

CHATTER, AGAIN

Alumni & Friends of Hampden DuBose Academy

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Pat Doolittle Shermer '61 – Editor

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2012

From the Corner of the Acting Prez: Bill Brown '77

We only have a few months before the 2012 HDA Reunion and we look forward to seeing MANY alumni and friends in June! If you haven't registered for the reunion yet, please do it soon. The registration form is included in this issue.

There are many expenses that occur when we plan a reunion. As in past reunions, we'd love to provide financial help to former faculty and staff to make it possible for them to come to the reunion. However, **we need your help** to make this happen. Our goal is to raise \$4,000 to help them make their way to Florida in June 2012. We need to raise it soon to give those faculty/staff a chance to make their travel plans. We hope to raise the money by February 15, 2012. If we raise sufficient funds, we will be able to help pay for travel and reunion costs and assist them in this special way. Most of us may not be able to contribute a great amount of money. Please don't let that stop you from making a contribution because **ANY** amount will be appreciated. If you would like to contribute to the fund (or just make a check out for the entire \$4,000 😊), make your check out to Alumni & Friends of HDA and mail it to PO Box 223, Zellwood, FL 32798. Remember all contributions are tax deductible. Please include a note with the check saying it is for the "Faculty/Staff Reunion Fund".

Thanks so much for considering this opportunity! See you in June, in Florida, at HDA Reunion 2012.

***Correction regarding the Nov. Issue:**

Please **do not** put the name of an individual in the Memo for the Alumni Association check. Oliver Cork '57 brought this to the attention of the Alumni Board, it will not be tax deductible if to a person. Instead put "Missions" and a separate note with the check if you want it to go to a faculty/staff member(s).

Top 10 Reasons to Attend the HDA Reunion

#10 - Not many people, besides HDA alums, understand the delicacy of tomato aspic and pimento loaf!

#9 - Only HDA alumni know that being "shipped" home doesn't refer to a FedEx package delivery. ☺

#8 - Guys – you can reconnect with the only other men in America who OWNED a tuxedo in High School. (We have pictures to prove it!)

#7 - There are not many other grads from Christian high schools who know how to celebrate Halloween in a BIG way!

#6 - Who else would know that "First Chow" is a dating term?

#5 - Only your schoolmates could possibly understand the PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) associated with word "Declamation".

#4 - Where else can you go to get tips on polishing magnolia leaves, arranging a guest room breakfast tray, deadheading azalea bushes, and ironing a tablecloth with the help of a mangle?

#3 - Girls – only you can relate to the fear of tumbling down the front staircase in Ewell Hall and landing, with your dress over your head, at the feet of your date on a Sunday evening.

#2 - If you graduated in the 1970s, the Reunion may be the one and only event you attend all year where you still feel young!!!

#1 - AND THE NUMBER ONE REASON(S) FOR ATTENDING THE 2012 HDA REUNION... (Drum roll, please)

Conversations about campfire, laughter about Sneak, hugs from old roommates, the harmony of the Hallelujah Chorus, big smiles about Chicken ala King, the continuous, infamous rivalry of the Blues vs. the Whites, discussions about Sally Lunn, memories of white gloves and hats, "Chatter" about days gone by and reconnecting with some of the BEST PEOPLE you've ever known!

Lucy Blair '75

Remembering Margaret (Peggy) Anderson March 5, 1921 – December 1, 2011

by Marj Decker Wolcott Decker '51



Sixty-three years ago I went to Hampden DuBose Academy as a teenager. Several of the faculty were Wheaton graduates as was Margaret Anderson. In business school, prior to Wheaton she wanted to be called “Peggy”, but for the 24 years while on the faculty of DuBose we knew her as “Margaret”. I think it is significant that when she became affiliated with Latin America Mission she gave her name as “Peggy” again, to me showing she felt it a new start.

She taught English, Creative Writing and Bible and I still meet graduates who comment on her pedagogical skills and some who still have their notes from her classes. Since it was a boarding school she served in many capacities: dorm mother, supervisor of the girl’s work program, class sponsor, and cheerful worker in many situations. The students begged to be placed at her table for the 2 week dining room rotation because she was so much fun with mind puzzles, stories and entertainment. She was an excellent tennis player and could beat almost any boy in ping-pong. The faculty received no salary but their room, board and clothes were furnished. Her main purpose in life was to lay it down for the students. As a student, I was very grateful for her living testimony to God’s grace.

Dick Wolcott and I were both graduates and we returned to the campus as faculty members. She gave us encouragement as we dated, married and had our first child. When Dick felt called to the mission field (1965) and the 3 of us prepared to leave, Margaret asked if she might go along with us since we would be driving off the campus with our few possessions (she had never learned to drive). We were thrilled at the prospect and extremely disappointed when, at the last minute, she decided she would stay one more year.

Upon leaving DuBose she worked in a bank in New Jersey for a year but did not feel her life was counting for the Lord and in our correspondence from Costa Rica we suggested she apply to LAM, to work in the office right there in Bogota, NJ. What a delight it was to us when she was accepted and lived in an apartment adjoining the LAM headquarters. Reed Miller was the US Administrator and he was given, I believe, God-inspired knowledge of how to work with this deeply spiritual and brilliant but insecure new recruit.

When my husband, Dick, was killed in an automobile accident, I was speaking with Reed Miller about arrangements and he asked if there was anyone he could send to Grand Rapids to be with me as I flew with Dick’s body to Alabama where he would be buried. With no hesitation whatsoever I asked for Margaret. No one in my family knew me and Dick as well as Margaret and through the years we had become kindred spirits without parallel. What a comfort she was during that dreadful time.

When Dit Fenton asked me to work at the Bogota, NJ office, the transition time was made much easier because Margaret was right there in the office. My children adored her and fought each Sunday as to whose turn it was to spend the afternoon with her. She traipsed around with me looking for a place to live and for used furniture. How grateful I was for her presence in my life!

When the Mission decided to move to Miami she wanted to move with them and her knowledge of the workings of the office must have been a great help to them.

Our friendship has stood the test of circumstances, time and geographical distance. At the time, no one but my children gave me more joy. Her spiritual depth taught me many, many things. I visited her several times before she had to be moved from independent living at Penney Farms into the Pavilion. Although I visited several times during those years when she was ill, it was obvious that most of the memories of our closeness during all those previous years had faded. It was extremely hard for me to lose, year by year, my dearest friend.

But now I can rejoice that God has released her from her restricted physical, mental and spiritual condition to the glories and wonders of her Heavenly Home! She is now that amazing, wonderful and perfect person that she was created to be. I can rejoice, albeit with many tears.

— Do to the lack of capacity in this issue, the March newsletter will have alumni remembrances regarding Miss Anderson.

Alumni Profile: Dr. Robert H. Spiro '37

Bob was a charter student at Hampden DuBose Academy, founded in the old Governor's Mansion in Columbia, South Carolina, in 1934. Enrolling at age 13, he moved with Dr. and Mrs. DuBose in 1935 to Orlando, Florida, where the school relocated. He was 16 when he graduated in a class of 7 students.

After a summer at Camp Tappuah, he entered Wheaton College in the fall of 1937, majoring in history and lettering in football, wrestling, and baseball. He graduated in June 1941, with academic honors and as President of the Student Christian Council (Two of his schoolmates were Billy Graham and Ruth Bell (Graham).

Feeling called to the Baptist ministry, he applied for admission to the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Fort Worth, Texas, and was accepted. But on the advice of his parents and others, he decided to teach at Norfolk School of the Bible for a year. The School of the Bible had been established by Emily Dick, sister of Mrs. P. W. DuBose. On December 7th the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, and on December 27th Bob marched down to the Navy Recruiting office in Norfolk and enlisted, entering the Navy as a Yeoman first class. Two weeks later, in January 1942, he and Suenell Bennett '38 were married, with Dr. DuBose officiating.

A year later Bob was given a direct commission as ensign, sent off to the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration for four months of Navy logistics, reporting for duty as Supply Officer aboard USS Morris, a destroyer at Pearl Harbor, on December 7, 1943. For the next 22 months Morris was at sea in the central and western Pacific, engaging in combat in 8 campaigns. Struck amidships by a Kamikaze in the Battle of Okinawa in early April 1945, Morris suffered 68 casualties (24 killed). It did not sink but was decommissioned and scrapped.

http://ascfusa.org/content_pages/view/life-and-death-aboard-a-tin-can

Bob was able to return to Suenell in Orlando in June, and left active duty in September, enrolled in graduate studies at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in October. He remained in the Naval Reserve during the next 34 years, retiring from the Navy in June 1978 with the rank of Rear Admiral.

He went on to complete his Ph.D. in European History at the University of Edinburgh, and taught history successively at King College, Mississippi College, then served four years as Professor and Dean of the College

of Liberal Arts at Mercer University, then President of Jacksonville University (1964-79). He resigned from Jacksonville University in 1979 to accept presidential appointment as Under Secretary of the US Army.

To this date he gives great credit to the inspired history teaching of Miss Dorothy Hill at HDA. Miss Elfrieda Cole who taught him Latin at HDA was one of the best teachers he ever had.

Throughout his long life; Bob has remained active in his church, in military life and national defense activities, education, and business. He served as Chairman of the American Security Council, National Executive Director of the Reserve Officers Association of the U.S., President of the Florida Association of Colleges and Universities. He was also Chairman of RHS Imprinted Products, Trustee of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Board Chairman of Washington Baptist College and Seminary. He held many other interests, including playing tennis until age 85. Bob and Suenell (d.2002) had 3 children.

Bob thanks the good Lord for granting him a wonderful life, in which he has sought to serve Christ and His Church, his country and mankind. And he remains grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Pierre W. DuBose, HDA, and his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Robert H. Spiro, Sr.



The Alumni Board will be accepting nominations for a new president to be voted on at the 2012 Reunion. Bill Brown '77 is our interim president and filling two offices, at present. Nominees **must** be willing to serve before being presented & need to be graduates. Please send your selections **ASAP** to chatteragain@hotmail.com This is very important for the continuance of our Alumni Association. Please prayerfully consider this important office.

Present board members are:

Bill Brown '77 Interim President, Secretary
 Phil Anderson '58 Vice President
 Eilene Huffman Hayes '60 Treasurer
 Charles Brown '59 Past President
 Oliver Cork '57 Historian
 Richard Bump '67 Music
 Don Logue '52 Mail & Deposits
 Tom Williams '57 General Assistance
 Pat Doolittle Shermer '61 Chatter, Again Editor

HDA Home Goings:

Margaret Anderson - Faculty	12-1-'11
Theodore Holland '37	2008
Jeane Parcher Roush '37	8-14-'11
Joyce Dingley Howell '44	9-4-'11
Pamela Smith Pierre '64	12-1-'11

ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF H D A



Reunion 2012, June 15 - 17

Lake Yale Conference Center
Leesburg, Florida
<http://www.lybcc.com>

Totals per room (Including Meals)

Single Occupancy- \$182.00 + \$25.00 registration

Double Occupancy - \$135.00 per person + \$25.00 registration per alumni **Child (3 – 8)** - \$96.00

Full weekend/Meals Only - \$60.00 per person, Children 3 through 8, \$44.00 [under 3 Free]

***Commuter Meals** – Individual meals are as follows: Breakfast - \$8.00, Lunch - \$9.00, Supper - \$12.00
Children’s meals are \$1.00 less. Sign up below and please register for whatever meals you will be enjoying on the grounds. **Registration is a non-refundable deposit of \$25.00 per alumni for whatever part of the reunion you attend – not applicable to the total rate.** This is to cover the administration costs involved in the reunion. Please let us know if you need a ground floor room. The **deadline** for registrations is **May 1, 2012**, but please don’t wait that long.

Alcohol and pets are not permitted at Lake Yale. Smoking is permitted in certain areas with prior notification.

(Tear off and return with deposit)

Year of Graduation (any high school) _____ Years attended H D A _____

Name _____ Maiden Name (ladies) _____

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Email _____ Telephone _____

*Spouse’s Name _____ Roommate Requested _____
***(If attending)**

Names and Ages of Children Attending _____

	Commuter meals		
	Please circle	#	\$ total
Ground floor room requested _____(X)			
Single Occupancy _____(X)	Sat Sun	Breakfasts _____	@ \$8.00 _____
Double Occupancy _____(X)	Sat Sun	Lunches _____	@ \$9.00 _____
	Fri Sat	Suppers _____	@ \$12.00 _____

Registration deposit enclosed (\$25.00) _____ (X) **Reunion cost enclosed** \$ _____

Scholarship Donation enclosed \$ _____ **Total Enclosed** \$ _____

All checks Payable to Alumni & Friends of H D A,
Mail registration form and check to: Liz Wetherby, 12085 Milam Rd. Colorado Springs, CO 80908