

# CERES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (C.A.A.)

*Dedicated to maintaining the pride and spirit of Ceres*

## *Newsletter*

**Year 2015**

**January**

**Edition No. 1**

### **NEWSLETTER SPONSOR**

This newsletter is in memory of Betty G. Wilson. It is sponsored in loving memory of Betty by James Wilson, her Ceres native husband of 58+ years, her son Tom and daughter Diane and Dennis Catley. Betty and Jim often visited Ceres, usually attended Homecoming and were/are great supporters of the Ceres Alumni Association. Betty will be missed.

If you or your company would like to sponsor a future newsletter, please contact any officer or mail your check for \$175 to P.O. Box 32, Ceres, VA 24318. This does not cover the full cost but it helps.

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hello folks.

I hope everyone had a great Christmas. I want to first say thank you to everyone who has worked so hard for your organization over the past year. Thank you for a job well done.

As we begin to prepare for the new year, I hope that everyone will look over the schedule of upcoming events for the year and offer us any suggestions or help in order that we might improve on each one of them. For some of our past events, our attendance was slightly less than it was in the previous years. So, as we prepared to make out the new schedule of events of 2015, we tried to look forward and plan around conflicts with other organizations.

Since Homecoming 2014, if you have not been to the school campus, our outside basketball court is complete and ready for play. Also, on January 27 we will begin with a new FREE exercise program for all ages being taught by Michael and Erica Pruett. We hope some of you will be able to take advantage of this class. Our future events are pretty much the same as we have had in the past with a few tweaks regarding the schedules. For our upcoming May Day event, we will have folks come in from the Bland Clinic and do some health screening for any one who wants to participate in it. The May Day event has grown over the last few years thanks to help of everyone involved. This event sets the tone for our summer season. I hope that more folks will come forward with new ideas and renewed energies. After all, this is your organization, and I would hope that everyone would want to see it excel. Please feel free to offer advice as to how we can improve on what you have here in Ceres and always feel welcomed to come and participate in our monthly board meetings AND our summer events.

One last note, if you have not paid your dues, please do not forget to do so. We hope to see everyone at some point thru the summer, and we want to wish each and everyone a successful new year. I hope everyone will invite a new friend to come and join us and become a member of this great organization.

Sincerely,

*G. H. Peery III*, President

### **2014 HOMECOMING**

The Ceres Alumni Association sponsored its fourteenth annual Ceres Homecoming on October 18, 2014. The weather was perfect and the turning leaves added to the beauty of the valley. The event was well attended and included Beulah Tibbs Newberry and June Durham Sands of the CHS class of 1940. We believe they have attended every annual Homecoming.

After the opportunity to visit the Museum and school building (thanks to the Ruritan Club) guests gathered in the gym, beautifully decorated by Becky Kimberlin and her helpers.

### **Program**

The theme was **Mountaineer Memories** and included a large display of "Mountaineer" yearbooks to help guide the guests down memory lane.

Betty C. Hubble, Vice President, welcomed the guests. Following the blessing by Rev. C. Ray Davis, a delicious and bountiful meal, catered by the Ladies of Berea Christian Church, was served. Ellis Shupe provided beautiful dinner music on his guitar. He has not lost his touch that we remember when he was in high school over 50 years ago. Everyone was saddened to remember that Eleanor, Ellis' late wife, was not with us.

Following the meal, Archie Atwell led the annual "Rose of Remembrance" segment of the program. Twenty-eight (28) 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: Rick Hanshew; Lee Tate; Eleanor Shupe; James R. (Bob) Hubble; William Bevil; James (Jamie) Clemons, Jr.; Shirley Claudine Neel Repass; Marion (Red) Peck, Jr.; Elizabeth Wimmer Bowman; Gerald Hannah, husband of CAA member Judy H. Hannah; Linwood Toms, husband of Mabel Cregger Toms; Doris Cox Hancock Mullins, widow of Graham Hancock; Mona Leigh Lambert Tibbs; Anna Leigh Thompson Fisher; Georgia Dillow Akers, C. S. Umbarger whose Mother was remembered last year; Poindexter Barker; Jean Hayton Hubble; Rev. James L. Britton, Jr.; Tommy Buck; Sue Repass Lambert; Bertha Mae (Mrs. Marvin) Hayton; Sammy R. Thomas; James D. (Jim) Smith; Leslie Wildgoose, widower of Eleanor Hall Wild-goose; Ruth G. Patrick; Marie Kidd Cassell; and Judy Blair Ferguson. This was followed by a moment of silent remembrance and reflection.

Dean DeRosa provided an interesting follow-up on the on-line image based program to feature pictures of ancestors from the Ceres area. He also had equipment to demonstrate the program. This is something the community can all look forward to. The more pictures that are shared; the more history that will be preserved. Join in.

### **Business Meeting**

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.

### **Officers**

The following Association officers were elected for 2015: President – G. H. Peery, III, Vice President – Betty C. Hubble, Recording Secretary and Reporter – Michelle H. Groseclose, Membership Secretary – Lorraine S. Waddle, Historian – Elaine H. Kegley, Treasurer – Robert I. "Buddie" Waddle. Wade Hall will hold the position of Past President.

The Association's Board of Directors for the period through 2015 will be Jonan C. Cassell, Sue T. Repass and Janet White. Serving through 2016 will be Frankie Gray, William H. Hubble and Rebecca M. Peery. Elected to serve a three year term through 2017 will be J. W. Cassell, Evelyn H. Groseclose and Elizabeth N. Kimberlin.

The Association Endowment Fund Directors serving through 2015 will be Edd Houck, Joyce Keen and Glen Repass. Serving through 2016 will be Judy Cassell, William H. Crabtree, and DeWayne Hubble.

Elected to serve a three year term through 2017 will be Dean D. Kirk, Robin U. Repass and Jerry Thompson. 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.

### **Raffle Winners**

A much anticipated event of the day was the drawing of the winning tickets in the annual raffle. 38 raffle prizes were awarded to: Betty Buck, Alma K. Hubble, Evelyn Groseclose, Kirby Keen, Nancy Harner, Diane Tibbs, Barbara Rose, Bill Harner, Ann Spence, Bob Parks, Linda Halsey, Brian Allen, Katie Tibbs, Patrick Wilson, Norma Repass, Edgar Wimmer, Judy Cassell, Delaney Scott, Paul Catron, Tommy Repass, Steven Woodward, Juanita Harman, Dillon Groseclose, Don Lambert, Bertha Hubble, Dottie Scott, Anita Dye, Patricia Sturgill, and Simone Manis. The four largest prizes of the day were a handmade quilt donated by "Just for Fun" Quilters, and won by Jackson Munsey; an iPad donated by C.A.A. and several members, and won by Arnold Compton; a framed P. Buckley Moss print donated by the Moss Foundation and framed by Ron

Stallard was won by Tillie Umbarger; and a Remington rifle donated by the Association was won by Darleyne Atwell. James Clemons of Ceres sold the most raffle tickets; and Della Mae Neel was second. Prizes were given to both. Over 100 door prizes were given to those attending the Homecoming.

#### **Raffle and Door Prize Donors**

Appreciation was expressed to all the donors of the raffle gifts and door prizes, especially those who gave several gifts. The following businesses and individuals donated prizes: Ceres Alumni Association, P. Buckley Moss Foundation and custom framing by Ron Stallard, "Just for Fun" Quilters, Dean Kirk of Builders Supermarket, Bill and Betty Hubble, Glen Repass, Wytheville Office Supply, Elaine Kegley, Evelyn Groseclose, Bill and Betty Crabtree, Buddie and Lorree Waddle, Wade Hall, Crabtree Family Sewing, J. W. and Judy Cassell, Archie and Darleyne Atwell, G. H. and Rebecca Peery, Dunn's Bland Square Restaurant, Della Mae Neel, Jack King – State Farm Insurance, Wright Automotive, Old Post Mercantile, New Peoples Bank of Bland, Sue Repass, Harner's Market, Regina Davis Lowman, Randy Townley – Bland Auto, BB&T of Bland, Elmer and Ann Beardshall, Andy and Libby Hubble, Michelle Groseclose, Looney's Auto, Janet White, Archie and Darleyne Atwell, Frankie Davis, Wolfe Creek Indian Village, First Bank of Virginia, Bland Family Dentistry, Bland Farm Bureau, Janet and Gary White, and Ceres Ministry Center.

Thanks were extended to all who helped make this day such a success; to the Ceres Ruritan Club for allowing the guests to tour the former school building and for its upkeep; to all who provided raffle and door prize gifts; and to all who brought "Toys for Tots."

The next Ceres Homecoming will be on October 17, 2015

#### **HCG MUSEUM ANNEX (Temporary name)**

The proposed building to house some of our Museum exhibits is well underway with hopes for occupancy before the May 2<sup>nd</sup> CERES DAY. Unfortunately, we were not successful in securing a grant to complete the building as we wanted, but the basic structure will be usable. The floor will be gravel rather than the concrete we had hoped for. Perhaps the new floor and sidewalks to this building can be Phase II on this project.

As mentioned earlier, this building will house such current gifts as a thrashing machine, a grist meal, corn binder, two-horse disk and mowing machine, and stationary corn blower among other treasures. Also mentioned earlier was a suggestion that we allow folks to contribute toward the cost of this structure through regular donations or gifts in honor or in memory of friends and loved ones. A plaque will be displayed to depict all donations of \$500 or more.

Later, we will have a grand opening of the building which is yet to be named. If you have an idea for a name, e-mail it to [ceres\\_alumni\\_association@hotmail.com](mailto:ceres_alumni_association@hotmail.com) or mail your suggestion to P. O. Box 32, Ceres, Virginia 24318.

#### **REPORTED DEATHS**

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

Leslie Wildgoose, widower of Eleanor Hall Wildgoose

Marie Kidd Cassell

Judy Blair Ferguson

Diana Dillman Vejar, daughter of Harry A. Dillman  
and Linda Sue Neel Schwaizberg

Alfred Cregger

Harold Martin Foglesong

Gene Coffman

Jared C. Alexander, husband of Margaret Ellen  
Shufflebarger Alexander

William Bruce Lundy, son of Bonnie Bruce and Jack Lundy

Lois Carter Keesee

Katherine Reynolds

Betty G. (Mrs. James F.) Wilson

Norma Sue Hall Repass

**MEMORIAL GIFTS**

In memory of Mildred Peery McCall  
By Bruce McCall

In memory of James D. Smith  
By Geneva Smith Gentry  
By Beattie J. "Jack" Smith

In memory of James L. Britton, Jr.  
By Ronald Kime

In memory of James (Bob) Hubble  
By Alma K. Hubble

In memory of Richard Keith "Rick" Hanshew  
By Mae H. Hanshew

In memory of Jared C. Alexander  
By William H. and Betty C. Hubble

In memory of Betty G. Wilson  
By Robert and Lorraine Waddle  
By William and Betty Hubble

In memory of Norma Hall Repass  
By William and Betty Hubble  
By Robert and Lorraine Waddle

**MEMORIAL GIFTS TO ENDOWMENT FUND**

In memory of Nora Mae & Garland Wygal  
By Edd Houck

In memory of Roddy R. Crabtree  
By Anna "Butchie" Barger Crabtree

In memory of Betty G. Wilson  
By James and Tom Wilson  
By Diane and Dennis Catley

**HONORARY GIFTS**

In honor of Buddie and Lorree Waddle  
By John and Shirley Stafford

In honor of G. H. and Rebecca Peery  
By George and Helen Keck

**OTHER GIFTS**

Cash to Endowment Fund  
By James and Betty Wilson

Cash for New Building  
By James and Betty Wilson

Cash donation  
By Warren Thompson

40.63 ton gravel  
12 building poles  
By Rich Valley Dairy, Inc.

## HEALTH RELATED GRANT

**GREAT NEWS!** Thanks to the Wythe-Bland Foundation, CAA will receive a \$15,000 Grant for the part-time staffing and marketing to increase the health component of our facility. The first **FREE** Jujitsu, stretch, and exercises classes for all ages will start on January 27<sup>th</sup>. See the attached flyer. **MORE TO COME.** We also thank Lorree Waddle for her expertise in writing this grant request.

## 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 GYM

To schedule the use of the gym, call 276.682.4380 or 276.682.4255.

## HELP WANTED

A lot of work goes into all the events sponsored by the Association. We appreciate any help you might contribute.

## MEMBERSHIP

To date, we have 72 members who have paid their 2015 dues. Dues are \$25 per year, \$100 for 5 years or \$250 for lifetime dues.

## NEW IN THE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

**Hooded Sweatshirt:** The shirts are royal blue with the following yellow imprint on the left front.

Historic Ceres, VA



Established 1880

These sell for \$30 for adult sizes and \$15 for youth sizes.

**Stylus/pens** (with gift box) - \$4

### While They Last

Caps, blue "Ceres, VA" - \$6

Brass Ceres School ornaments - \$6.25 ea.

Wooden replica of Ceres School - \$6.25 ea.

Museum note paper/envelopes – 10 for \$4.40

Tote Bags, "Goddess of Grain, Ceres, VA" - \$5

Sweatshirts, gray w/blue "Historic Ceres" \$10

T-shirts:

White "Historic Ceres, VA" - \$5

White, "Ain't No Place Like Ceres" - \$10

Wildcat, \$8, \$10 and \$11 depending on size

Book, "*Groseclose Ancestry*" (green) - \$50

Print – Sharon College 8 X 10" - \$10

Print – Sharon College 11X 14" - \$15

1914 picture of Ceres, 4 x 5" \$3 or 2 for \$5

Postcards - \$0.35

Book "*Letters of a Confederate Private*" - \$25

Coffee mugs:

Groseclose Museum - \$3

Peery Gym - \$3

Ceres, VA - \$3

Ceres School - \$3

Jewelry, assortment - \$6 to \$25 less 20%

Contact Anne Britton at 682.4587 to order.

If order must be mailed, shipping will be added.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in each month except  
Quarterly meetings - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Jan., Apr., July, Oct.

**Everyone is welcome**

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

*Officers for 2015*

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	Elaine Kegley	Unlisted
Treasurer	Robert I. Waddle	276.688.4450

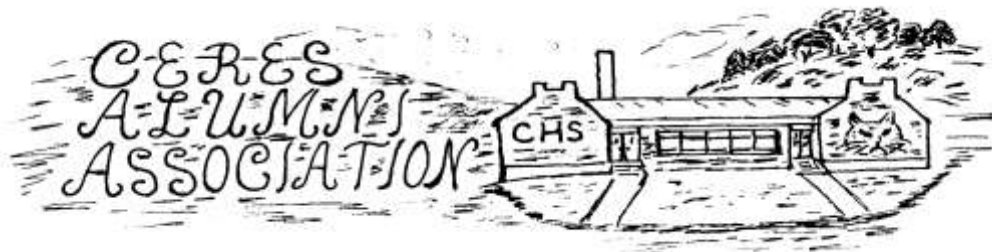
Association Directors and term ending year:

Jonan Repass – 2015	Rebecca Peery – 2016
Sue Repass – 2015	J. W. Cassell – 2017
Janet R. White – 2015	Evelyn H. Groseclose – 2017
Frankie Gray - 2016	Elizabeth Kimberlin – 2017
William H. Hubble – 2016	Wade Hall – Past President

Endowment Trust Fund Directors & term ending year:

Edd Houck – 2015	DeWayne Hubble – 2016
Joyce Keen – 2015	Dean Kirk - 2017
Glen Repass - 2015	Robin U. Repass - 2017
Judy Cassell – 2016	Jerry Thompson - 2017
William H. Crabtree - 2016	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



P.O. Box 32  
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**CERES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (CAA) 2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS**

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – 7:00 PM  
Except 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday - Jan., Apr., July, & Oct.  
(Board of Directors may make changes)  
Everyone is welcome to attend

**CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT**

**Peery Center Gym**  
February 28, 2015 starting at 11:00 AM

**ROOK TOURNAMENT**

**Peery Center Gym**  
March 14, 2015 starting at 11:00 AM

**WM. (BILL) CREGGAR SCHOLARSHIP  
HOT DOG / HAMBURGER SUPPER – 5:00 PM**

**Peery Center Gym**  
April 11, 2015 supper starting at 5:00 PM  
To raise funds for a scholarship to be awarded  
to a Bland County High School senior.  
Price: By Donation

**APRIL QUARTERLY MEETING**

April 17, 2015 starting at 7:00 PM

**CERES DAY**

**Sponsored by CAA & Ruritan Club**  
**Former Ceres School Campus**  
May 2, 2015 starting at 8:00 AM  
Crafters and exhibits start at 10:00 AM  
Sausage Biscuit and Gravy Breakfast  
Beans and Cornbread Lunch  
Flea Market, Yard Sale and Bake Sale  
Crafts, Farm Equipment, Heritage Demos  
And Lots More  
Spaces: indoor - \$10 and outdoor - \$5  
Contact 276.682.4231 to reserve your space.

**CHICKEN BAR-B-Q**

**Peery Center Gym**  
May 30, 2015 starting at 5:00 PM  
Price: By Donation

**PIG ROAST AND WATER ACTIVITIES**

**Peery Center Gym**  
June 20, 2015 starting at 5:00 PM  
Price: By Donation

**CAA QUARTERLY MEETING**

**Peery Center Gym**  
July 16, 2015 – 7:00 PM



**HAMBURGER / HOT DOG COOKOUT  
WATER ACTIVITIES**

**Peery Center Gym**

August 15, 2015 starting at 5:00 PM

Price: By Donation

**PIG ROAST AND WATER ACTIVITIES**

**Peery Center Gym**

September 5, 2015

Starting at 5:00 PM

Price: By Donation

**14<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CERES HOMECOMING**

**Former Ceres School Campus**

Saturday, October 17, 2015

More details later.

**ELECTION DAY NELSON'S CAFÉ**

**Peery Center Gym**

November 3, 2015

6:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Vote and enjoy breakfast or lunch.

**TAKEOUT PORK ROAST**

To be cooked in late December

**Date to be announced**

Order your Christmas Boston Butt or Loin  
Call 682-4380 or 4381 to place your orders.

**APPLEBEE'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

1440 E. Main Street, Wytheville

**Date to be announced**

8:00 to 10:00 AM

\$6.00 per person – all you can eat  
Advance tickets from CAA or pay at door

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Check the web site [www.ceresva.org](http://www.ceresva.org) for other upcoming events as they are scheduled.

**MUSICIANS WELCOME TO COME  
JAM AT ALL THESE EVENTS!**

**WE ALWAYS NEED HELP WITH THESE EVENTS. YOUR ASSISTANCE WOULD BE  
APPRECIATED.**

**SAVE THIS PAGE**

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