend church there. It was wonderful to see Bob and Ruth Hare and to meet Jack and Kay Nadeau. John Anderson also worships there each week.

Ted and Betty Nadeau arrived last week and were at church last Sunday. I know they will be a great help in the work there.

One three day pass I went to Frankfort. I wish every one at home could see the wonderful progress the church has made there. The educational building is the most beautiful in the city, and they have an ideal location.

I hope to see the Dick Smiths and Max Watsons in March.

Wilton Pate, '49

315 State St.  
Midland, Mich.

Just a note to give you my new address. I am starting work with the Dow Chemical Company here next week. A good company and a nice town, although the church is small and struggling.

My work here will be in the analytical lab and offers good opportunities. Would like to see some more Harding people up here.

Best of everything to all at Harding.

Ralph Mansell, '50

Johnson, Ark.

Here is a picture of our daughter for the Baby Scrapbook.

We enjoy reading the Bulletin so much and look forward to every issue. Bill is the full-time preacher for the church here. We are very busy and also very happy in our work.

We hope to visit Harding soon.

Bill and Joanne Anderson Smith, '50, '49

Nashville, Tenn.

A line to let you know how much I enjoy getting the Alumni News. I get homesick every once in a while. Or is it Harding-sick?

Harold Graham and I are engaged and have wedding plans which we hope will materialize as soon as he gets back from Korea. He is an electronics technician aboard the USS Rochester. I am employed as artist designer, junior, for the Abingdon-Cokesbury Press. Had a private reunion with Mary Katherine King and Elizabeth Russell Simms a few weeks back. Mary Katherine has a very good job as lab technician in Memphis and Liz has joined Will in Biloxi, where he is training to be an air-control-tower operator.

We can scatter to the ends of the earth, but we're still Hardingites when we get together.

Veranne Hall, '51

## ALUMNI NEWS

## SPRING ISSUE

### Rubys go abroad

Dr. and Mrs. Wade Ruby, of Los Angeles, Calif., renewed friendships with Harding people and caught up on news of the college when they visited the campus in February. Dr. Ruby spoke in chapel Feb. 21, and he and Mrs. Ruby were guests of honor at a reception in Cathcart Hall that evening.

The Rubys and their children, Betty and Wade, Jr., were on their way to New York City, where they sailed on the Queen Mary for England, March 7. They will spend five months touring England and the continent. Dr. Ruby will spend two months in post-doctoral study at Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

Dr. Ruby, professor of English at George Pepperdine College, is a Harding graduate of 1931. Mrs. Ruby was graduated in 1930. Their trip to Europe is financed by funds awarded to George Pepperdine College by a Los Angeles organization in recognition of the writing achievements of Dr. Ruby's students.

### Dharni serves India

Prem Das Dharni has accepted a position with the Consular Service of the Government of India. He will work in New York City.

Dharni, a native of Punjab, India, received the bachelor of arts degree from Harding in 1950. His major was business administration. He recently completed work for the master's degree at Bradley University, Peoria, Ill.

### Mrs. Laas recalls Texas disaster

(Condensed from a story by Lin Wright in the Arkansas Democrat.)

It was March 18, Thursday afternoon—1937. Twelve-year-old Cecil Hare was in unusually high spirits as she walked across the campus toward the auditorium building of the New London, Tex., Consolidated School. There would be no school Friday. The Rusk County School Meet was slated for that day and she was on her way to join other students in the auditorium for last-minute instructions. The time was 3:15.

The young seventh-grader quickened her pace as she mounted the concrete steps of the massive building. Then it happened . . .

There was a grumbling roar as fire belched from inside. The girl stopped, fear stricken. A split-second later an ear-hammering blast lifted the girl off her feet and dropped her some 15 feet



(Extension Service Photo.)

Word and Rico pause to discuss the day's work.

### Ulyss Word is Exchange Farmer

Ulyss Word, '50, is one of nine young men and women participating in the United States—Puerto Rico Farm Exchange Program, sponsored by the National 4-H Club Foundation.

Word is now telling the farm youth of Nevada County, Ark., where he is assistant county agent, about farm living in Puerto Rico, after spending six weeks on the island working on a farm and studying the Puerto Rican programs for rural youth.

For a month Word was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Pedro Rico, who live on a three-acre ornamental farm near San Sanbastian. He shared in the daily life and work of the family, pruning and grafting orange trees and helping cultivate and harvest the ornamentals. He also talked to school groups and civic clubs about life in the United States.



Cecil Hare Laas

memory of the dead children—to tourists a work of art—but to Cecil Hare and others who witnessed the disaster, it is the symbol of a grim day they will never forget.

(Cecil Hare, '45, is now Mrs. Bill Laas, second grade teacher in the Searcy Public Schools. The Laas' have two daughters, Sandra and Virginia.)

away, where she lay stunned and sick.

She heard the screams of children—her playmates—mingled with the sound of crackling flames. Books and bricks and mortar spilled around her. She closed her eyes and was spared seeing the walls of the building bulge outward, then inward, as the roof came tumbling down on 600 trapped students and teachers.

She started to run, but someone caught her and told her not to get lost in the chaos.

Cecil watched until darkness came, then she went home and cried herself to sleep. She was the only seventh grader to wake up. Next day, and many days afterward, she watched them bury her generation. The final count: 396 dead, another 300 injured.

Today in the center of New London's main street is a beautiful monument in

# From here and there . . .

## Born

Daughter, Vera Lu, to Paul and Esther Mitchell Hesser, March 19 . . . Son, Mark Edward, to Jesse and Sue Priestly Moore, Feb. 28 . . . Son, Prewitte, Jr., to Prewitte and Betty Sue Traylor Copeland, Feb. 26 . . . Daughter, Letitia, to Bill and Claudia Pruitt Petty, Feb. 15 . . . Daughter, Vicki Lynn, to Mr. and Mrs. John Paul Hadley, Jan. 27 . . . Son, Timothy Stewart, to Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Hogan, Feb. 2 . . . Daughter, Phyllis Gail, to Tom and Engel Lee Autrey Burkett, Feb. 9 . . . Son, Mark Allen, to Ernie and Jayne Pate Wilkerson, Jan. 19 . . . Son, William Herman, to Herman and Mildred See Barke-meyer, Dec. 12, 1951 . . . Son, Dale Leslie, to Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Hazelbaker, Jan. 14 . . . Daughter, Deborah Ann, to Billy and Margaret Sherrill Lynn, Feb. 20 . . . Daughter, Claudia Gay, to Leo and Gwen Futrell Campbell, Jan. 23 . . . Daughter, Terri Lynn, to Jack and Melba Hawes Weldon, Feb. 17 . . . Daughter, Billye Rhea, to Bill and Leila Rae McAdams Nailon, Feb. 3 . . . Son, Robert David, to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Brown, Feb. 14 . . . Twins, Mary Theresa and Michael Anthony, to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dyer, Feb. 6 . . . Daughter, Patricia Susan, to Gilbert and Idalia Davis Dar-win, Feb. 17 . . . Daughter, Kay Rita, to Tom and Pat Mansur Franklin, Mar. 5 . . . Son, Robert, Jr., to Robert and Imogene Chapman Hammerschmidt, Feb. 4 . . . Son, Jack, Jr., to Jack and Edna McCullough Mitchell, Feb. 21 . . . Daughter, Mary Rachel, to Adrian and Mary McCullough Formby, Mar. 5.

## News Bits

Paul and Sybil Bennett Williams, '49, live in Hunting-don, Penna. Paul is training supervisor for Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corporation, Textile Products Division.

Brodie Crouch, '48, is minister of the Daniel Street Church, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

Bob Whitcraft, '55, is in the Army Air Force, stationed at Lackland Air Base, San Antonio, Tex.

## Married

Marilyn Evans, '52, to Howard Doyle Leftwich, Jan. 24, in Wichita, Kans. They live at 845 Buffum, Wichita.

Ellen Engles, '51, to Leon Huddleston, '48, in Tuckerman, Feb. 23. They live in Grand Prairie, Tex.

Victoria Guest, '52, to Kirvin Dan Hardin, Dec. 25, 1951, in Cordell, Okla. They live at 814 South Sixth, Clinton, Okla.

Jonnie Reese, '48, to Jack Croom, '44, in Vernon, Texas, Feb. 23. They live in Fort Worth, where Jack is an attorney for Gulf Oil Corporation.

LaTrelle McLeod, '54, to Thomas B. Hamilton, Mar. 30, in Alachua, Fla.

Bobbie McBride, to Keith Smith, '54, Dec. 30, in Eudora. They live in Abilene. Keith is attending Abilene Christian College.

Joy Mannschereck, '52, to Virgil E. Carrier, Jan. 17, in Wichita, Kans. They live in Olathe, Kans. Carrier is in the United States Air Force.

Francis Dillehay to Dennis Maddox, '50, Dec. 20. Maddox is attending Murray State Teachers College, Murray, Ky.

Jewell Woodward, '52, to Sherman Ferren, Jan. 12, in Searcy. Ferren is in the United States Army, stationed at Camp Chaffee, Fort Smith.

Odean Floyd, '42, to George M. Reynolds, Jr., Mar. 8 in Nashville, Ark. They live at 1014 West 10th, Little Rock.

Verna Jean Dodd, '52, to V. L. Smith, Mar. 29. They live at 1667 Madison, Memphis, Tenn.

Donald Hall, '53, to Rowena Boler, '55, in Mammouth Springs, Ark., Mar. 2.

Georgia Webb, '52, to Nelson James, in Searcy, Mar. 2. They live in Searcy, where James is associated with the Western Auto Store.

Ann Morris, '51, to Cliff Seawel, '52, in Tuscumbia, Ala., Mar. 15. Cliff is attending David Lipscomb College.

Yvonne Simon, '54, to Willard Cox, '51, in Mars Hill, Florence, Ala., Dec. 21.

Gladys Erline Wilson, to Stewart Trantum, '49, in Sum-ner, Miss., Feb. 29. They live at Stover, Miss., where Stewart is farming.

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ALUMNI NEWS