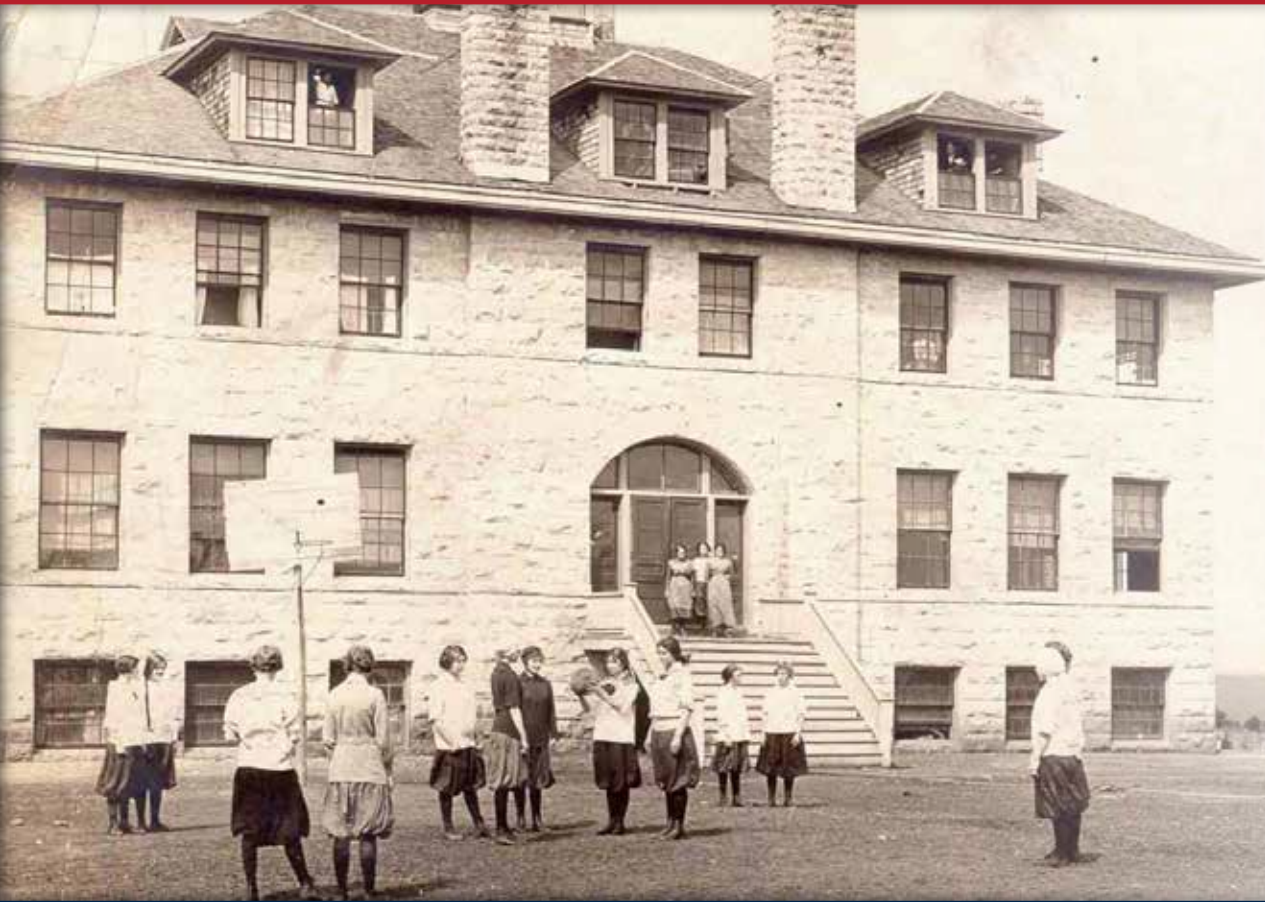


# THE KEETER REPORT

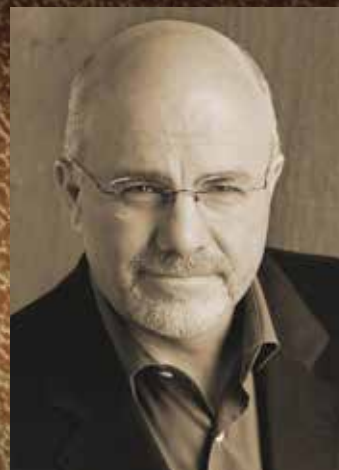
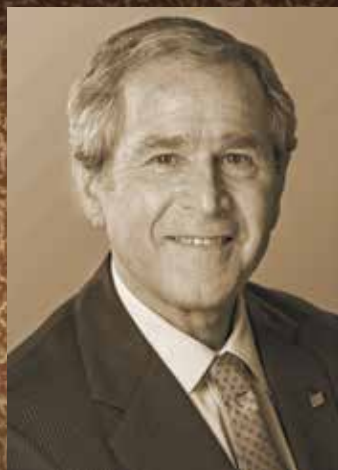


ACADEMIC • VOCATIONAL • CULTURAL  
CHRISTIAN • PATRIOTIC

*History is  
Repeating  
Itself...*

*President George W. Bush, Dave Ramsey, and Mr. Louis Zamperini Visit Campus*

*A Look  
Back...*



# A review of events **inside** **the gates**

Dear Friend:

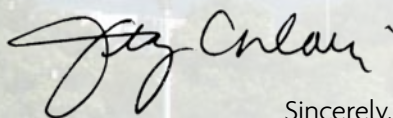
In the spring of 2011, the College's Board of Trustees voted to conduct a feasibility study concerning the opening, or re-opening, of School of the Ozarks on campus. After extensive research was presented at the Fall Board meeting, the vote was unanimous to establish the high school and to open in August of 2012. That set the wheels in motion for hiring a headmaster, renovating the third floor of the Good Center on campus, establishing a curriculum, hiring teachers, holding a town hall meeting, and interviewing interested families.

Most exciting about this school is its commitment to teaching and reinforcing traditional American values. All students take Patriotic Education, a signature course at the School, and each Friday is designated as Founders Friday, where students attend both a chapel service in the beautiful Williams Memorial Chapel and a special convocation to learn about a different Founder of the country each week. Each school day begins with a flag ceremony, patriotic song, and short devotional. Five quality professors have been hired to teach in the School. This school offers a rigorous curriculum, solid Christian education, and will soon be a national model.

The Keeter Center for Character Education continues to take a leadership role in providing programs that improve our community. We are proud to have hosted such noted speakers as President George W. Bush, Mr. Dave Ramsey, and Mr. Louis Zamperini, each leaving a mark on *Hard Work U*.

Finally, the College continues to demonstrate its commitment to reinforcing its patriotic mission through its unique Patriotic Education Travel Program. This has most recently provided a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our students, Holocaust survivors, and their liberators to visit four concentration camps in Europe and another group to visit the Battle of Guadalcanal site. We can't think of a better way to teach patriotism to young people than having them peek into the lives of those who were impacted by WWII.

I hope you will take the time to read about the exciting programs and visitors we have had on campus in the last year.



Sincerely,  
Jerry C. Davis, President

THE KEETER  
CENTER *for*  
CHARACTER  
EDUCATION  
COLLEGE OF THE OZARKS

**President**  
College of the Ozarks  
Dr. Jerry C. Davis

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417-690-2242

# History is Repeating Itself...



ACADEMIC · VOCATIONAL · CULTURAL  
CHRISTIAN · PATRIOTIC

Taking a look back, “The year was 1906 when Reverend James Forsythe’s dream was to become a reality. With minimal funds and maximum prayer, a cornerstone-laying was held for the first building, thanks to the herculean effort of church members and local residents. Reverend Forsythe was invited back for the event and spoke to those assembled. He was properly credited by the public and press with the idea of beginning such a school.” (*Miracle in the Ozarks* by Jerry C. Davis) Looking forward, School of the Ozarks has adopted Forsythe Plaid, its tartan an appropriate choice that binds our future to our original cornerstone school.

Reverend Forsythe founded The School of the Ozarks in 1906 with the purpose of providing a Christian education for the children of the Ozarks region who were without financial means to obtain a Christian education. That small elementary school transitioned into a high school, added a junior college, and finally became College of the Ozarks, a nationally recognized liberal arts college. The vision of the School of the Ozarks emphasized the importance of Christ-like character and a Biblical worldview in understanding Truth. School of the Ozarks was re-established on August 16, 2012, and operates under The Keeter Center for Character Education.

Joe Gideon was the first and only graduating senior of the original School of the Ozarks in 1913.

One hundred years later, the re-established School of the Ozarks first graduating class will be in 2013. The



vision statement of the School of the Ozarks mirrors that of the College which also focuses on the development of Christ-like character in our students. Students and staff are expected to live a life yielded to the will of God and guided by His Spirit to be transformed into the image of His Son. We realize that this is an on-going process but one that must be intentionally pursued both by trainers and trainees. The School places a high value on character and therefore assigns a Character Point Average (CPA) to each student.

In addition to demonstrating “good character,” students will earn points each quarter through daily character formation, church, community service, merit attendance, and recommendations from teachers. School of the Ozarks will also emphasize the twelve Character Traits that were chosen by the citizens of Stone and Taney counties through the First PLACE! character education initiative.

*Continued on page 4*



Continued from page 3

Furthermore, all students will contribute to the care and upkeep of the School in some way. The philosophy of work education requires that all students take responsibility for some facet of the School, much like the chores at home. In addition, juniors and seniors will also contribute through a student-made product or high

school workstation. In addition to developing a strong work ethic and good character, the re-established School will offer a Biblical Worldview, enthusiastic teachers, excellent student/teacher ratio, godly relationships, weekly chapel, and daily devotionals.

## School of the Ozarks Four-Year Curriculum

*The School takes a classical approach to education by threading the following themes for each class. Each year builds upon the other.*



**Freshman Year** “The Ancient World”

**Sophomore Year** “The Medieval/Renaissance World”

**Junior Year** “The Early American World”

**Senior Year** “The British/Modern World”

### School of the Ozarks Opening Day Thursday August 16, 2012

Led by a bagpiper, 70 students from around the Ozarks and the teachers and administrators from School of the Ozarks processed from The Keeter Center to Patriots Plaza, located at the entrance of the School in the Good Center on campus. Alumni from the original S of O high school, who were from as far away as Mississippi, were part of this historic day as they lined the walkway to cheer for the students as they walked down Opportunity Avenue.

After saluting the flag and singing *God Bless America*, the students, their parents, and the alumni filled Cummings Auditorium, where they heard remarks from College president Jerry C. Davis. President Davis highlighted the lives of several alumni in his remarks, including General Terrence R. Dake and Lt. General Gary Hughey, who were in attendance. He also mentioned Joseph Gideon, the first graduate of The School in 1913. He was represented at the re-opening

ceremony by his granddaughter Rebecca Roberts and her son, Ben.

Headmaster Brad Dolloff used the illustration of a “handoff” to describe the relationship of the alumni to the new students. He said, “It is now time for you (the alumni) to hand off the baton to a new generation. It is not a new race, simply their turn to run.” After his remarks, the alumni handed an engraved blue baton to each new student as the students headed off to class for the first day.

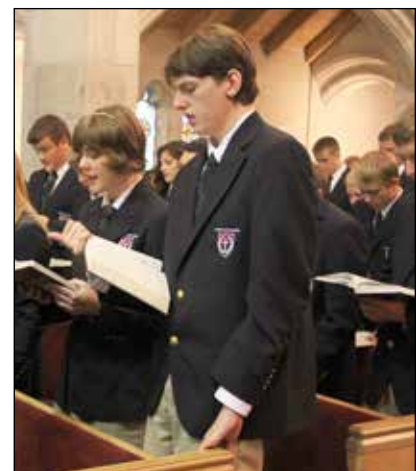
*School of the Ozarks students, faculty, and administrators parade down Opportunity Avenue for a ceremony at Patriots Plaza.*



*General Terrence R. Dake and Dr. Jerry C. Davis*



*First Friday Chapel Service*



## From the Headmaster's Desk

When asked to articulate how School of the Ozarks will be different from any other high school, Headmaster Brad Dolloff presented the following noteworthy differences:

*School of the Ozarks will stand out in contrast to other schools, in that our culture will be **spiritually invigorating**. The original meaning of vigor in Latin refers to "liveliness." A daily devotional, the yearly required Christian Worldview class, a weekly chapel service and a core curriculum with a Biblical worldview integrated into all areas are examples of the many ways School of the Ozarks will be intentional about bringing liveliness to the Christian walk of both students and staff.*

*By the time a student graduates from School of the Ozarks, he or she should be able to look at a phrase like "spiritually invigorating" and quickly identify its Latin roots. That is because another main difference in School of the Ozarks is that our curriculum will be **academically challenging**. As a college preparatory school, we will exceed the state requirements for graduation in all core areas. Incoming freshmen will have at least two years of Latin, at least one year of Spanish, four years of literature, as well as grammar, rhetoric and composition, just to name a few. The math, science and history tracks will also be rigorous and exceed state minimums, not to mention the opportunity for juniors and seniors to take dual credit courses from College of the Ozarks.*



*One curricular area that will play a major role in School of the Ozarks is not required by other schools and is too often ignored altogether. School of the Ozarks will be **purposefully patriotic**. From the daily flag-raising ceremony each morning to the Founders Friday presentation during the last period of the final day of the week,*

*School of the Ozarks will emphasize a gratitude for the sacrifices made to grant us the liberties we enjoy. Prior to graduation, all students will have taken a class in Patriotic Education and will be capable of donning a uniform and presenting and/or posting the colors. We will not worship our flag, but we will pay respect to all of the sacrifices, freedoms and opportunities it represents. Students will also gain an understanding of devotion to our country that motivates a civic participation when the culture begins to stray from what made us great.*

*Like at the College, all S of O students will contribute to the operation of the school and become **dutifully industrious**. Every student is assigned "chores," which contribute to the upkeep of the school. Upper class students are learning the care and keeping of bees and will be harvesting, packaging, marketing, and selling honey later this year.*

*Our graduates will be different because **they will be equipped make a difference. They will be producers and influencers rather than taxpayers and consumers.***

## Our Crest

College of the Ozarks design students gathered information on the original School and presented their original logo designs for the new high school. Christopher Yankey, a senior graphic design student, created the winning design, which is being used by School of the Ozarks.



## Our Mascot

Coby Dolloff, an entering freshman at School of the Ozarks, searched for a design for the new school's mascot "The Patriots." Nolan Vaclavicek, a college student who works in the print shop, helped Coby finish out the design over the summer, and it is now proudly being worn by the new students.





# President George W. Bush Visits Hard Work U.

College of the Ozarks was honored to host the 43<sup>rd</sup> President of the United States as the keynote speaker for the Annual Spring Forum. He arrived on April 7, 2011, the final day of the Forum and participated in several special events on campus during his visit.

## Plenary Session Speakers

Prior to the 43<sup>rd</sup> President's arrival on campus, Forum participants and special guests enjoyed remarks during four plenary sessions from noted speakers on the topic of leadership and character through the lens of military service, free enterprise, industry, and public service.

The remarks of General Terrence R. Dake, USMC (ret.), were centered on leadership and character in the military. General Dake is a distinguished alumnus of The School of the Ozarks. He grew up in the small town of Rocky Comfort, Missouri, and attended junior college at The School. General Dake served the country through his service in the United States Marine Corps, rising to the rank of four star general and serving as the assistant commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps. He also served as the helicopter pilot of Marine One for President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. David Green came from humble beginnings, but ingenuity and determination took him from making picture frames on his kitchen table to founding the world's leading craft store, Hobby Lobby. Mr. Green's strong faith and convictions are put into practice daily in the board room and in his stores across the country through Christ-

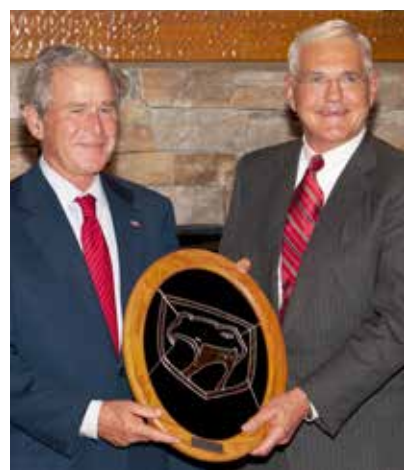
centered business practices, including being closed on Sundays. Mr. Green discussed leadership and character in free enterprise.

As the former Attorney General during the G.W. Bush administration, John Ashcroft served the nation on September 11<sup>th</sup> and the days, weeks, and months following the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. General Ashcroft talked about the tough decisions that had to be made at that time. In his talk "Leadership and Character in Public Service," General Ashcroft stressed the importance of adhering to one's principles in a time of crisis.

Formerly the vice chairman of General Motors, Mr. Bob Lutz retired in 2010 after a distinguished 47-year career in the global automotive industry, including senior leadership positions at four of the world's leading automakers. Mr. Lutz graduated summa cum laude with a master's degree in marketing from the University of California-Berkeley before serving in the United States Marine Corps as a jet-attack aviator, attaining the rank of captain. His remarks focused on leadership and character in industry.

During the VIP dinner, President Bush assisted Dr. Jerry Davis, the college president, with giving General Dake, Mr. Green, General Ashcroft, and Mr. Lutz a College of the Ozarks student-made stained glass plaque. At the close of dinner, a basket of student-made products and a custom stained glass clock were presented by several students to the former President.

*President Bush presented plaques to (L to R) General Terrence R. Dake, Mr. David Green, Attorney General John Ashcroft, and Mr. Bob Lutz.*





## Meet and Greet with the President

In keeping with the College's Patriotic Education Program, several Veterans were invited to attend the Forum. Mr. Bush requested a private "Meet and Greet" with these Veterans and their families prior to the VIP dinner. During his time with them, the former President shook their hands and talked about his favorite WWII Veteran, his father George H. W. Bush. After some brief remarks, Mr. Bush unveiled a bronze marker, which was later placed in the plaza area at Veterans Grove, located at the entrance to campus.

## Honoring the U.S. Military Academies

The College honored the nation's U.S. Military Academies during Mr. Bush's visit to campus. College of the Ozarks has a long-standing relationship with the Academies and invited representatives from each one to be receive a student-made plaque presented during the convocation. Through the Thoresen Cadet Exchange

Program, cadets from each of the Academies are invited to attend the College's Spring Forum each year. In turn, students from College of the Ozarks participate in the various leadership and ethics conferences hosted at the respective Academies.

## President Bush receives The Great American Award

From time to time, College of the Ozarks bestows The Great American Award. Nominations for this prestigious award are recommended to the Trustees of the College who may authorize its presentation.

The goal of The Great American Award is to give special recognition to those individuals whose lives, careers, and service reflect the highest ideals of American values – those shared by the College. As an institution of the "head, heart and hands," the College instills such values as faith, hard work, patriotism, and academic excellence in its students.

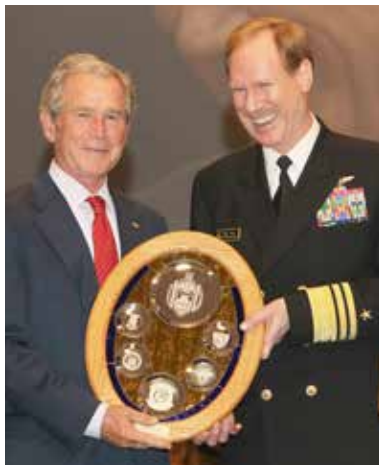
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*Brigadier General Cheney,  
President of the Marine Military  
Academy in Harlingen, TX*

*Vice Admiral Michael H. Miller,  
61st Superintendent of the  
United States Naval Academy*

*Colonel Tamra L. Rank,  
Vice-Superintendent of the  
United States Air Force Academy*

*Mr. Dalton C. Wright,  
Civilian Aide under the Secretary of  
the Army & representative of the U.S.  
Military Academy at West Point*



Continued from page 7

The eagle was chosen to represent this award because it serves as a symbol of leadership, hope, and freedom to the world. The College was proud to present this distinguished award to President Bush during his visit to *Hard Work U*.

## “Tour” of the Oval Office

President Bush received a warm welcome from the capacity crowd at Keeter Gymnasium. He went on to share anecdotes of his return to “normal” life with, as his wife calls it, a new “domestic policy”: walking the dog, mowing the lawn, and doing the dishes. He began his remarks by saying, “I am proud to be at College of the Ozarks. I am impressed. This is an impressive college; it is unique; and I have concluded, it is necessary. I am proud to be with you.”



His speech included a “tour” of the Oval office and some of the decisions he made there, including his first decision regarding the design of the rug. In making that decision, he did what all good on what leaders do: they surround themselves with people who have the knowledge and experience to advise you. In this case, his wife Laura was the policy expert. The only input he had is



that he wanted the rug to “create a sense of optimism.”

He then described the paintings he chose for the walls and why. The first one he chose was for personal reasons; it was by a Texan. He said, “I came to Washington with a set of values etched in my soul, and I’m going to have the same set of values when I leave.” President Bush described some guiding principles he used when making decisions: belief in the Almighty and the belief that the desire for freedom is universal. He also referred to his fiscal policy and his belief that the American people could spend their money better than the government could. He also followed another guiding principle that all life is precious.

Portraits of former Presidents are traditionally hung in the Oval Office, and he chose George Washington to be placed above the fireplace. He jokingly said his daughters called President Washington the “other G.W.” By the door he hung a portrait of Abraham Lincoln, who he believes was our greatest President (“tied with my dad, of course!”).

Finally, he talked about the desk he chose, the Resolute, which had also been used by Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy. President Bush closed by saying that during his time as President, he strove to bring honor and dignity to the Office of the President.



**Look for the story in the next edition of *The Keeter Report*.**

Mrs. Laura Bush visited College of the Ozarks on November 8, 2012.







# Mr. Dave Ramsey

## Addresses C of O Family

Perseverance finally paid off.

The administration had been trying to persuade the well-known financial guru Dave Ramsey to come to College of the Ozarks for years, and he finally came in October 2011. Mr. Ramsey, better known simply as Dave, has sold over 10 million dollars in books and is heard on 500 radio stations by 4.5 million listeners each week. His passion is to help individuals and families get out of debt by using what he calls “gazelle like intensity” in methodically reining in spending and paying down debts. Traditionally, those who successfully work his plan are invited to call in to his show and scream, “We’re debt free!” He visited Hard Work U. during a book tour for his latest best seller *EntreLeadership: 20*

*Years of Practical Business Wisdom from the Trenches.*

After a campus tour with President Davis to several workstations, and after being photographed in the Beverly Hillbilly car, Dave broadcast his national radio show, “The Dave Ramsey Show” from the radio station at *Hard Work U.* He talked at length about the College and the students he had encountered on campus. His remarks about the College caused a significant surge in the number of visits to the College’s website as well as calls from friends of the College that came in from across the country.

During the VIP dinner that evening, the College recognized five entrepreneurs who had spoken earlier in the afternoon at an event sponsored by the College of the

**“People matter.”**

Ozarks Students in Free Enterprise chapter. They included Mr. Greg Baker, who represented Arvest Bank; Mr. Ken Jodock with Frito Lay; Mr. Vic Kennett of Kerusso; and Rev. Howard Russell who represented Christian Healthcare Ministries. Each gentleman was presented with a student-made stained glass plaque.

Before Dave’s remarks at the convocation, he assisted Dr. Davis in recognizing the president and CEO of SRC Holdings Corporation, Mr. Jack Stack, for his entrepreneurial spirit. Mr. Stack’s unique operating philosophy of open-book management is the subject of the best-selling book *The Great Game*



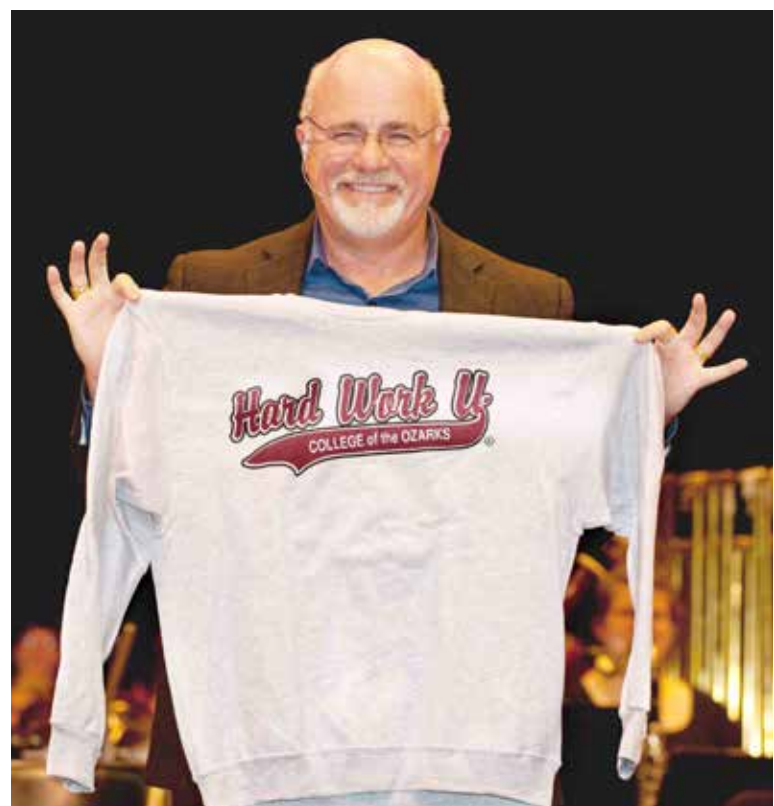


A highlight of the event was a brief clip Dr. Davis introduced of a video message for Dave, in which over one hundred College of the Ozarks students shouted, “We’re Debt Free!”

of *Business*, which was selected as one of the 30 best business books of the year by Soundview Executive Book Summaries. SRC was named one of the Top 100 business companies to work for in America.

Dave Ramsey’s common sense approach to money and some of the principles found in his latest book *EntreLeadership* were the subject of his remarks at the Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger Community Convocation. He emphasized the fact that people matter and that successful companies care about their employees. Building an incredible team and fostering a culture of excellence are necessary for entrepreneurial success, especially for Christians who run companies. Dave believes that the story of the Tortoise and the Hare holds excellent business advice for those who want to “win” in business or in life.

Dave Ramsey’s principles regarding the value and benefits of living a debt-free life resonated at the College. Because of many generous donors, College of the Ozarks has no debt and provides the opportunity of gaining an excellent education for deserving young people and to graduate debt free.



**“Successful companies care about their employees.”**

# Spring 2012 Patriotic Forum

# Mr. Louis Zamperini

## Former Olympic Runner and WWII POW Shares Story of Forgiveness



Many people thought Louis Zamperini would not live long beyond his boyhood years, and on many occasions, they were almost right. A child of immigrants, he was often in trouble with the authorities, until a police officer suggested that he use his fleet feet for sport instead of mischief.

By the end of high school, Mr. Zamperini had become a world-class runner, setting a world high school record in the mile. He qualified to run in the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin and was America's top finisher in the event, covering the final lap in an astounding 56 seconds. Some think he would have broken the four-minute mile had he not elected to retire from the sport and join the U.S. Air Corps as a bombardier in the South Pacific during World War II.



On a routine reconnaissance run, his aircraft crashed into the Pacific Ocean, and Mr. Zamperini and another crewmember survived in a life raft for 47 days, as they drifted 2000 miles into Japanese controlled waters. "When you reach the end of your rope and there's nowhere else to turn," says Louis, "you're gonna turn and look up. So all we did on the raft was pray morning, noon and night."

Louis Zamperini's rescuers were also his torturers, as the Japanese put him into a series of prison camps. One particular guard wanted to make an example of the self-confident Olympic runner, and for two years, this guard tried to break his spirit with verbal and physical cruelty.

Mr. Zamperini outlasted the guard, and when the war ended, he returned to Torrance, California, to a hero's welcome. He partied with celebrities and married a debutante, but his life was spinning out of control because he lacked direction. Moreover, he was plagued by nightmares stemming from his years of abuse. It was a chance meeting with the young evangelist, Billy Graham, at a tent revival that changed his life for good. It was there that Louis accepted Christ in his life.

Louis Zamperini decided to become a missionary to Japan,

preaching the gospel of forgiveness to the very guards who had tormented him during the war. His book, *Devil at My Heels*, was an astounding record of his life.

Interest in Mr. Zamperini's life eventually lead Laura Hillenbrand (the Pulitzer Prize winning author of *Seabiscuit*) to document his life in her latest book, *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption* (Simon & Schuster, 2010).

Today, at 95 years of age, Louis Zamperini is still spry and full of life. He visited *Hard Work U.* in April 2012 and spoke to a capacity crowd in Jones Auditorium, including cadets from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, the U.S. Naval Academy, Marine Military Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. In addition to College of the Ozarks students and guest cadets, participants came from Southwest Baptist University, Evangel University, and Texas A&M.

Mr. Zamperini received the Great American Award for his extraordinary courage and service.



**Mr. Louis Zamperini**  
WWII Prisoner of War Survival  
at the  
College of the Ozarks  
Patriotic Forum  
April 12, 2012  
Jones Auditorium  
7:00 p.m. Program

The College of the Ozarks reserves the right to revoke this ticket for any reason. This ticket is null and void upon sale or resale.

# Patriotic Education Travel Program

## Students Travel to the Philippines with Bataan Death March and Corregidor Survivors

In April 2012, 12 College of the Ozarks students took off for a 15-hour flight to the other side of the world. Their destination: The Philippines. Their traveling partners: six WWII Veterans who had experienced various aspects of the U.S. involvement in the Philippines during WWII. The Veterans included those who had participated in the liberation of captured Americans, several who had survived months as prisoners of war after being captured on the island of Corregidor, and a Bataan Death March survivor.

Wayne Carringer, WWII Veteran and trip participant, said the trip was wonderful and memorable. "It was so different from the war years I spent there," he said. "Those students who were with us were some of the finest young people on earth." Student John Paul Mathews said the stories and memories the Veterans shared were hard to listen to--stories of being wounded, watching comrades die, and being captured by the Japanese. "My appreciation for these men and what they have done is growing," Mathews said. "It is an honor to hear their stories firsthand, to stand in the foxholes where they stood, and to visit the exact spots where they were wounded or captured."

The group spent eight days in the Philippines, visiting historic sites in Manila and on the island of Corregidor. The group walked the path of the final stages of the Bataan Death March and visited historic sites at Cabanatuan. Also joining the group were three descendants of Death March survivors, who added stories of the war from a family member's perspective.



One such descendant was C of O student Culea Abraham, whose great uncle participated in the Bataan Death March. "I've never been in the face of war. I've never seen, with my own eyes, people beaten for no reason at all. I've never been starved and on the verge of death," Abraham stated. "I've always lived in a free country. I've always had rights. I've always known where my next meal will come from. This list of things I've always done is possible because of our Veterans who lived the horrors of the list of things I've never done. My great uncle, along with the Veterans on this trip, saw death, destruction, and devastation so that you and I would never have to see anything like it again."



The group visited the Manila American Cemetery and memorial in the Philippines. It contains the largest number of graves of U.S. military dead from World War II, a total of 17,201, most of whom lost their lives in operations in New Guinea and the Philippines. The group also laid a wreath at the Hell Ships Memorial to remember alumnus Kaney Wilbanks. Wilbanks graduated from (then) School of the Ozarks in 1940 and enlisted in the armed services. While in the Philippines, he was captured by the Japanese and placed on one of the famous Hell Ships, but his ship was sunk. Wilbanks was among the more than 1,700 prisoners of war who died as a result.

The trip marked the third time the College of the Ozarks has taken Veterans to battle sites in the Pacific as part of the Patriotic Education Travel Program.

In December, 2012, the College returned to the Pacific, taking seven students and seven Veterans to Guadalcanal. The group included members of both the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marines who fought at Guadalcanal.

**“It is an honor to hear their stories firsthand, to stand in the foxholes where they stood, and to visit the exact spots where they were wounded or captured.”**

## **How to Get Involved in the Patriotic Education Travel Program**

Since 2009, the Patriotic Education Travel Program has provided a once-in-a-lifetime experience for more than 240 students, Veterans, and other WWII participants.

For more information about sponsoring a trip for a student or Veteran in the Patriotic Education Travel Program, contact the Development Office at 417-690-2706.

**For information about a Veteran application to participate in a trip, contact the Keeter Center for Character Education at 417-690-2276.**



# Students, Veterans and Survivors Vow to Remember the Holocaust



For two weeks in June, 17 students from College of the Ozarks traveled to Germany, Poland, Austria, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. They were accompanied by three Holocaust survivors and four WWII Veterans whose divisions helped liberate numerous concentration camps. The students, Veterans, and survivors visited Auschwitz, Mauthausen, Dachau, and other sites. For the Veterans and survivors, nearly seventy years had passed since they were there. Those who experienced the Holocaust and liberation passed their stories of courage and sacrifice on to the next generation of Americans.

C of O assistant professor of Communication Arts Bill Gebhart participated as a sponsor, and he witnessed the unique bond that grows between Veterans and students on these trips. "This trip created life-long friendships between Veterans, survivors, faculty, and students," Gebhart said. "It is such an honor to accompany real heroes to the places that have built and shaped our country. This trip allowed survivors to return to the

camp where they were imprisoned for the first time since being liberated. This trip allowed a Veteran to meet a prisoner of the concentration camp he liberated...face-to-face.

For many of the Veterans and survivors, these experiences gave them a sense of closure and healing to the thoughts that have wounded them for so long."

Trip photographer and C of O graduate Paul Baker added that the students faced an exceptional challenge as they accompanied these men, who were remembering perhaps the darkest times of their lives. "As remarkable as the entire trip was, the students shone brightly through all they experienced," Baker said. "It was amazing to see them immerse themselves in the lives of our survivors and Veterans."

The Holocaust Memorial Tour was the first of its kind from the Patriotic Education Travel Program. Many of the students have grandfathers who served in WWII and participated in the liberation of concentration camps. Some students have relatives who were placed in work camps and ghettos, or were forced to flee their homeland to avoid capture by the Germans. The interwoven stories from students, Veterans, and survivors made the Holocaust a living experience for students, many of whom have dedicated themselves to the goal that such events will never happen again.



# About the Patriotic Education Travel Program

The College of the Ozarks patriotic goal is “to encourage an understanding of American heritage, civic responsibilities, love of country, and willingness to defend it.” The Keeter Center for Character Education assists in achieving that Patriotic goal through the Patriotic Education Travel Program.



Began in 2009, the program provides an opportunity for students to travel with Veterans to locations of historical significance. Visiting battlefields in Europe and the Pacific, students learn firsthand from Veterans and other participants about the circumstances of particular battles.

The Patriotic Education Travel Program has now provided once-in-a-lifetime experiences for nearly 200 students and 75 WWII Veterans and survivors. The program currently focuses on WWII, but will expand to include future trips to Korea and Vietnam.

## Previous trips sponsored by the Patriotic Education Travel Program include:

June 2009	Commemoration of the 65th anniversary of D-Day in England, France, Germany
September, 2009	Commemoration for the 65th anniversary of Operation Market Garden in The Netherlands
December, 2009	Battle of the Bulge sites in Germany, Belgium, and Luxembourg
March, 2010	Iwo Jima, Hiroshima, and Okinawa
June, 2010	Victory in Europe Tour to Tunisia, Italy, Austria, and Germany
October, 2010	101st Airborne Division Liberation Tour in France, Belgium, Germany and The Netherlands
March, 2011	Victory in the Pacific Tour to Pearl Harbor
June, 2011	Normandy D-Day Invasion Tour in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Germany
December, 2011	Victory in Japan Tour to Pearl Harbor, Okinawa, and Hiroshima
April, 2012	The Philippines Tour
May, 2012	The Holocaust Memorial Tour to Germany, Poland, Austria, Slovak Republic, Czech Republic
October, 2012	China Tour
December, 2012	Solomon Islands Tour

Selection is currently underway for students and Veterans who will participate in the 2013-14 Trips. Scheduled patriotic travel for the upcoming school year include a May tour in England tracing the path of the 8th Air Force and a trip to Korea later this year.



# The Quest for Charles J. Frailey



**By Sadie Jane Huff Grever**

As a student at College of the Ozarks, patriotism is a concept that has been ingrained in me, and as a participant in the Patriotic Education Travel Program, I was given the opportunity to put this word into action. When the opportunity arose to escort WWII Veterans back to Normandy for the 67th anniversary of D-Day, I knew I had to apply. Much to my delight, I was accepted; my desire was to learn all that I could from these men of the “Greatest Generation.” I knew I wanted to keep their stories alive—that they MUST be kept alive. Never could I have dreamed what would unfold over the next ten months. This is about a WWII soldier, a lost dog tag, and its return home over

1,200 miles and 67 years. This is the story:

*June 8, 2011, journal entry - “We went to the Dead Man’s Corner Museum, and they had exhibits there of the 101st Airborne. I found a dog tag there and bought it. It is so sad to me that so many artifacts have yet to be returned to families just because there are too many things and no one has enough time to research... I am going to do all I can to find this family and give them the dog tag.”*

We were in Ste. Come Du Mont, France, near Utah Beach. As my journal indicates, our tour bus had stopped at the Dead Man’s Corner Museum, which focuses largely on the 101st Airborne. While there I ventured into the gift shop which featured memorabilia and artifacts from all sides of the war. I remember thinking it was strange how all of this was for sale even though there were families out there to whom the items belonged. As I perused the items around the shop, I happened by a tray labeled “American Dog Tags.” This immediately grabbed my attention, and I began to sort through them, reading name after name of American soldiers. I wondered about

the story behind each tag and how it had come to be in a museum gift shop 67 years later. As I stood there sifting through the lost dog tags, an idea began to form within my mind. “What if I were able to find the family of a soldier who had lost his dog tag and return it to them?” The more I thought about this, the more I became convinced this was something I must do. If nothing else, I had to try. I selected one engraved with the name “Charles J. Frailey.” I didn’t realize it then, but that moment in the museum gift shop in France would become the defining moment for my search in the days and months to follow.

I excitedly began my research when we returned to our hotel later that evening. Using the United States Army database, I learned that Charles J. Frailey was born in 1917, enlisted in the service in New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, in 1941, and passed away in 1999. This was only the beginning.

*June 16, 2011, journal entry – “We are now on our way home... Two weeks into the battlefields of the past, two weeks on a journey through the memories of these Veterans leaves one markedly changed... Now comes the next step,*



*a step that we must all take for the rest of our lives: sharing these men's stories with the future generations and those around us."*

I didn't realize that part of keeping these men's stories alive would be honoring the family of a man I had never met. When I returned home, my search began full-force. I exhausted any resource I could find to come up with more information on Mr. Frailey.

The turning point in my research began when I called the Armstrong County Courthouse in Pennsylvania. The department couldn't release confidential information, but they were able to tell me that his estate had been settled in 1999. They told me Marjory L. Hetrick was the executor of the estate. That was all I needed. I began searching for this woman, assuming that she must have been a daughter. I made call after call to Pennsylvania, but to no avail. I began calling funeral homes and newspapers in the Armstrong Country area looking for records of an obituary for Charles J. Frailey. One individual suggested I contact the genealogist at the Kittanning Public Library. This I did, but once again, I thought I had hit a dead end. I sent all of the information that I had to the genealogist, and she promised to

call me with any information that she found.

Over Christmas Break, I was sitting at the computer checking my email, and there was an email from the genealogist at the Kittanning Public Library. Attached to the email was the obituary that I had been searching for. I learned that Mr. Frailey had been a U.S. Army-Air Force Veteran who served with the 81st Division 75 Group. The genealogist also gave me a list of possible relatives along with their phone numbers. The next day I began making calls. With each dead end I found myself becoming more and more discouraged. Was all this for naught? All I had remaining were two numbers. With heart beating so rapidly that it drowned out the rings, I prayed this one would be it. "Hello?" answered a sweet woman's voice. I began my speech, well-rehearsed by now with so much practice. "Hello! My name is Sadie Huff, and I am calling from St. Louis, Missouri. This is going to sound a little strange, but are you a relative of the late Charles J. Frailey who was a WWII Veteran?" There was a long pause on the other end... then, "Yes, I am his daughter." At this point I felt the emotion of the whole search broke. With tears running

down my face I quietly said, "I have been looking for you for a very long time." I explained to her what I had found. Her joy and excitement were the reward of the long search.

When I returned to CofO for the spring semester, I prepared to send the dog tag back to its home. I



gathered pictures and information, along with a letter with details explaining the whole story and trip, and then carefully wrapped up the dog tag and took it to the Post Office. As I mailed the package, I felt a strange mix of emotions—joy and relief that this was finally coming together, and a tinge of sadness. In my months of searching I had built this image of Charles J. Frailey in my mind. In many ways, he had become my friend and sending that dog tag back was like sending a little of me back with it.

Never in my wildest dreams could I have imagined where that day at the gift shop in France could have led me. I found Charles J. Frailey, and he has gone home. I will never forget him and the lessons that I learned along the way. Charles J. Frailey sacrificed for this country and for me. Now, 67 years later, he is still impacting us.

*"These men are as a bright shining star, a star that must forever burn before generations to come. We are the link. Our stories and memories and first-hand experiences are the fuel that will keep that fire burning--that star shining. The legacy will live on."*

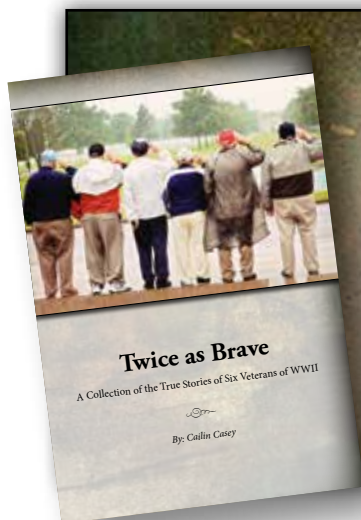
*Inside the Dead Man's Corner Museum*



# Veterans Grove Plaza Dedication

In April 2011, members of the College of the Ozarks community gathered to dedicate one of the newest additions to campus, Veterans Grove Plaza. The Plaza includes the service flags of all branches of the U.S. military, as well as the American flag, and gives visitors the opportunity to enjoy Veterans Grove.

A brief ceremony included the unveiling of three new markers in honor of the men who traveled to Europe with students as a part of the Patriotic Education Travel Program. These three men were Mr. Andy Anderson, Mr. John Primerano, and Mr. Louis Rabesa. This brought the total number of trees to 51. Since that time, the College has dedicated trees for additional Veterans who have traveled with College of the Ozarks students on the Program. The number of trees now stands at nearly 70.



## Twice as Brave

*A Collection of the True Stories of Six Veterans of WWII*

*By recent alumna Cailin Casey*

*Cailin also finished her second book **Down to the Wire: The Experiences of WWII Screaming Eagle, John Primerano, and stories along those lines.***

*Available for purchase  
in The Keeter Center Gift Shop*



# Campus Events

## 2011 Veterans Week

by Alexis Shields, PR major

### Pearl Harbor Child: The Unique Perspective

December 7, 2011, marked the 70th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. During the Veterans Week WWII mini-reunion, speaker Dorinda Makanaonalani Nicholson, “the Pearl Harbor Child,” recounted details of her first-hand experience of December 7, 1941. On that day, six year old Nicholson watched the attack on Pearl Harbor from her front yard. Her story, along with other WWII children’s accounts from all over the world, were published in a book by *National Geographic* entitled “Remember World War II.” The book focuses on the impact of the War on children during that time. Nicholson has been interviewed numerous times for her unique perspective of the Pearl Harbor attack.



### Charlie “Two Shoes”

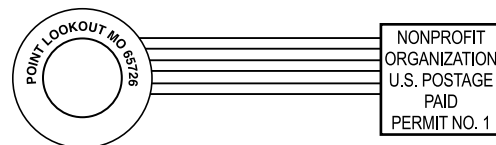
Three special guests during Veteran’s Week at College of the Ozarks were Stratton Leopold, David Perlmutter, and Charlie Tsui. David Perlmutter is a newspaper columnist who authored a book entitled *Charlie Two Shoes and the Marines of Love Company*. Perlmutter chronicles the life of Tsui Chi-Hsui, known now as Charlie Tsui or Charlie Two Shoes. When Charlie was eleven and living in China, the U.S. Marines of Love Company were stationed nearby after the two atomic bombs had been dropped in 1945. The Marines befriended Charlie by giving him food, teaching him English, sending him to church, and paying for his school – but this was only the beginning of the story. When communism swept over China in 1949, the Marines were forced out and had to leave the young Chinese boy behind. However, before they left, they vowed to come back for him. The communists placed Charlie in prison because of his involvement with the troops. Thirty-five years later members of Love Company helped him come to America and fulfilled their promise. Stratton Leopold is a movie producer and longs to see the story of Charlie Two Shoes made into a feature film.





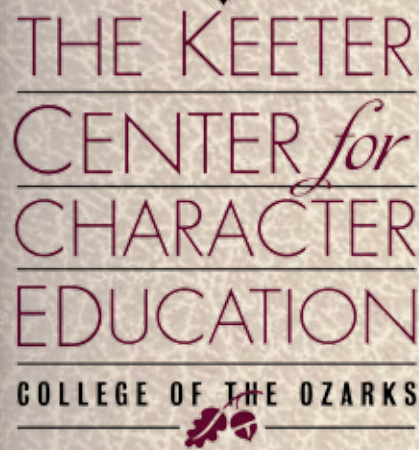
Incorporated in 1906 as The School of the Ozarks

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



## The Five Goals of The Keeter Center for Character Education

The purpose is to provide programs and activities that enhance the development of character and good citizenship. In so doing, the Center reflects the principle upon which College of the Ozarks was established: that character in young people is best developed from an education that includes the head, the heart, and the hands.



- To reflect the College's five-fold mission emphasizing academic, Christian, vocational, cultural and patriotic growth, and to provide society with productive, responsible citizens.
- To promote basic Judeo-Christian values such as honesty, respect for and service to others, good citizenship, generosity, honor, courage, wise use of time -and talents, and the work ethic
- To serve as a resource for administrators, teachers, and parents as they seek to fulfill their responsibilities as partners in the character-building process.
- To publicize information on character education.
- To serve as model for those throughout the country who have the desire to establish similar centers or programs.

*The Keeter Report is a semi-annual publication that features articles about programs sponsored by the Center that are having significant impact on the development of good character and citizenship of the students at the College. Also included are articles about well-known speakers who visit College of the Ozarks and announcements about upcoming speakers. To learn more about The Keeter Center for Character Education or to sign up for The Keeter Report at no charge, please visit [www.keetercenter.edu](http://www.keetercenter.edu).*