



Volume 35, Number 4

Winter 2025

From the President



Let me begin by saying how much I enjoyed our last reunion and by thanking all of you who pitched in to make it possible. It's always a pleasure to catch up with old friends and to see the faces of those who are new to our gatherings.

This last reunion was held at a different time than previous ones due to the availability of accommodations at the Marriott. I heard comments favoring the recent dates in mid-September and others preferring the traditional first weekend in August. Let us know your thoughts!

CMA Day at Columbia Academy was an uplifting experience, as it always is. Our association is blessed not only to have a campus to return to, but especially to have one that celebrates and strives to preserve our history there. When an institution dedicates a day for students to learn about and interact with our alumni and the daily life during our tenure, you can't help but feel special. I thank each alumnus who took the time

to spend with students that day and encourage others to participate next year.

Mike Gilchrist and I recently took the opportunity to meet with Dr. James Thomas, President, and Monica Hayes, Development Coordinator at Columbia Academy. What a pleasure it is to have them working with us to preserve our history and to make us feel so welcome! Monica will be sending all our current members an email update on the repairs and restoration of Academy and Ragsdale Hall. These beautiful buildings were a major part of our years on campus and are certainly in need of work to maintain their beauty. In addition, we'll receive periodic news of exciting and significant activity on campus. It's amazing to see the work the staff is doing to build character and foster an environment that produces respectful and well-rounded young men and women.

So until next time, enjoy each and every day in some way, and...

CARRY ON!

Mike

Mike Glover
Class of 1974
CMAAA President



CMAAA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Tom Carr-President (75), Mike Glover-Vice President (74), Shayne Harris-Secretary (78), Becky Moon-Treasurer (75), W.O. Hart (62), Charles Field (63), Mike Gilchrist (63), Robin Salze (66), Bill Wade (68), Bobby Bain (72), Jimmy Bane (72), Dudley Dolinger (73), Woody Pettigrew (73), Winston Elston (74), Tricia Murphy Brown (74), Marshall Briggs (75), Bob Orr (76)

Meeting Minutes

The CMAAA Board meeting was called to order at 3:00pm, Friday, September 19, 2025. The meeting began with a moment of silence in remembrance of Board members and cadets we have recently lost. Tom Carr read the list of alumni: Russell Clark '70, Joseph Syler '65, William Morris '71, Jack P Morgan '70, Howard Whitaker '71, Milton Omsted '67, Joseph Briggs '47, Lackey Rowe '57, Wendell Bennet '61, John W. Hubbard '59, Tim Sands '77, James Rainey '71, Clark Reed '46, Walter McGinnis '65.

Tom asked Mike Gilchrist to give the invocation and Tom Carr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Becky Moon gave the Treasurer's report. Becky said, the good news is that we have paid for our reunion with the registration signups. Checking account balance as of September 4th, 2025, is \$45,863.48. Our cost for the reunion is roughly \$14,000. Thanks to Tom for getting us set up as tax exempt,

- Continued on Page 2 -

we have \$1,100.00 more in our pocket. Woody Pettigrew gave the museum report. Cash on hand for the museum is \$15,976.00. We have no projected income for the museum. Our budgeted expenses which take us through October 2029 are \$10,560.00 which leaves \$5,416.00 available in the museum account. This sounds good, but we are one HVAC away from not having enough money in the account. Otherwise, I think we're in good shape. However, if anybody has seen the cannon and caisson lately, they need repair. We've had repairs made twice since we took over the cannon and caisson in 2008 and it's time to do it again. Woody said he would like to investigate what it would cost to have it done but at the same time put a motion before the board to have a fundraiser and see if we could get some folks to help provide additional funding. Woody said he could mention it in the *Bugle*. He thinks this project needs to be done before the alumni association is done. If we need to have a motion, then I'll be glad to move forward. He said, it doesn't have to happen this or next year, but it needs to happen. It could take a little time to find the right person or persons to do it. A lot of it we could probably do ourselves, especially on the cannon piece. It only needs some cleaning and painting. What does concern Woody is the wood and the wheels; that's always the part that rots the most. We need to find somebody that can tackle that part. I would like to try a fundraiser if that's okay with the board. Tom said, before you do that let me put something out for the general consumption of the board. As Becky mentioned we have about \$45,000 in our account and I don't want to be presumptuous and say the accounts are fluid and we could switch money left and right. We wouldn't do that without a motion. Tom went on to say that he no problem with the fundraiser, but I want you to understand that money is there for you to use for the museum. Tom asked Becky what the expenses were for the *Bugle*. Becky responded roughly \$3,000 a year. So, we are in pretty good shape since we will not have that expense after December. Woody will start looking into the cost. He doesn't anticipate the cost being as extensive as it was the first time. The cost the second time was like what we need to do now, and it wasn't that expensive. We just need to find the right person. Again, we can do a lot of it ourselves and save some money. Tom did ask the board members if anyone had a problem with the money from the gen-

eral fund being used for the museum if it is needed. No members during this meeting mentioned an issue.

Tom then asked for the approval of the minutes from the March 29th board meeting. A motion was made followed by a second to approve those minutes. Minutes were approved.

Old Business

Tom stated we did fairly well with this year with our rates for rooms at the Marriott. Prices did go up, but it does include a breakfast buffet for Saturday and Sunday. Vouchers will be given at time of check-in. General membership meeting will be at 10:00 AM Saturday. From there everyone will go to the flag-pole ceremony. Various activities will be happening before the banquet at 6:00pm. Class pictures at 5:00pm. Steve Watts has brought several items in for the auction. Including a special rifle, a variety of wines and other alcohol. Dr. Thomas went up to the archives and got the blueprints and all the drawings of the arsenal before it became part of CMA. This book will be included in the auction, and it has been signed by Dr. Thomas.

New Business

Mike Gilchrist read a letter from board member Charlie Field, class of 1963. The letter is addressed to the members of the board. Charlie will be taking a step back as a board member. Charlie's father served as a board member for a few years when it was focused on the operation of CMA as a school for active cadets. Charlie served as a board member when its concern was the alumni, and he is glad there was an opportunity for him to contribute. His treasured outcome from serving on the board allowed him to strengthen, renew and to promote friendships that began about 66 years ago and are continuing. Charlie will step back and monitor our progress as we go forward and try to contribute as a former cadet and pure alumni. Woody Pettigrew said he would like to make a motion to make Charlie Field an honorary member of the board. The motion was seconded and passed by acclamation. Charlie Field will be our honorary member emeritus.

Robin Salze, representative from the nominating committee, presented the nominees for the executive board during the 2026-2027 term. President Mike Glover '74, Mike Gilchrist Vice President '63, Secretary Shayne Harris '78, Treasurer Becky Moon '75, Assistant Treasurer Kay Bircher '74. A motion

made to adopt election. No discussion. All present were in favor, and no-one opposed. Nominees will be presented at the General Meeting Saturday morning.

CMA day is October 24th this year. Woody will send out an e-mail to all the addresses on file letting everyone know the date.

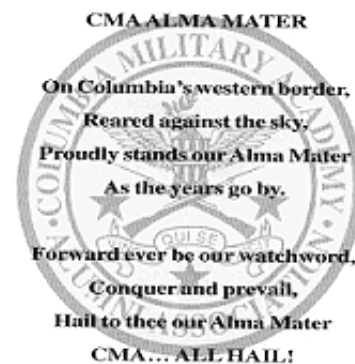
The Hall of Honor will be revised with new criteria. Tom will volunteer to research what is a good criterion for a Hall of Honor. Looking at other institutions as a guide. He will give that information to Mike and present it at the next board meeting to vote on it and then we can restart the process. If there's any people out there that haven't been recognized and perhaps should be, we need to do so.

Open Discussion

A question was asked about linking up the CMA and CA website. Patrick Smith, Class of 66, has been hosting our website at no charge. Dr. Thomas has talked about working with their IT person. This would probably require you to log in with a password because they have a secure site. Tom Carr and Mike Glover plan to talk to Dr. Thomas about this Saturday.

Old Negatives of CMA activities. Someone will need to volunteer to go through all the negatives and put aside all the ones of cadet life at CMA. Many will be tossed because they are individual class pictures. We do have someone that has agreed to scan the photos and charge \$1.00 for every photo scanned.

Tom asked if anyone had anything else to discuss. Motion was made to adjourn. Second was made and meeting was adjourned.





Another great CMA Day at Columbia Academy was conducted on October 24th. Ten alums were welcomed on the campus and spent a great day with the students. Before the festivities started, Dr. Thomas (CA President) took the alums up to the third floor to show them the new Robotics Lab that has been set up and to also let them again visit the Armory/Rifle Range. While they have made changes, to include the addition of batting cages, the rifle range lanes are still recognizable (as is the view to the flag pole from the rifle range). Afterwards, the alums participated in the Friday assembly in the Chapel where they were welcomed by the student body. A number of students stayed behind for a great question and answer session with the alums, probably lasting longer than Dr. Thomas expected. Great questions by the students and great participation from the alums. After that, lunch in the Mess Hall with the students. Those participating this year were (left to right) Woody Pettigrew (73), Billy Akin (63), Bobby Bain (72), Mike Glover (74), Winston Elston (74), Jim Borum (66), Jimmy Bain (72), Robin Salze (66), Walter Keith (70) and Bill Wade (68).



Great Interaction with the Columbia Academy students curious about life as a Cadet at CMA.

Important Notice on *Bugle* Newsletter Mailings

This edition of the *Bugle* is the final edition that is mailed out in hard copy form. The *Bugle* will still be available in two ways: (1) it is posted on the website at CMAAA.com, and (2) it is e-mailed to individuals on the e-mail list. For those that are currently receiving it via hardcopy, if you would like to start receiving it via e-mail, please contact Woody Pettigrew at the addresses below, provide an e-mail address, and he will get you on the mailing list. That also will work for anyone who is not currently on the e-mail mailing list for the *Bugle*. If you are not currently receiving an e-mail with the quarterly *Bugle* attached, please contact Woody and provide him an e-mail address and he will get you on the mailing list.

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This edition of the *Bugle* completes 35 years of publication. Thanks to the entire Alumni Association for supporting all of the activities and the *Bugle* for all these years. More to come!

When Bellhops Come to Visit



Submit Your Story for Inclusion in a Future Edition of the *Bugle*

If you have a memory/story you would like to share with other alumni please submit it to Woody Pettigrew at the below snail mail address or you can e-mail it to wpettigrew@knology.net.

Woody Pettigrew
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SILVER TAPS

Charles Imrie Irvin, Faculty

Charles "Buster" Irvin, age 78, of Crossville, TN, passed away at Cumberland Medical Center on September 16, 2025. He was born on October 31, 1946, son of the late Clarence Irvin and Lorraine Irvin. He was a member of the CMA Faculty for the 1971-72 school year and for the first semester of the 1972-73 school year teaching World History and Speech and serving as director of the Drama Club. After CMA, he spent 40 years working at the Cumberland County Playhouse. He is survived by his wife, Carol Ann Irvin; son Charles B. Irvin (Jennifer); five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and brother, William Irvin. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his sister, Cynthia Irvin.



Charles Irvin

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SILVER TAPS

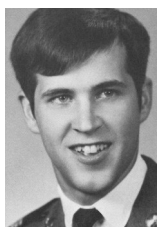
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John W. Whiteside, Class of '52

John William "Buddy" Whiteside passed from this life on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, after a brief illness. John was born July 24, 1934 in Shelbyville, Tennessee. He attended CMA, graduating in the Class of 1952. He was a Veteran of the Tennessee National Guard and retired in 1996 as a manager of field operations for the State of Tennessee Division of Facilities Management. He was a loving husband and father, a Gideon and a faithful member of Grace Baptist Church. He was preceded in death by his parents, James E. and Margaret R. Whiteside; a son, John Whiteside Jr.; step-daughter, Cynthia Cashion Dunn and brother, J.B. "Sonny" Whiteside. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Redd Whiteside; daughter, Cathie Whiteside; step-son, Richard (Nicole) Cashion and nine step-grandchildren.

Michael E. Bolton, Class of '70

Michael E. Bolton passed away on October 12, 2025. Mike was born in North Augusta, Georgia to Robert and Margaret Bolton. He grew up in Columbia, Tennessee. His favorite pastimes in childhood included hunting and fishing with his brother Rick and lifelong best friend Chris Ross, and cooking up all sorts of harmless mischief along the way. Mike attended CMA for three years where he excelled at football and track, graduating with the Class of 1970. From there he went on to graduate from Memphis State University. Mike served with dis-



Mike Bolton

tinction in executive leadership roles at several health insurance companies throughout his career: HCA in Nashville, Aetna Health Plans in Dallas, Atlanta, and Hartford, and Oshner Health Plans in New Orleans. Following his retirement, Mike and Melissa moved to Winter Springs, Florida to be near Melissa's family and enjoy a golf friendly environment. He was fortunate to join a great group of golfers at Tuskawilla Country Club in Winter Springs and played several times each week. He excelled at golf and was very proud to have scored two holes in one in two years. He especially enjoyed the hole in one parties. Mike loved tending to his tomato garden, cooking, smoking all kinds of meat on his Big Green Egg, and going on family beach vacations. He was a huge fan of watching college football (Go Vols!). He loved to snuggle with the Westies (Elvis, Priscilla, Hogan, Mikey and Daisy). And he may have been partial to Dewars. Mike was predeceased by his parents and granddaughter, Sadie Grace Cushman. He is survived by his wife, Melissa M. Bolton, daughters Teri B. Glass and Cyndi B. (Scott) Cushman, his brother Rick Bolton (Diane), sister Barbara Bolton Stokes (Harry) and sister Dorothy Bolton Baker. He is also survived by grandchildren Justin Michael Glass and Margaret MacKenzie Glass.

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