

# Alumni News...

Two Chamberlain-Hunt alumni recently completed basic training, becoming privates first class in the United States Marine Corps. John Ochoa ('06) graduated at San Diego on 12 December 2008, and Lee (Barber) Slater ('08) graduated at Paris Island on 16 January 2009. PFC Slater visited campus in late January, talked with Cadets about his experiences and posed for a photo. The Academy wishes these young men well and prays for their safety, and the safety of other alumni serving in our country's armed forces.



PFC Ochoa with his father at graduation from basic training



PFC Slater with LTC Granville, COL West and LTC Patterson on his recent visit to campus

## Important Upcoming Dates!

- **In February, Dr. David Gruchy turns 93! If you would like to send birthday greetings to him, you may e-mail [alumni@chamberlain-hunt.com](mailto:alumni@chamberlain-hunt.com) or send cards to Dr. David Gruchy, Chamberlain-Hunt Academy, 124 McComb Ave, Port Gibson, MS 39150—and we will forward them to him.**
- **Chamberlain-Hunt's annual Alumni Day is scheduled for Saturday, 18 April 2009. Be on the lookout for further details!**
- **Also, there is a multi-year reunion planned for 10-12 July 2009 in Natchez, MS. Although the focus is on alumni from 1971 to 1985, organizers say everyone is welcome. Please go to the Alumni Page of the Web site ([www.chamberlain-hunt.com/alumni.shtml](http://www.chamberlain-hunt.com/alumni.shtml)), print off a copy of the registration form and mail to Anita Cook Campbell as soon as possible!**

## In Memorium...

**Mr. John M. Armstrong, Jr.** ('41) was born in Ruston, LA on January 22, 1923, and passed away at home on January 7. "Sonny" was a graduate of Chamberlain-Hunt and of Louisiana Tech.



He served in World War II as a member of the United States Army Air Corps, stationed in England. From there he flew many missions over Germany and France as captain of a B-26 Marauder tactical bomber, and he participated in the D-Day Invasion. During the course of the war his plane was shot down over the English Channel, but all of his crew survived without injury.

He had a long and successful business career, and during retirement, he became a founding board member of Argent Financial Group. Sonny remained an Argent director emeritus until the time of his death. Sonny was a long-time supporter of St. Jude Children's Hospital and Chamberlain-Hunt, which recently granted him the *Hunt Award* for his generosity to his old alma mater.

His family survivors include his devoted wife, Jeanne, son, Dr. John Mills Armstrong III, two grandchildren and three great grandchildren, as well as canine-companion Billy Bob.



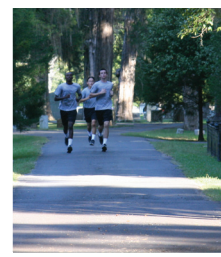
**LTC Adna G. Wilde ('38)** died on November 17 at age 88. Wilde was a faithful supporter of Chamberlain-Hunt and former director of the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum. He held the position from 1973 until 1981.

Wilde was born in Vicksburg, MS on October 1, 1920, graduated from Chamberlain-Hunt in 1938 and from The Citadel in 1943.

After college, he joined the Army and served in the famed 10th Mountain Division. He was wounded in combat in Italy during World War II. Following the war he and his wife lived all over the world as he continued his military career. They retired to Colorado Springs in the 1960s. Wilde is survived by his beloved wife, Joan. He was buried with military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

CHAMBERLAIN-HUNT  
CHRISTIAN MILITARY BOARDING  
124 MCCOMB AVENUE PORT GIBSON MS 39150

## From the president's desk . . .



"Change and decay in all around I see; O, Thou who changest not, abide with me." You may recall singing these words from the prayer "Abide with Me"; it has been in many hymnals for generations, a comfort to Christians in distress, despair or uncertainty. Henry F. Lyte penned the words in 1847, a few weeks before his death at age 54. In addition to "Abide with Me," he wrote almost one hundred other hymns, including "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" and "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken."

His life was a difficult one but not without significance. When Henry was a boy, his father abandoned the family; his mother, who read him Bible stories, and younger brother died soon thereafter. Orphaned, Henry was taken in by an Irish minister who had five children of his own. Henry Lyte grew into a frail man, afflicted by asthma and tuberculosis. Despite his physical frailties, he had a strong faith in Jesus. He attended Trinity College in Dublin on scholarship before entering the ministry, and for twenty-three years, despite steadily declining health, he faithfully pastored in a fishing village in England. There he helped educate a young Lord Salisbury, who was to become Prime Minister of Great Britain three times between 1885 and 1902. (Lord Salisbury believed strongly that civil government's role is to maintain and extend liberty rather than to engage in social and economic engineering.) Eventually, Lyte's health became so poor that he was forced to move from England to the warmer, drier climate of southern Europe, and he continued to minister there for his few remaining years. It was reported that Lyte crawled into the pulpit to deliver his final sermon.

Lyte is credited with coining the phrase, "It is better to wear out than to rust." Our culture, on the contrary, seems to live for momentary pleasure—expecting "something for nothing," looking for the "easy button." It knows little of present sacrifice for future gain. However, things at Chamberlain-Hunt are different. Engaging in the lives of boys is consuming; it consumes time, energy, material and money, and full return on the investment is not seen for years. Like Lyte's ministry, such engagement is of immeasurable future effect. The Chamberlain-Hunt cadre is energized by the idea that among the Cadets there is a "Henry Lyte," a boy without father or mother, who will one day write hymns that comfort the grieving or who will one day shape the worldview of a future Prime Minister or President. Or, among the Cadets is a privileged "Lord Salisbury," who will himself one day be President. Or, among the Cadets is just a "normal guy," who will be a good husband, father, worker and citizen—faithful to God's calling.

Life's race is long for some, short for others. Either way, it is fraught with difficulties and God calls us to run it with endurance. By his grace, we do.

# Cadet LIFE

## The Work Goes On



In 1900, New York architect George Palliser's grand vision for Chamberlain-Hunt's new campus began to take shape. For the next quarter century, McComb Hall and Guthrie Hall stood proudly on The Hill on the south side of Port Gibson. They were, perhaps, the most impressive public buildings in Mississippi and could have held their own anywhere in the US at the time. The Synod of Mississippi, the Presbyterian court that owned the school at the time, had great dreams for their school. Synodical minutes suggest that plans were afoot to make Chamberlain-Hunt the men's college complement to Belhaven women's college; in 1907, they re-titled the head of school "president" to parallel other college heads. And that was the year the boll weevil arrived in Natchez...

Devastating Mississippi's cotton economy in short order, the boll weevil's invasion probably short-circuited the Synod's plans for Chamberlain-Hunt. Farmers were still suffering in the 1920s when Chamberlain-Hunt was subjected to another devastating setback: *fire*. The fire's origin is unclear, but its effects were plain. McComb Hall was reduced to a brick shell. On a recent visit with Dr. "Whip" Kennedy, one of then-president COL Kennedy's sons, he recalled the night of the fire: "They pulled me out of bed. We were living in the president's house, which was in front of Guthrie Hall back then, and took me down to the Guthries' home to escape the commotion." Once housing classrooms, offices, workshop, library and dormitory, McComb Hall was a ruin and the Synod's resources were depleted. Unable to rebuild McComb to its pre-fire glory, the Synod nevertheless rebuilt a fine classroom building within the remaining brick shell and built a simple dormitory, Redus Hall, to replace the dormitory space lost in the fire. Chamberlain-Hunt soldiered on.

Such was not the first difficulty faced by Chamberlain-Hunt, nor was it the last. However, God continued to preserve this work that grew out of Dr. Chamberlain's 1830 vision for Christian education. Currently, Chamberlain-Hunt is nowhere near closing its doors. But it does have needs. And God continues to provide.

This past summer the administration finalized plans for the much-needed new Cox Dining Hall and was eager for a ground-breaking. August rains required a new priority. Roof leaks and moisture incursion through the masonry walls demanded immediate attention for McComb Hall. "How could we start a new building project when our main classroom building needed help?" was the question, and the answer was clear. Having funded the renovation of every other building on campus, the board of trustees agreed to lend the Academy money from the endowment to waterproof McComb Hall. Working with Dale & Associates architects in Jackson and Paul Jackson & Sons contractors in Brookhaven, the administration and board agreed on a plan for a new roof; cleaning, sealing and re-pointing the brick walls; excavating and sealing the foundation; and installing french drains. This massive project began just before Christmas and will not be completed until May. It promises to stabilize McComb, paving the way for future renovation and restoration. The feasibility of restoring McComb to its pre-fire grandeur is being considered.

The Synod of Mississippi no longer exists as such; Chamberlain-Hunt has been an independent school for a decade. No one talks about the boll weevil anymore, but "recession" and "economic meltdown" are the talk of nightly news and web blogs. Perhaps this is not the time to talk about an \$8 million McComb Hall renovation—but one day it will be. In the meantime, God calls the Chamberlain-Hunt cadre to carry on the mission of training boys for life in his world, regardless of material needs and wants.



Dec 2008 Jan 2009

## First Semester Stats

*Four Cadets (Bogenreif, Grafton, C., Hanks and Schaffner) had a 4.0 GPA both quarters of the first semester.*

*Fifty-five Cadets earned a 3.0 GPA or higher for the second quarter.*

*Sixty-nine Cadets improved their GPA from first quarter to second quarter. Of those, eight Cadets improved their GPA by 1.0 or better.*

*Fourteen out of twenty-four Cadets got off Academic Profile by passing all their courses for the second quarter.*

*Eight of those Cadets remaining on Academic profile raised their GPA second quarter.*

*Only one Cadet dropped into Academic Profile because of a lower second quarter GPA.*

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

### Spring / Summer 2009

February 8	Phone Calls
Feb 13–Feb 23	Winter Break
February 25	Sam Mason Day
March 11–13	Nine Weeks Exams
March 23–27	Crusader Challenge
March 29	Phone Calls
Apr 3–Apr 13	Spring Break
Apr 18	Alumni Day
May 17	Phone Calls
May 18–21	Final Exams
May 21	Baccalaureate/Senior Speeches
May 22	Final Pass in Review
June 1–27	Adventure Summer School



## HONORING LOVED ONES & HELPING CADETS

### Memorial

**Mr. Steve Abraham**  
Dr. and Mrs. Leo M. Abraham

**Mr. Mack Alden and Mr. Zach Alden**  
Mr. and Mrs. Milton Franklin

**Mr. W. Nathon Aldridge**  
Ms. Edith M. Aldridge

**Mr. John Armstrong, Jr.**  
Mr. Bobby Jells

**Mr. Jacob Reed Barker**  
Mr. and Mrs. Morris Barker  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Benham  
Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Mason

**Mrs. Beth Cade**  
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hynum

**Mr. Dennis Cagle**  
Mr. and Mrs. George L. Hand

**Mr. John R. Cary, Sr.**  
Dr. Elizabeth Cary Harper

**Mr. Ray Clodfelter**  
Mr. and Mrs. George E. Bishop

**Mr. Roy Collins**  
Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Bryant

**Mrs. Emily Compton**  
Dr. and Mrs. A. Terrel Williams

**Mr. Kiffin R. Craven**  
Mrs. Dan McCullen

**Mrs. Donna Jo Dallen**  
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Joe Davis

**Mrs. Carol Catching Denney**  
Mr. and Mrs. Wiley P. Lowry, Jr.

**Mr. Grey Flowers Ferris**  
Dr. and Mrs. A. Terrel Williams

**Mrs. Edna Foster**  
Mr. and Mrs. George L. Hand

**Mr. Robert Michael Greenlee**  
Mrs. Martha Abraham Seamster

**Mr. Fred Guthrie**  
Mr. and Mrs. William B. Abraham  
Mr. and Mrs. Grady Humphries

**Mr. Dan A. James**  
Mr. Dan J. Wray

**Mr. Ed Leupold**  
Mrs. Marjorie Leupold

**Mr. Harry Newell**  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph N. Graves

**Mrs. Liza Diana Nichols**  
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hynum

**Mrs. Charlotte Gullede Peets**  
Mr. and Mrs. Wiley P. Lowry, Jr.

**Mrs. Liz Perkins**  
LTC and Mrs. Paul A. Dongieux

**Mr. L. D. Posey**  
Mrs. Velma E. Stroud

**Mr. Ed Pugh**  
Mr. Jack W. Giddens

**Mr. E. Jess Spoons**  
Mr. and Mrs. Temple Barry

**Mr. Hiram Swarner**  
Mr. William K. Snowden

**Mr. James Raiford Williamson**  
Mr. and Mrs. William L. Williamson III

**Mrs. Aline A. Wilson**  
Mr. Thomas M. Wilson

### Honor

**Mrs. Barbara Atkinson**  
Mr. and Mrs. Wiley P. Lowry, Jr.

**Mr. A. Shane Blanton**  
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Mimms Dyess  
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Hopkins  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Koers  
Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Roberts  
Mr. and Mrs. David Senseman

**Mr. and Mrs. John Blossman**  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael S. Brodowicz

**Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Bowen, Jr.**  
Dr. and Mrs. James M. Baird  
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Mimms Dyess  
Mr. Albert W. Metcalfe  
Mr. Jessie M. Thrash

**Mrs. Dane Brinsko**  
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Heard

**Mrs. Mildred Coleman**  
Mr. and Mrs. James Coleman

**Mrs. Mary Dill**  
Fidelis Class, Ripley Presbyterian Church

**LTC Dave Granville**  
Mrs. Jane Mashburn DeWitt

**Mr. William W. Henderson**  
Mr. and Mrs. Wiley P. Lowry, Jr.

**Mr. and Mrs. Wiley P. Lowry, Jr.**  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Currie, Jr.

**Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Luke**  
Mrs. Marion Mounger

**Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy D. McDaniel**  
Mr. and Mrs. Vince Wilson Barr

**Mr. Max E. Osborne**  
Mr. and Mrs. Carson Looney

**Mr. and Mrs. James R. Peaster**  
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Cox, Jr.

**Mr. James Wyatt Roberson**  
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Roberson, Jr.

**Rev. Tim Starnes**  
Mr. and Mrs. David M. Ferriss

**COL Jack West**  
Mrs. Jane Mashburn DeWitt  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Walker  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. West III

**Mr. and Mrs. Thomas West, Jr.**  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Walker  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. West III

**Mr. Ed. Williford**  
COL. Battle M. Barksdale

It is no secret that many families are struggling financially. Perhaps yours is one of them. Certainly, the families of some of our Cadets are sorting through implications of lower-than-expected income, and even unemployment. Now, we face the implications of parents who cannot afford the tuition payments they agreed in August to pay this year. As you know, we are committed not to turn away any otherwise acceptable applicant simply because his parents or guardians cannot afford the tuition—and we certainly do not want to send a current Cadet home because his parents cannot make their tuition payments. As always, of course, we can fulfill our commitment only when others share our desire to provide boys the biblically-based discipline, both in the classroom and out, that we offer at Chamberlain-Hunt. If you share our desire and have the financial resources to help, please give to our Financial Aid/General Scholarship Fund.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, GIVE ON-LINE AT  
WWW.CHAMBERLAIN-HUNT.COM/GIVING.SHTML

## Keeping Sabbath at Chamberlain-Hunt

by MAJ Michael Herrin, Chaplain

How should we keep the Sabbath holy? Many American Christians aren't quite sure. Most worship on Sunday mornings, and the more dedicated go back to church in the evenings. But how can God be honored all day long, during rest and family time?

Chamberlain-Hunt is committed to making the Sabbath a day set apart for worship and rest. After a special pancake breakfast, Cadets worship at the First Presbyterian Church of Port Gibson on Lord's Day mornings, singing psalms and songs of praise and hearing the Word of God proclaimed—as they have since 1879. In fine weather, the Cadets march down the hill to the historic sanctuary, and, together with assembled cadre, form a significant portion of the worshipping congregation. After worship, Cadets walk back up the hill to enjoy a large meal.

For several years, a time for post-lunch “Rest and Reflection” was followed by dorm clean-up and inspection in the afternoon. But this year, the Academy shifted dorm clean-up and inspection to Saturday mornings. Now, at 1600 on Sunday, all the Cadets gather in Bolling Dining Hall, to engage in leisure activities that are different from those of any other day in the week. Newspapers and magazines are available, but most of the Cadets prefer the variety of board games that are spread out before them. Old favorites like checkers, chess and Chinese checkers still hold attraction for today's youth, while others prefer the geometric challenge of Connect Four or the vocabulary-stretching difficulty of Scrabble.

At 1700, the Cadets move to the auditorium in McComb Hall for evening worship service called *vespers*. This year, *vespers* has a structure that incorporates such liturgical elements as the Apostles' Creed and the Gloria Patri. Reciting the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer helps Cadets hide God's Word in their hearts. Psalms and hymns are sung, and the Word of God is read. This fall, the *vespers* messages focused on the life of Joseph, son of Jacob, illustrating how a young man who is faithful to God can survive and be used mightily by the Lord even in the most difficult situations.

After the benediction, the Cadets return to the dining hall for the evening meal of hamburgers and french fries, a perennial favorite. The day concludes with an opportunity for these growing boys to get some exercise in the gymnasium or pavilion or, when weather permits, in the swimming pool.

By all these means, the Academy hopes that its Cadets will learn to look forward to the Sabbath as a distinctly good day each week, and that at Chamberlain-Hunt the Sabbath will truly be the delight that God has intended for it to be.



ate autumn is always busy at Chamberlain-Hunt. Basketball and soccer are in full swing, and many Cadets excelled in the classroom—those with a 4.0 grade point average were named to the President's List and recognized for their achievement. Cadets McCraine and Ruffin received citizenship awards from the D.A.R. Students of the visual arts completed various projects, and MAJ Williams' instrumentalists and vocalists presented an evening recital just before Christmas Break. The choir performed at the Christmas tree lighting on Main Street as well as at the First Presbyterian Church's Joy Gift Supper. At the annual “gingerbread party” all the Cadets had the opportunity to practice their architectural skills using graham crackers and icing, re-creating structures as varied as the Washington Monument and a Mississippi River steamboat. Of course, some of them got carried away by their creativity. The semester ended with the final pass-in-review, followed by the Cadets' departure to celebrate Christmas with their families. Twenty-two new Cadets joined the Corps in January.

## Sarah's New Adventure

Sarah Wells came to work at Chamberlain-Hunt in January 2006, having discovered it through a former Cadet's father. “I knew this was where God called me to be,” she says, adding, “Honestly, I thought I would never leave. Another Cadre member and I joked that we were going to be here until they named a building after us!” Last summer, however, God began drawing her in another direction.

During most of her tenure at Chamberlain-Hunt, Miss Wells served in several capacities at once: administrative assistant to the president, to the commandant and to the principal. “I have loved my time here and can truly see how God has used it to prepare me for the next place,” she professes.

She took a mission trip to South Africa last summer and the people there captured her heart before she knew it. Recalling her trip, she says, “Our first day there we drove around a township to learn about the people to whom we would be ministering. After arriving back on the mission base, we discussed the experience. Many of my peers talked of riding in an ‘American bubble’ as if what we had witnessed were scenes from a movie.” But she felt differently: “At the time, I thought something was wrong with me because when I saw the people on the street I had thoughts like, ‘I wonder if *that* man knows God's love?’ or ‘*That* woman is a beautiful daughter of the King!’ My heart for the people grew during my time there and after I returned home.”

Miss Wells has long prayed that God provide her a ministry to use her skills and gifts. For a time, that ministry was Chamberlain-Hunt. Now, another ministry calls her: the God Parent Project in the Refilwe community in South Africa. (*Refilwe* means “gift” or “to give” in Tswana.)

In April 1991, Jean Stewart and Yvonne Jaques started a clinic near the Lanseria Airport, north of Johannesburg. The clinic grew into a community that ministers to the needy people of the area by spreading the gospel and addressing critical needs. The God Parent Project provides a home where orphans and other vulnerable children can be cared for spiritually, emotionally and physically in cottages with a God-parent as the head of the home. At the beginning of 2007, 28 children between the ages of 7 and 15, lived in 5 cottages with 5 God-parents. Refilwe's God Parent Project will ultimately house 60 children in 10 homes. An important aspect of the Project is that no one is “kicked out” of the program when he becomes 18; even then, he remains part of a family and his God-parents help him search for sustainable employment.

Specifically, Miss Wells will assist the executive director manage 10 cottages that currently house 43 children. She will oversee, mentor and coordinate all aspects of the families' and children's day to day activities. After Chamberlain-Hunt's 120 plus Cadet Corps, 43 children should be a breeze!

Please join us in praying for Miss Wells as she moves to South Africa in February and ministers there. If you would like to “drop her a line,” you may do so by e-mailing at ISAWells@gmail.com.

Chamberlain-Hunt is accepting applications for Adventure Summer School enrollment. Please contact the admissions office for details: 601.437.8855 or admissions@chamberlain-hunt.com.