

Ozark Visitor

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Mr. Bill O'Reilly Visits Hard Work U.[®]

PROMISES TO KEEP

Abundant Highlights



Jerry C. Davis, President

College of the Ozarks experienced an exciting fall semester full of inspirational activities and achievements, and in this issue, you will find stories about some of the highlights. Please note that *The Keeter Report*, the College publication that focuses on events emanating from The Keeter Center for Character Education, has merged with the *Ozark Visitor*. We hope you will find this addition, on pages 14-21, helpful and informational.

In October the College was honored to host best-selling author, syndicated columnist, and host of **FOX News Channel's** "The O'Reilly Factor," Mr. Bill O'Reilly. The "no-spin" journalist/commentator provided enlightening leadership tips for the Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger Patri-

otic Convocation. That evening several individuals were recognized for their leadership, including Staff Sergeant Daniel Barnes. SSG Barnes served in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and during his deployment, suffered a life-changing injury, when an explosion cost him both of his legs.

When the Pitch in for Patriots™ club at School of the Ozarks learned that he was denied a TrackChair (an all-terrain wheel chair) by Veterans Affairs, they immediately went into action and raised funds for the purchase of a TrackChair for him. SSG Barnes was able to ascend stage at the Convocation in his new chair, and Mr. O'Reilly assisted College of the Ozarks in presenting him with a "Great American Award." Please read more about Mr. O'Reilly's speech and other recognitions on pages 8-9. You may learn more about Pitch in for Patriots™ efforts on pages 17 and 18.

Since last March the College has hosted numerous events to honor Vietnam Veterans and their families, as well as educate the students and the public on the service and sacrifices of those Veterans. Students and community members alike were able to take part in many events, including a Vietnam Veterans Thank You Reception held during Branson's Veterans Homecoming Week in November.

During the 60s and 70s, Vietnam Veterans returned home from honorable service only to be treated by many dishonorably. The College continues its efforts to right that wrong. More than 700 Vietnam Veterans and their families attended the Thank You Reception and were greeted by numerous C of O students, S of O students, faculty, and staff, who personally thanked them for their service. (See the back cover for more information about the reception.)

During the C of O Homecoming in November, the College dedicated its new Alumni Veterans Memorial, which features the name of every alumnus who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country. General Terrence R. Dake, former Assistant Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, provided a stirring key-note address for the Dedication. Please read more about the Dedication and what he had to say on the next page.

After reflecting on the 2013 year, it is evident that God continues to bless the College of the Ozarks, its students, and individuals who come into contact with the institution. We praise Him for every good work He has done and every good work to come. May God continue to bless you and your family in 2014.

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HONORING HEROES

New Alumni Veterans Memorial Dedicated

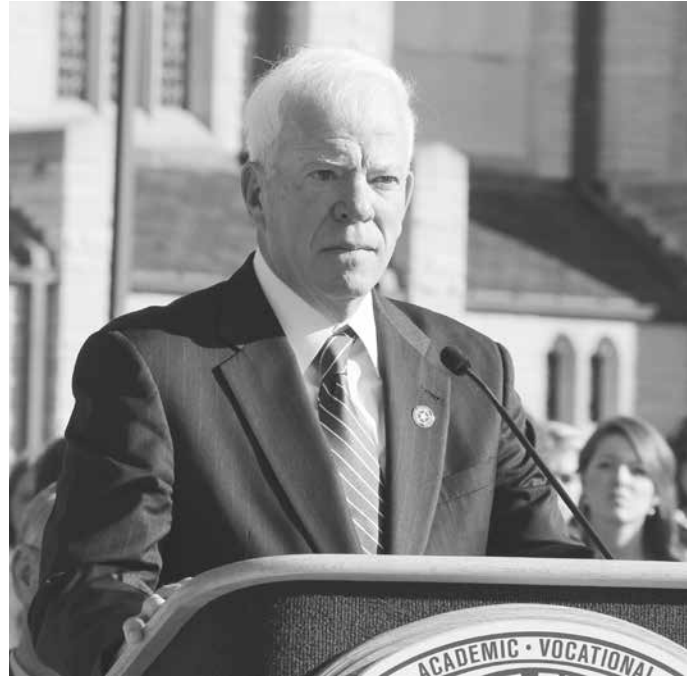
By Lauren Meyer

On the fall morning of November 2, a large crowd of C of O alumni and students gathered for the dedication of the new Alumni Veterans Memorial. The memorial includes the names of all alumni Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Two additional names, Melvin Smith who attended S of O in 1949 and Anthony Blair, S of O HS class of '63, were not listed on the original memorial in 1983. In order to add the names, a new, larger memorial was built.

The new Alumni Veterans Memorial is much more than stone and metal. The men honored on the memorial paid the price for freedom with the ultimate sacrifice. The names engraved on the memorial are that of heroes.

"The old memorial had become weathered and didn't have room to place the new names," said Dr. Fred Mullinax, C of O Executive Vice President. "The new memorial will better honor those who served our country." C of O Alumnus/Board of Trustees member General Terrence R. Dake provided the dedication speech. He opened with this statement: "There are three things I would like to tell you about Veterans, one — they are perishable, two — they are all deserving of your gratitude, and three — I believe they are the conscience of this nation."

He then told a story about John P. Bobo, a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. In 1967, fighting in Vietnam in the Quang Tri Province, Lt. Bobo and his men were preparing for a night ambush when



General Terrence R. Dake spoke at the Dedication.

they were attacked. They were outnumbered and outgunned. Lt. Bobo formed a hasty defense, moving from position to position. With gunfire all around him, he was hit by a mortar, severing his leg at the knee. Without stopping he placed a tourniquet to stop the bleeding and then dug his injured leg into the ground to further stop the flow. There, he directed his fire at the oncoming enemy. His men called for him to fall back, but he refused and ordered them to take cover. Inspired, his men assumed a defensible position and were able to hold off the enemy and survived. Lt. Bobo, however, did not. Posthumously, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions that day. He was 24 years old when he died serving his country.

"I would have liked to meet John Bobo; he and I have a lot of similarities," explained General Dake. "I, too, was 24 when I fought in Vietnam. I fought in the same province, Quang Tri Province, as John Bobo. I was in the 1st Battalion, and he was in the 3rd. We were separated by time. I came home unscathed, and John Bobo gave his life."

This sober account put into perspective the heroism and sacrifices made by the men and women whose names on the memorial are indelibly engraved.

The new Alumni Veterans Memorial is much more than stone and metal. The men honored on the memorial paid the price for freedom with the ultimate sacrifice. The names engraved on the memorial are that of heroes.



S of O Cadets provided the color guard for the Dedication.

PATRIOTS IN ACTION

Bobcat ROTC Cadet Completes Air Assault School

Bobcat ROTC Cadet Mitchel Clark completed the rigorous Air Assault School during the summer of 2013. Cadet Clark, a junior business major, has been contracted with the ROTC program for a year. He competed for a slot into Air Assault School and was selected in March of 2013.

Comprised of ten intense days, the combat school trains infantrymen to become proficient with helicopters in air assault operations. The material covered in the course includes aircraft safety, aircraft orientation, close combat assault, aero-med-evac procedures, and rappelling. The course's purpose is to impart soldiers with skills and knowledge needed to effectively use helicopters in air assault operations, pathfinder operations, and sling load operations.

Designed to be physically and mentally challenging, students are expected to be in top physical shape for



obstacle courses, ruck marches, and morning physical training. The course is also academically intensive. Students are given only a few days to become proficient in basic helicopter related skills. Learning is fast paced and all spare time is spent studying for handwritten and practical tests.

Slots for this school are very competitive, especially for cadets. Cadets are selected based on their physical fitness scores, college GPAs, and leadership evaluations. Only 20 cadets were given this slot from the 3rd ROTC Brigade. Cadet

Command's 3rd Brigade, headquartered at Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Illinois, is responsible for Army ROTC programs in North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Successful Fun Run Becomes Annual Event

By Mitchel Clark

During the fall semester, students, parents, faculty, and community members participated in a 5K/10K Fun Run in order to make a difference in the life of a Missouri man and his family. School of the Ozarks students hosted the run to raise funds for its Pitch in for Patriots Club.™ By "pitching in" money, support, and time, School of the Ozarks students, with the help of Fun Run supporters, were able to purchase a TrackChair (an all-terrain wheelchair) for SSG Daniel Barnes, who lost both legs when his unit was ambushed in Iraq during a tour of duty.

After students became aware of a disabled Veteran whose request for a TrackChair was denied, they decided to organize a Fun Run in order to raise money to purchase a TrackChair for him. School of the Ozarks students thought that this project would provide a great opportunity



to not only demonstrate patriotism, but also help strengthen their leadership skills.

"The students were very proactive in making sure that this event was a success," said S of O student Alexis Strohm. "We are very proud of what we have accomplished."

The cross country-style course started at the Coach Robert Osburn Track next to the Howell W. Keeter Athletic Complex and continued to the farmland on the campus. The course was divided into a 5K route and 10K route that started and ended at the track.

"This project was such a great experience that S of O students decided to make this a tradition," said S of O Administrative Assistant Layne Wilks, who worked with the students on the project.

School of the Ozarks plans on having a Fun Run at the beginning of every school year and will continue to make leadership training an essential part of these experiences.



*E*ach gift matters – and every donation helps ensure we can continue to fulfill our vision – which is to develop citizens of Christ-like character who are well-educated, hardworking, and patriotic.

Giving Spotlight: Bequest

- ★ **What is a bequest?** A bequest is a planned gift to College of the Ozarks made at death through your will or trust. A bequest is the simplest type of planned gift to make and one of the easiest to implement.
- ★ **What might I leave to the College?** You may leave personal properties, real estate, securities, insurance policies or retirement plan assets to C of O. Property that passes through a beneficiary designation (such as individual retirement accounts) can be left by designating College of the Ozarks as the beneficiary.
- ★ **What are the benefits of making a bequest?** You receive an estate tax charitable deduction, lessen the burden of taxes on your family and leave a lasting legacy at College of the Ozarks.
- ★ **How do I make a bequest?** It's easy! With the help of an advisor, you can include language in your will or trust specifying a gift to be made to friends and family or College of the Ozarks as part of your estate plan.



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or give securely online at www.cofo.edu/giving

PATRIOTIC EDUCATION TRAVEL

First Student & Veteran Trip to Korea

By Morgan Sowell

It has been dubbed the “Forgotten War,” however, 17 College of the Ozarks students had the opportunity to learn about the Korean War, so that it is not forgotten, by accompanying nine Korean War Veterans to Korea Sept. 28-Oct. 7. The group visited places such as Pork Chop Hill, the scene of battle after battle from 1951, until the signing of the Armistice in 1953. The group also visited the DMZ, a strip of land 4km wide and 248km long, with high fences topped with barbed wire, watchtowers, antitank obstacles and minefields that line both sides. The DMZ divides the two Koreas and is one of the most heavily fortified borders in the world.

One of the Veterans, Donald Schnurr of Urbandale, Iowa, served as a radio operator on the front lines

from Pork Chop Hill to the Iron Triangle in eastern Korea. Another Veteran, Joffre Tremblay, of Stanwood, Wash., flew 75 combat missions during the Korean War. Students were able to obtain from these nine Veterans, immeasurable amounts of history, as well as what it means to “put it all on the line” for the sake of another’s freedom.

“This trip beckons me, all of us really, to carry out the sacred obligation we have to our Veterans,” said student trip participant Robert Sindorf. “It is an obligation to learn about their sacrifice and pass on their stories of valor—to thank them and teach our fellow man to do the same.”

In addition to Schnurr and Tremblay, Veterans accompanying the students included Oscar Davis, Jr., of Orange, Texas; Joe Nance, Marble Falls, Ark.; Roderick Kent of Des

Moines, Iowa; David Williams of El Cajon, Calif.; Richard Keller of Berryville, Ark.; Rich Peters of Forsyth, Mo.; and Jose Mendoza of Chula Vista, Calif. Interestingly, Peters and Mendoza attended high school together in Chula Vista. This trip reunited them for the first time in 60 years since their high school graduation.

This trip is part of the College of the Ozarks Patriotic Education Travel Program, wherein students accompany Veterans to their fields of battle to learn about history, service and sacrifice. Since it was launched in 2009, more than 200 students have accompanied more than 100 Veterans on Patriotic Education Travel. Students journal and photograph their experiences, record the Veterans’ stories and post a daily blog of their journey. To view trip blogs, go to www.cofo.edu/PatrioticTravel.



In the First Person: Remembering The Forgotten War

By Charles Elliott

I received the opportunity of a lifetime when I was selected with 16 other C of O students to embark on a trip to South Korea with nine Veterans of the Korean War. This trip was the first to focus on the Korean War.

As a child, I would listen to comments my grandfather would make about his time in the service. He would always mention how bitterly cold it was, how unforgiving the living conditions were, and how he would never again eat chocolate. Other than these few seemingly odd comments, “Pe-paw” as I called him, would not talk about Korea. I discovered why he did not talk about his time there and how those comments made sense after I accompanied these brave men, men like my grandfather, to Korea. I heard their stories and learned from their first-hand accounts all that happened there. These men were called by their country to venture to a land they did not know, to defend a people they did not know, against an enemy not their own, but to uphold the values and freedoms that make America great. They did not think twice, but did what was asked of them.

The attitude of service and duty that these men exemplify will inspire anyone who will take a moment to listen to them.

During our time in Korea, we visited several different monuments, museums, and battlefields. Every day, as we traveled on our bus, we would listen to our Veterans share their experiences in Korea. The reality and the gravity of what these men went through flooded over me as they shared their memories.

I was forever changed and impacted by my trip with these Korean Veterans—men who remind me of my grandfather. One of the highlights for me was getting to know Veteran Joffre Tremblay. He has an intentional kindness about him. When he meets someone he makes note of their name, remembers it,



C of O Student Charles Elliott with his Veteran, Joffre Tremblay

complements them, then finds something out about them and encourages them. He believes the best about people and it shows, and in doing so, it makes you believe that about yourself. The lines of age on Mr. Tremblay’s face signal volumes of wisdom that can only come from a lifetime of disciplined hard work and study.



Dae Sung Hong, a C of O international student from South Korea, got the opportunity to participate in the trip. Hong’s grandfather fought alongside the Americans during the War. Pictured with Hong is Veteran Richard Keller.

I have forever been encouraged and inspired by my time with this godly, fascinating man. I could listen to him for days on end, and I did. I took pages and pages of notes and left with much more than just an experience of international travel.

Beautiful South Korea—a country that only 60 years ago was desolate, flattened, and war-ravaged has since become one of the greatest economies in the world. The Korean War is referred to as the “Forgotten War,” but not in South Korea. They remember it well. Everywhere our group traveled people stopped us to thank the Veterans. They honored the Veterans with gifts and constant appreciation. Even the younger Korean generation has been educated and knows if it were not for the sacrifices of men like my “Pe-paw,” Mr. Tremblay, and others who served and sacrificed, they would be under the oppressive communist government of North Korea. That reality they have not forgotten. As for me, I will never forget the sacrifice, courage, and patriotism of our Korean Veterans.

FALL 2013 PATRIOTIC CONVOCATION:

Mr. Bill O'Reilly Shares on Leadership

The “no-spin” Bill O'Reilly took the stage at College of the Ozarks on Oct. 10 to, as he said, “bloviate a bit” to a capacity crowd in the Keeter Gymnasium. Empty words, however, do not accurately portray the message which he directed to students at the patriotic-themed convocation.

Students were thrilled to hear in person from the host of **FOX News'** “The O'Reilly Factor.” “Growing up I watched ‘The Factor’ with my dad, so seeing this man who basically taught me about politics, history, and the world stage was surreal,” explained C of O senior Turner Brock.

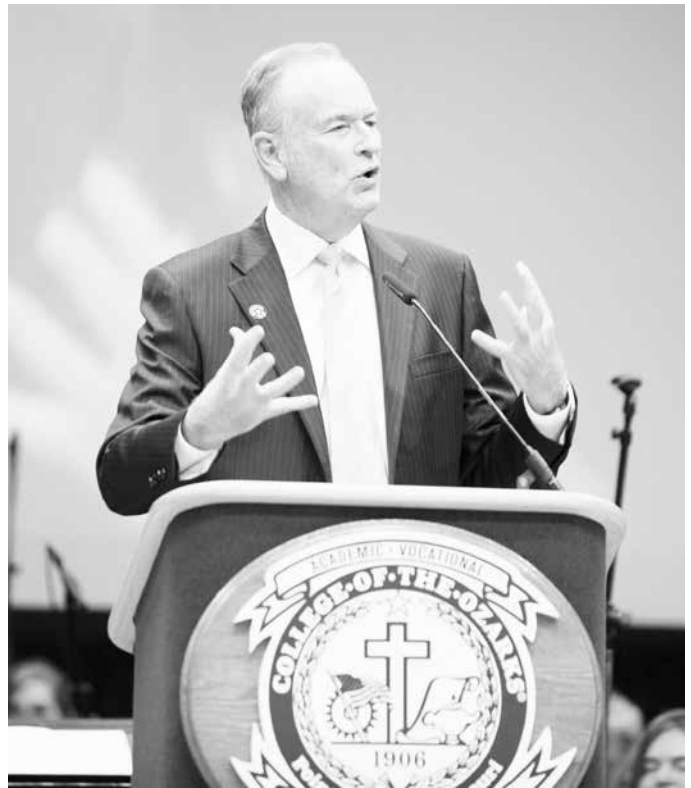
As expected, Mr. O'Reilly educated the students and audience about what ails the nation. “Leadership is what is lacking in our country today,” he explained. “And that’s not a slight to President Obama or former President Bush. What we’ve lost is mission and purpose.”

He described the many forms of leadership—quiet leadership, bombastic leadership, servant leadership, etc., but went into depth on his type of leadership. Mr. O'Reilly candidly defined his type of leadership as “not backing away from my core beliefs because some idiot is going to criticize me.”

“I am the biggest threat to secular progressives, because when we debate, I beat the living daylights out of them, leave them in rubble. If I don’t do it, nobody else is going to do it. If it [the attack on traditional, American values] is not challenged, it becomes acceptable,” he said.



School of the Ozarks students presented SSG Daniel Barnes and Mr. O'Reilly with Pitch in for Patriots™ flags.



Raised in a working class family in Levittown, New York, Mr. O'Reilly beat the odds to become one of the most successful journalists and best-selling authors in the nation. And he attributes his achievements to God. “I am here for a reason,” Mr. O'Reilly said. “If you want to be a leader, find your reason, decide what kind of leader you’re meant to be, work hard, believe in yourself, persevere, and be courageous.”

His tips sparked reflection by students. “I feel that I eventually could be a bombastic-type leader that he described,” said Brock. “Anyone can be a leader if they are willing to make the sacrifices.”

During the event at which standing ovations occurred one after another, College of the Ozarks recognized four individuals for leadership. In Mr. O'Reilly’s honor, the School of the Ozarks Pitch in for Patriots™ club presented a TrackChair (an all-terrain wheel chair) to disabled Missouri Veteran Staff Sergeant Daniel Barnes.

Mr. O'Reilly actively supports Veterans through several philanthropic efforts, one of which is The Independence Fund, whose mission is to provide the tools, therapies, and guidance to those Veterans severely injured in the line of duty, who are otherwise not receiving it. Due to Mr. O'Reilly’s efforts and support, numerous Veterans have received TrackChairs.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Great American Awards

Mr. Bill O'Reilly



College of the Ozarks presented Mr. Bill O'Reilly with a "Great American Award" for his stalwart dedication to honoring our nation's Veterans and standing up for traditional, American values. C of O Board of Trustees member General Terrence R. Dake, former Assistant Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, assisted with the presentation.

Colonel Donald Ballard



College of the Ozarks presented Colonel Donald Ballard with a "Great American Award" for his service, sacrifice, and valor exhibited during his enlistment in the Marines during the Vietnam War. Col. Ballard served as a medic and twice saved men he was treating by picking up grenades launched in his area by the North Vietnamese and throwing them back. For his courage and action under pressure, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. He is Missouri's only living Medal of Honor recipient.

Staff Sergeant Daniel Barnes



Staff Sergeant Daniel Barnes received a "Great American Award" from College of the Ozarks for his service and sacrifice to the United States of America. Despite being permanently wounded during his service in Iraq, SSG Barnes returned home, recovered, and has the lasting legacy of being a wonderful father and husband. He also donates his time serving as a Boy Scout Troop Master in his hometown.



The "Great American Award" is reserved for individuals whose lives reflect the mission and vision of the institution.

Leadership Award

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 913 (of Branson) President Robert Sarver accepted a Leadership Award on behalf of the Chapter from College of the Ozarks. Mr. O'Reilly assisted the College in presenting the award. The Veterans of this particular chapter not only honorably served their nation during the Vietnam War, they continue to serve their community, other Veterans, and each other. Their service is an example to us all.

NURSING SIM LAB

Setting the Pace for the Future of Nursing

By Moriah Isringhausen

This scenario is one to which we may all relate. The nurse greets her patient then goes over the procedure she will perform while in the room. She prepares the syringe, medicine, alcohol prep pad, and cotton ball. She draws the correct amount of medicine into the needle then ensures that no air bubbles are in the syringe. After this, she wipes the patient's arm with the alcohol prep pad and pinches the skin. She kindly warns the patient of the impending needle stick before giving the shot. The nurse covers the needle prick with a cotton ball. Lastly, she disposes of the used supplies, ensures the patient does not need anything, and then leaves the room.

The above scenario may seem like a typical scene from any hospital; however, it is actually a College of the Ozarks nursing student who is practicing a skill in the Armstrong McDonald Simulation Learning Center (SLC). The SLC presents a unique opportunity for students to practice nursing skills with the use of high-tech equipment that simulates a real hospital environment.

The dream for the SLC began in April of 2005, when simulation in nursing was still a new concept. When the Armstrong McDonald Simulation Learning Center first began, it was the only one of its kind within a 200-mile radius. College of the Ozarks President Jerry C. Davis inspired Nursing Program Director Dr. Janice Williams with the vision to be a leader in nursing training, causing her to prepare for the future of simulation learning while providing students with necessary training.

The SLC was completed in the spring of 2007, a few months before the first nursing class began in the



"It has been said that until you really do something, you haven't really learned it," said Ruth Matlack, senior nursing major. "The Simulation Lab helps to ensure that we truly have learned the information."

fall of 2007. The hope was to give students an opportunity to have a hands-on learning experience that would enable them to gain confidence and skills before going to a clinical setting.

The SLC is one of the top simulation labs in the country. "Many simlabs across the country have more space, more simulators, and newer buildings but lack the faculty buy-in and technical support required for success when implementing simulation into a nursing program," said Karen Howard, the Create-a-Lab specialist who worked with Dr. Williams on the design. It is the advantages of an involved faculty and technical support that allow College of the Ozarks to be a

model for other programs. The faculty has led presentations annually at national simulation conferences. In April, the department will host the Nurse Educator Institute 2014 Clinical Simulation workshop. The staff works together to create a nourishing environment in the SLC that offers students a safe place to put book knowledge into practical experience before working with real patients.

The SLC has three patient simulation rooms which feature high-fidelity manikins. The term high-fidelity denotes a responsive simulation that requires the student to work through a realistic and difficult problem. The Nursing Program includes a variety of training with the SLC, from low-fidelity exercises like giving a bath to the high-fidelity exercises, such as giving care to a patient experiencing heart failure.

All of the nursing educators have

Students agree that the SLC has been significant to the high success rate of College of the Ozarks graduates.

The Armstrong McDonald School of Nursing and SLC's success is further shown in that 100 percent of 2012 nursing graduates passed the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

received training in the simulation lab and use the SLC to practice skills associated with their class.

Students agree that the SLC has been significant to the high success rate of College of the Ozarks graduates. "If not for the Simulation Learning Center," senior nursing student Caitlyn Sien said, "I would feel very lost when caring for my patients in the actual clinical setting." The Armstrong McDonald School of Nursing and

SLC's success is further shown in that 100 percent of 2012 nursing graduates passed the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX). "That helps us understand the reasoning behind performing interventions and skills which will help us reason through NCLEX questions in the future," said Christianne Martin, a senior nursing student. The greatest advantage is that nursing students leave College of the Ozarks with a firm, practical knowledge of the skills they have studied. "It has been said that until you really do something, you haven't really learned it," said Ruth Matlack, senior nursing major. "The Simulation Lab helps to ensure that we truly have learned the information."

However, the Armstrong McDonald School of Nursing continues moving forward and improving. One way Dr. Williams hopes to improve is by continually finding ways to implement the SLC into the nursing curriculum.

Assistant Professor of Nursing Receives Certificate for Healthcare Simulation Educator

By Moriah Isringhausen

Karen Shepherd, assistant professor of nursing, became a Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator (CHSE). She is one of only 202 professionals who hold the certification. Professionals from 11 different countries and several different professions have applied for this certification. The CHSE program, created by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare, began in June of 2012. This program is the first of its kind, since simulation in healthcare is still a relatively new way to teach.

"The number one reason to get my certification is not to improve my knowledge, but to improve patient outcomes by increasing students' knowledge and performance in a safe, nurturing environment in the simulation setting," said Shepherd.

Shepherd has led the College of the Ozarks nursing program's Simulation Learning Center since 2007, during which time it has become a model for nursing programs both regionally and nationally.

She currently serves on the Simulation Leadership

Shepherd has led the College of the Ozarks nursing program's Simulation Learning Center since 2007 during which time it has become a model for nursing programs both regionally and nationally.



Group, sponsored by the National League for Nursing, and was one in 20 selected from 75 applicants from around the world. Her term ended in January, when a new leadership group was selected. It was this experience that further encouraged Shepherd to earn her certification.

This spring Shepherd will lead students from College of the Ozarks, two other United States nursing schools, and one Canadian nursing school in a study to explore which simulation learning method is most effective. The idea for this study evolved from a Simulation Leadership Group meeting.

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Photo by Shann Swift

“Lands' End makes it easy to manage our school dress... The customer service has been unbelievable.”

Layne Wilks,
Administrative
Assistant to the
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PICTURE PERFECT

Clothing outfitter Lands' End featured School of the Ozarks students in its fall school uniform catalog that was mailed to 500,000 individuals and school officials. On page 41 of the catalog, Lands' End used a picture of the entire S of O student body that was taken last year.

We know that our students stand out as a “cut above” the rest, but it is always nice to have an outside party reaffirm that!

Kudos to Layne Wilks, S of O Administrative Assistant to the Headmaster, who contacted the company with a thank you for its superb customer service and attached a photo of our S of O students.

"FOUR-STAR COUNTRY BOY" PREMIERES

By Moriah Isringhausen

President Ronald Reagan once said, "Those who say we're in a time where there are no heroes, they just don't know where to look." In the case of General Terrence R. Dake, you would have to look in Rocky Comfort, a rural town in southwest Missouri, where he grew up. Following his high school graduation he attended College of the Ozarks junior college. The College gave him the Hyer Scholarship which paid for him to finish a four-year degree at the University of Arkansas.

He joined the United States Marine Corps following college and served in Vietnam from 1968-69 as a helicopter pilot delivering necessary supplies to soldiers in the midst of battle. General Dake, then a Lieutenant, served as part of the 1st Battalion 9th Marines, which was branded "The Walking Dead," because of the casualties it took.

He survived the Vietnam War and continued his service in the Marines, earning his way to the upper echelons of military leadership, eventually becoming a four-star general.



During the second scene, a mission goes wrong and leaves the audience wondering Dake's fate.

In honor of Veterans, especially Vietnam Veterans, College of the Ozarks told General Dake's story through the production "Four-Star Country Boy," adapted for stage by Mark Young, Chair of Professional and Performing Arts, from the book *The Four Generals of Hard Work U* by C of O President Jerry C. Davis.

The play premiered October 11 and 12, to capacity crowds in The Keeter Center's Royal Oak Forum. The premieres were attended by several honored guests, including General Dake and his family and Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 913, of Branson.

The first premiere provided guests the rare experience to watch a play based on a true story and then meet the individuals who inspired it all.

The play's first scene begins with General Dake, played by C of O student Josh Whisler, at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C., where the General speaks to a Vietnamese couple and a fellow Vietnam Veteran. It is from this scene that the audience follows General Dake



General Terrence R. Dake and family attended the first premiere.

through memories and moments that defined his career and life. The play illustrates his life from when he first applied to College of the Ozarks through his military service, to the pinning of his fourth star.

After the first premiere, General and Mrs. Dake joined the students on stage. He spoke about how honored he was that the College created a play from his life, as well as the importance that C of O had on his life. "Truly, it is this school that gave me the opportunity to get an education and degree so that I could go into the Marine Corps," General Dake said.

The Vietnam Veterans that attended the second premiere gave the play rave reviews. "I thought it was an excellent play," said Vietnam Veteran Jim Buchan. "In particular, the coming home scene struck me, because I experienced similar things when I returned from Vietnam."

"Four-Star Country Boy" honors General Terrence R. Dake and all who served in the Vietnam War. Students performed it numerous times throughout September, October, November, and December. The play was so well received, that C of O plans to host the play again next fall.



After the performances, the cast took time to meet the audience members.

The Keeter Report

The Ongoing Impact of the Patriotic Education Travel Program

Emily Dickens is a student at the College and traveled on the Patriotic Education Travel Program trip to Europe in June 2011; she recently sent this message to the College:

I wanted to take a few minutes to thank the College and share with you an opportunity I've been blessed with. I was accepted as a participant of the Patriotic Trip in June of 2011, and my life hasn't been the same since. I learned more than I thought possible about WWII and the lives of the veterans I grew to love. My "assigned" Veteran was Andy Anderson, with whom I've kept in touch over the last two years. He's become somewhat of a grandfather-figure to me, for which I'm so grateful.

As a public relations major, I'm required to complete an internship, as you may know. Andy and his wife, Bonnie, helped make a connection for me at the assisted living facility where they live. Because of this connection, I received the chance to work in my dream job as an Activities Director at the facility for my internship. I will also get to see Andy and Bonnie every day! Additionally, the Andersons have agreed to let me stay, free of charge, in their home for the duration of my internship. I could not be more excited. While this may seem hardly noteworthy, I just wanted to share some of the ways my life has been changed by the trip I was blessed enough to go on. I will be forever thankful for College of the Ozarks and all the people who planned and funded the trip. I have a greater appreciation than I ever thought I could for the country, soldiers, and Veterans—not to mention a bond with a family that can never be replaced.

Thank you again!

-Emily Dickens



Young America's Foundation Chapter Started

By Haley Jones

Whoever believed that young people couldn't ever be involved in politics has clearly never heard of Young America's Foundation (YAF).

According to its mission statement, "Young America's Foundation

is committed to ensuring that increasing numbers of young Americans understand and are inspired by the ideas of individual freedom, a strong national defense, free enterprise, and traditional values."

This November I was sent by The Keeter Center for Character Education to a YAF Conference to learn about political activism on college campuses. The conference was held at the Reagan Ranch Center, and we had the opportunity to spend a day at the Reagan Ranch.

Our speaker line-up included intellectuals, such as Georgia Congressman Tom Graves, Louisiana Senator Elbert Guillory, and Ben Shapiro. What they had to share with more than 100 college students coming from across the nation was eye-opening and profound.

I have never heard politics explained to me in such a succinct and understandable way. I found a passion inside of me for the preservation of our traditional, American heritage and values. We talked about all topics ranging from gun control to gay marriage.

Of course, my favorite part was getting to spend a day in the life of Ronald Reagan at his beautiful Rancho Del Cielo. Getting to see where he spent much of his time helped us students to be able to temporarily peek inside the mind of one of the greatest leaders of America.

The Young America's Foundation had such a huge impact on my life. It caused me to realize that even though I am young, I can still stand up, make my opinion known, and make a difference in today's political arena.

The first way that I have chosen to make a difference is to help in the start-up of the first Young America's Foundation Chapter on the College of the Ozarks campus. I am excited to see the chapter ignite the conservative passion even more in the hearts of students.

I was also ecstatic to learn that the School of the Ozarks students launched a YAF club, too.

"We are the showcase of the future," President Reagan once said. "And it is within our power to mold that future—this year and decades to come. It can be as grand and as great as we make it...No crisis is beyond the capacity of our people to solve; no challenge too great."



WWII Mini Reunion and Veterans Grove Tree Dedication

During the Branson Veterans Homecoming Week, College of the Ozarks held a WWII Mini Reunion and Veterans Tree Grove Dedication. During the Mini Reunion, numerous WWII and Cold War Veterans had the opportunity to visit with students who accompanied them on Patriotic Education Travel. The Chapel Choir presented a concert of patriotic hymns, and immediately following, the Veterans were asked to come forward to be recognized.



Alumna/author Cailin Casey and WWII Veteran John Primavera held a book signing for Casey's latest book Down to the Wire: The Experiences of WWII Screaming Eagle John Primavera and Stories Along Those Lines. This is Casey's second book recounting lives of WWII heroes. She donates all proceeds from the books to the Patriotic Education Travel Program. If you are interested in purchasing one, please contact (417) 239-1900.



As soon as the Veterans found their places in the front of the stage, the students, as well as other attendees, rushed to take their turn thanking the heroes for their service.



During the Tree Dedication, students accompanied the Veterans, whom they had escorted on a patriotic trip, to a Sugar Maple Tree planted in each Veteran's honor. There, they helped their Veteran unveil a bronze marker with his name. Pictured: Arielle Pearson and Duncan Tillack walk with their Veteran John Haynes.



WWII Veteran Harold "Pop" Gilbert and student Matt Matney have a chance to catch up. They last saw each other in May during the trip commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic and the 8th Army Air Corps.



ACADEMIC · VOCATIONAL · CULTURAL
CHRISTIAN · PATRIOTIC

School of the Ozarks Update



ACADEMIC · VOCATIONAL · CULTURAL
CHRISTIAN · PATRIOTIC

S of O Scholar Bowl Team

By Morgan Sowell



On November 13, the School of the Ozarks Scholar Bowl Team traveled to Bradleyville High School to compete in the Mark Twain Conference Scholar Bowl. Of the four teams that competed in the academic quiz, S of O students took first place.

Seven students from School of the Ozarks attended the Bowl. The S of O Scholar Bowl Team includes Christian Lingner, Coby Dolloff, Jake Self, Fionna Hubbard, Lansing Brown, Alex Schafer, and Daniel Betzer.

"I am very proud of the way our students competed and conducted themselves during this year's scholar bowl," said Scott McElvain, S of O Director of Student Life and team sponsor. "We are excited about the upcoming district play later this year and many years of competing within the Mark Twain Conference."

Positive Results of Feasibility Study Spur Plans for Adding Grades to School of the Ozarks

Beginning in late October, College of the Ozarks conducted a feasibility study for the addition of kindergarten through eighth grade to School of the Ozarks. Thus far, the College has gathered data from 414 area families through a survey, reviewed options for a temporary location, developed a preliminary budget, and researched other K-8 schools, including Hillsdale Academy, operated by Hillsdale College in Michigan.

"The College is encouraged to see how supportive the community is regarding the expansion of School of the Ozarks and is honored to continue its mission of providing a quality Christian education to deserving young people as it has been doing for more than 100 years," says College of the Ozarks Dean of Character Education Sue Head.

The survey was open from mid-October thru November 1, and reflected a high level of interest in the proposed addition. When asked to rate the most important factors to their child's education and their decision regarding the school they attend, respondents emphasized four areas: academics, Christian education, character education, and patriotic education.

During its fall meeting, the College's Board of Trustees authorized the addition of the lower grades to School of the Ozarks and entrusted the implementation plan to the administration.

As the next step, the College immediately sought to hire a curriculum development director/lead teacher for the Lower School. This person was required to have a working knowledge of Classical Christian schools, with teaching experience and, preferably, a master's degree. It was important that this person also understand and fully support the mission and vision of College of the Ozarks.

More information regarding the addition of lower grades to S of O will be released as it is finalized. The College launched School of the Ozarks grades 9-12 in the fall of 2012 and graduated its first class in May of 2013.

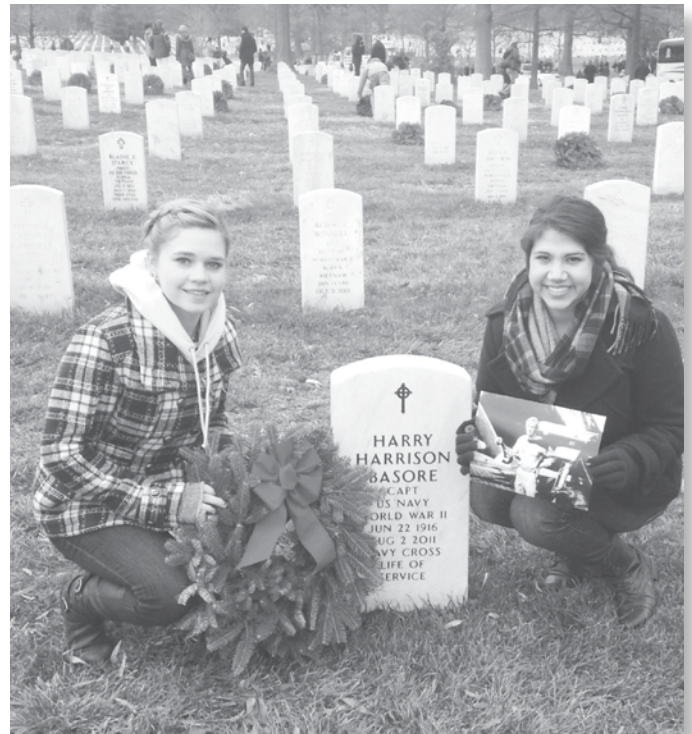
Graves at Arlington Get Wreaths at Christmas

School of the Ozarks students were deeply saddened when they learned on **FOX News** about the wreath shortage to mark the graves in Arlington National Cemetery, because S of O alumni Brigadier General Tommy Bell and Captain Harry Basore are buried there. The students couldn't stand the thought of their graves left unmarked. Even though they were out of school due to snow, they used social media to message each other, and their Pitch in for Patriots™ club unanimously voted to donate \$5,000 to "Wreaths Across America," the organization that takes care of decorating the graves in Arlington, as well as numerous American military cemeteries across the nation.

Co-presidents of the club, Alexis Strohm and Kendall Evans, made the journey to D.C., to personally lay wreaths on the graves of alumni of School of the Ozarks. Another precious opportunity arose when a local resident of the Branson area read in the news that S of O students were traveling to Arlington. She e-mailed the College and asked if the students would be willing to take a picture of her son-in-law's grave, which she had not seen since his burial in 2009. Alexis and Kendall were honored to lay a wreath at his grave site and send a picture to his family.

During the ceremony at Arlington, "Wreaths Across America" Chairman Wayne Hanson publicly recognized the S of O students for their act of appreciation for Veterans.

"Addressing the crowd during Saturday's opening ceremonies, Wayne Hanson from the 'Wreaths Across America' board of directors got emotional as he recount-



ed the flood of late donations – including \$5,000 sent by students at the School of the Ozarks, a small high school in Point Lookout, Mo.," reported the **Portland Press Herald**. "The character of those students out there who stepped up from way across the country to help us here in Arlington, that's what it's all about," said Hanson, the board's chairman. "What began as one Maine family's attempt to honor deceased Veterans has grown into a national observance," the **Herald** published.



“An Amazing Story”

By Matt Fender

School of the Ozarks students involved in Pitch in for Patriots™, a club dedicated to honoring our nation's Veterans, wanted to find a way to honor a Missouri Veteran. Through hosting a 5K and 10K Fun Run, the students raised money to purchase SSG Daniel Barnes a TrackChair, an all-terrain wheel chair.

SSG Barnes was wounded in 2006, when his unit was ambushed outside of Baghdad. He commanded an RG31 mine-resistant vehicle in the 5th Engineer Battalion responsible for locating improvised explosive devices on the roads. SSG Barnes' vehicle was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, and as a result, lost both of his legs.

After the injury, the possibility of participating in some of his favorite hobbies, such as hunting and fishing, was severely limited by his standard government-issued wheel chair.

However, the all-terrain TrackChair has the ability to go places that never would be possible in a standard wheel chair. TrackChairs enable wounded warriors, such as SSG Barnes, the ability to go out in the woods and “off the beaten path.” The purchase of a TrackChair is no easy task, but it's one that School of the Ozarks students had their hearts set on when they learned his story.

SSG Barnes had researched the TrackChair and knew it would allow him the opportunity to get back to some of his favorite hobbies, so he decided to apply to receive a chair through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The TrackChair was initially approved through the VA, and production of the chair began. Weeks later SSG Barnes received a call from the Action TrackChair dealer, who informed him that the VA would not cover the cost of his chair. However, the dealer did inform SSG Barnes about the Independence Fund, a foundation that Mr. Bill O'Reilly began to help and honor Veterans. The Independence Fund helps hundreds of wounded Veterans receive TrackChairs every year. SSG Barnes contacted the representa-



SSG Barnes pulls his son on a sled during a December snow.

tive from the Independence Fund, and within the week, they had found a group willing to pay for his chair. “Have you ever heard of College of the Ozarks?” the representative asked.

The paper work was completed, and in early August, SSG Barnes had his TrackChair. “With this chair I can get into some hunting areas that I wasn't able to get into before because of my mobility issues,” he said. “I can go out and go fishing with my younger son, Jacob; he loves to fish.”

In October, SSG Barnes was presented with a “Great American Award”, by President Jerry C. Davis and Mr. O'Reilly at the Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger Community Convocation. Mr. O'Reilly was so impressed by the actions of School of the Ozarks he praised them on his **FOX News'** show “The O'Reilly Factor.” “The high school attached to College of the Ozarks raised 15 thousand dollars to get SSG Barnes the TrackChair,” Mr. O'Reilly told his audience, “High School kids did this — an amazing story!”

PITCH IN FOR PATRIOTS™

S of O Sophomores Make an Impact in Dallas

By Dr. Cindy Williams, S of O English Instructor

On December 13-14, 2013, 24 School of the Ozarks sophomores embarked upon a mission trip to Dallas, Texas. The mission trip began with volunteering for Operation Christmas Child, a shoebox ministry of Samaritan's Purse which provides shoeboxes filled with toys and a message of the Gospel to thousands of underprivileged children across the globe. S of O students went to the distribution center for Operation Christmas Child in Dallas where they, six adult sponsors, and the bus driver participated in various components of distributing shoebox gifts to children around the world.

While in Dallas, C of O provided other opportunities for the S of O sophomore class. They visited the Galleria Mall, as well as spent quality time on the ice skating rink. The next day, the group toured Frontiers of Flight Museum at Dallas Love Field, where they learned about aviation history by their Vietnam Veteran guide. The guide expressed his appreciation and amazement at the behavior and respect from the students. From there, students visited the Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza – near the site of President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

At each place, students would move back allowing



other patrons to the head of the line. Students sat, ate, visited, and exhibited Christ-like character. Their impact is still being reported through e-mails and conversations with others who frequented the same places. Patrons all along the trip would ask “Who are these kids? Where are you from?” Then, they would add “what a great, unique group of kids.”

The College and S of O continue to “develop citizens of Christ-like character who are well-educated, hardworking, and patriotic.”



Winning Democracy Entries

By Charles Elliott

School of the Ozarks sophomores Mitchell Pettigrew and Coby Dolloff and junior Emily Huff were honored by the local Branson Hollister 11290 VFW Post Commander Gerald Long for their winning entries in the VFW Voice of Democracy Essay and Speech Competition.



Pictured from left to right: Mitchell Pettigrew, Coby Dolloff, and Emily Huff.

The contest, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, is open to students in grades 9-12 who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school, or a home study program in the United States and its territories.

This year, students wrote in response to the question, “Why are you optimistic about our nation’s future?” After writing the essay, students recorded themselves reading the essay and submitted the written and recorded speech for evaluation.

“The School’s instruction and education about God and His involvement in our nation’s foundation is what drives my optimism,” said Mitchell.

“Our education on the founding fathers in History class and all that they stood for and built our nation on inspires my optimism knowing that it’s those same principles that we cling to today,” said Coby.

Citizens Abroad

Art Students Journey to China



In 2010, with assistance from the College, I traveled to China for an artistic residency in Jingdezhen, the porcelain city. This rewarding experience and the many contacts I made paved the way to take twelve art students and several faculty sponsors back to China for a similar experience. We participated in a week long residency at the Pottery Workshop in Jingdezhen, where fine porcelain has been produced for over 1500 years. This trip went beyond our expectations and was a life changing experience for all involved.

We could not have chosen a better group of young adults, and watching them grow before our

eyes into seasoned China travelers was delightful. Several of them had never flown before or traveled to a major city, let alone a foreign country. It was important to us to give the students more than the usual tourist trip, but rather a rich, vocational and cultural experience. We accomplished this by venturing off the beaten path into a working class city and a small mountain village. At the Pottery Workshop in Jingdezhen, students made a direct connection with the centuries-old tradition of working with Chinese porcelain. We were guided in the art of carved and painted porcelain by skilled local artists. Students saw first-hand the

industriousness of local craftsmen, who work seven days a week in this gritty and lively city.

Experiencing Chinese culture was also an important goal of the trip. We experienced the grit and industry of Jingdezhen, the history and culture of a small mountain village, the cosmopolitan atmosphere of Shanghai and Beijing, and the rich history of the historical old capital city Xi'an. Highlights of the trip included excursions to the Terra Cotta Warriors, the Han and Ming Dynasty Tombs, and the Great Wall. Students mastered eating with chopsticks and how to bargain in the local markets. Everywhere we were greeted by warm and friendly people who welcomed us

with open arms.

We are grateful to the College and the Citizens Abroad program for making this important adventure possible. It is difficult to put into words the benefit to our students of traveling and observing first-hand the lives and customs of people in foreign countries.

Jeff Johnston

Professor of Art

Student Perspective:

Morgan Smith, senior, studio art: graphic design and ceramics

A few months ago, I traveled with the College's Art Department to China. However, the memories and lessons remain fresh in my mind. In addition to the beautiful cities, monuments, and sight-seeing opportu-



nities, I had an interest in the cultural aspects of the country.

First and foremost, I see now how lucky I am to live in the United States. I always knew it was a blessing, but I have never realized what real poverty looks like, or how great it is to have the right to vote and be involved in politics. We spoke with a few Chinese students our age, and they said they do not vote because they know it wouldn't matter in the elections. They are fed propaganda in the news about the world, and there is an apathetic attitude towards what is happening with their government because they cannot change it. That experience made me further appreciate our opportunities, as well as inspired me to vote every chance I get.

In China, we met ceramic artists who worked 12-hour days doing hard, meticulous labor to make very little money. They



have an extreme passion for what they do, invest themselves fully in their work, and do not take short cuts. I will now do the same.

I also noticed how much the Chinese value their relationships in daily life. The people valued each others' company more than their material belongings. Outside of Jingdezhen, we visited our guide's "favorite grandma," who invited us into her house and let us sit in her living room full of peeling wall paper and bird's nests. She is in her 80s, under 5 feet tall, and walked up the flight of stone steps with ease. She had lived in the house almost her whole life with

one lightbulb to see, no air conditioning, and a three-inch thick mat for a bed. Despite all of this, she was one of the happiest people I had ever met. I'll never forget her happiness in spite of her adversity. This taught me to appreciate what God has given me because I know He has provided me with all I need to live out His plan.

I learned much about art, art history, Chinese culture, and universal life lessons, and I consider my Chinese trip to be one of the most challenging, yet rewarding experiences of my life. I am changed, inspired, and humbled as an artist and as a citizen of the United States.

Student Perspective:

Hannah Richardson, senior, studio art major and art history minor

Wow. Where do I begin?

I experienced so many things in China, and I will never forget them. I was able to be immersed in a totally different culture: the things they eat, the way they dress, how they drive, and even the way they use the restroom. It was all a new world for a farm girl from Missouri.

The history that I experienced over there was amazing. To be able to walk in the Han tomb, walk next



to the Terra Cotta warriors, see the Ming tombs, and to climb the Great Wall of China was absolutely breathtaking.

I was also very fortunate to experience first-hand the porcelain capital of the world. As a clay student, I was truly amazed and fascinated to see the potters in China at work. I learned so many new techniques and processes that I couldn't wait to try them out. Because of this opportunity, I have a new desire to fine tune my skill in the clay world.

Even though it was difficult to adjust to the time change, the traffic laws, the different food, the squatty potties, and the rather ripe smells of China, I will never forget my experience there. I was extremely blessed to travel with the C of O Art Department, and I am very grateful to those who provided this invaluable opportunity.





Memorial Gifts

SEPTEMBER MEMORIAL SCROLLS

Craig Amundson from Mr. and Mrs. Orland O. Amundson

Robert Buenger from Dr. and Mrs. Robert R. Anderson

Seth Caperton from Mr. & Mrs. David Woolery, Walter Gummersheimer, William & Margaret Miller, Mr. & Mrs. Philip A. Reinbold, Mr. & Mrs. Darrel Bearden

Phil Darby from Ron Janes

Courtney Furman from JO ANN FURMAN, Dr. & Mrs. Jerry C. Davis, Mr. & Mrs. Homer Piatt, Mr. & Mrs. Darrell Kelling, Carol Gilson, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Torrens, Mr. & Mrs. Darrel Bearden, Mr. & Mrs. Mitch Holmes, Frances McCullough, George Boyd, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Boyle, Dr. & Mrs. Donn Russell, Dr. & Mrs. Robert Culver, Dr. & Mrs. Mark Rapinchuk, Mr. & Mrs. William Cole

Leonard & Edith Gittinger from Jane L. Gittinger

Franklin Graham from Russ & Joann Zartler

Clint & Everest McDade from G. W. Kloppe

JAMES HOUSTON MEANS from CONRAD MARTIN

Jennifer Moreland from Russ & Joann Zartler

Elizabeth Dyer Overy from Dorothy Miley

John Petran from Brenda Petran

Richard Roda from Dr. & Mrs. William Brethour

Family of Cecilia Rozmiarek from Cecilia Rozmiarek

Justin Stephan from Cleveland & Angela Williamson

SEPTEMBER HONOR SCROLLS

SSG A. M. De Le Fuente from Martin Keene

Peter Piccininni from Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Klein

Dan & Irene Tranchita from Mr. & Mrs. Jim Olstad

OCTOBER MEMORIAL SCROLLS

Ona Amyx from Francis Alexander & family, Jim Springer & family

Don Barr from Paul Barr

Bill Camp from Norma Wiley

Kay Colburn from Charles & Sharon Stover

Jerry L. Davis from Mr. & Mrs. John Tummons

RUDY DORROUGH FROM GEORGIA DORROUGH

David Denny from Mr. & Mrs. Charles Stover, Caroline Darlington

C. Blaine Elmer from Barbara Smith

Courtney Furman from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Anderson

Ben Moyer from Anne Moyer

E. J. McCannon from Peggy King

Coach Osburn from Dr. & Mrs. Howell Keeter, Mr. & Mrs. Willa Cook, Dr. & Mrs. Bob Smith, Margie Dennis, Mildred Kenyon, Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Rizzo, Randy Brock

Blanc Parker from Mr. & Mrs. Brad Thomas

Jane Rice from Charles & Sharon Stover

Robert Rice from Alvadayia Rice

Richard Roda from Charles Holle

Shirley Ross from Dr. & Mrs. Howell W. Keeter

Wilma Schellhase from Charles & Sharon Stover

Victor Dan Sisson from Carolyn Sisson

Carol Stosberg from Margret A. Brown, Carol Harlan, Anna Rinne, Mary Lou Anson, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Barnes, American Legion Auxiliary #223

Nannie Suarez from Hal Leonard Corporation

Hazel Tolbert from Mr. & Mrs. Ron Kelly

Leonard Vorderbruegge from Lois Vorderbruegge

H. Michael Youngman from Charles & Sharon Stover

OCTOBER HONOR SCROLLS

Austin Hanner from Charles Parker

G. Michael Hanner from Charles Parker

Ruth Naucke Hagen from Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Naucke

David Smart from Susan Smart

NOVEMBER MEMORIAL SCROLLS

Russel Allred from Debbie Anthony

Thomas Baker from Anne Baker

Harold Davis from Lavenia Davis

Jerry L. Davis from Drs. Hayden & Sue Head, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Stolte, Mr. & Mrs. James Quorollo, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Johnson, Gary Thompson Oil Company,

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Wachter, Mr. & Mrs. John Cain, Mr. & Mrs. Allen Pearson, Mr. & Mrs. Robert White, Dr. & Mrs. William Waibel, Mr. & Mrs. James Davis, Randal Thompson, Julie Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rothwedder, Mr. & Mrs. Jon Davis, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Myers, Roger McClung & Mary Brown, Connie Sayers, Judges of the 23rd Judicial Court, Mr. & Mrs. Smith Brookhart

Virginia Edwards from Gloria Widmer
Shirley Ferguson from Harold Ferguson

Sam Fogerson from Dr. & Mrs. George Kiser

Courtney Furman from REBEKAH SCHAPPEL, James Kohl, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Simmons

Alan Jones from Jack Baldwin

Eileen Selma Kinsell from Bob & Johnna Welch

Connie Marcellus from Mr. & Mrs. Bob Simmons

Coach Osburn from Mr. & Mrs. Charles Greene, Jane Hughes

June Rantz from Dr. & Mrs. George Kiser

R. E. Reedy from Matt Reedy

Shirley Ross from Dr. & Mrs. Mayburn Davidson

Gary Snadon from Mr. & Mrs. Bob Simmons

Chris Waller from Mr. & Mrs. Rod Romine

Rena Mae Willis from Mr. & Mrs. James Bond

NOVEMBER HONOR SCROLLS

Dr. & Mrs. Wayne Chapin from Margaret Kane

Mr. & Mrs. Lemm Compton from Margaret Kane

William & Sharon Cothron from Robert Chatham

Tim & Barbara Grassechi from Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Easdon

Austin Hanner from Charles Parker

G. Michael Hanner from Charles Parker

Bill & Joan McCarthy from Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Easdon

**NAMES IN CAPITAL LETTERS
REPRESENT GIFTS OF \$1,000 OR
MORE.**

THROW-BACK “TEACH-IN”

Former POW Presentation Rights a Wrong

By: Morgan Sowell

College of the Ozarks hosted former POW of Vietnam War Colonel (ret.) Lee Ellis for a “teach-in” on December 11, 2013, at 7 p.m., in Jones Auditorium.

“In light of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, College of the Ozarks welcomed Colonel Ellis to give our version of what a ‘teach-in’ should be,” said College of the Ozarks President Jerry C. Davis. “During the 60s and 70s many may recall numerous colleges shutting down classes to hold ‘teach-ins,’ in order to educate students on what some thought about the Vietnam War. At the College, where patriotism is a main goal, it was only fitting that we hold a ‘teach-in’ of sorts, too. Only the College’s ‘teach-in’ educated students *on the service and sacrifices made by American men and women who served in the Vietnam War* and returned from honorable service only to be treated, in many cases, dishonorably.”

At the College, where patriotism is a main goal, it was only fitting that he hold a ‘teach-in’ of sorts, too. Only the College’s ‘teach-in’ educated students on the service and sacrifices made by American men and women who served in the Vietnam War and returned from honorable service only to be treated, in many cases, dishonorably.”

During the ‘teach-in’ Colonel Ellis shared his experience at the infamous camp “Hanoi Hilton” as a POW and the leadership lessons that helped him and his comrades return home with honor.

He served as an Air Force fighter pilot flying 53 combat missions over North Vietnam. In 1967, his jet was shot down, and he was held as a POW for more than five years at Camp Hanoi Hilton—the same camp in which Senator John McCain was imprisoned.

After the war, Colonel Ellis served as an instructor pilot, chief of flight standardization/evaluation, and flying squadron commander. Additionally, he commanded two leadership development organizations before retiring as a Colonel. His combat decorations include two Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the POW Medal.

From March 2013-September 2014, College of the Ozarks is celebrating and honoring Veterans of the



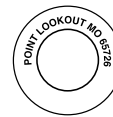
Vietnam War to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the conflict. While Vietnam Veterans did not receive the appreciation and homecoming they deserved during the 1960s-70s, the College has resolved to properly honor and recognize them for their service and sacrifices and to educate the younger generations on the importance of their selfless contributions to our nation. This teach-in is just one of many events the College has planned to honor Vietnam Veterans.

C-SPAN aired the “Teach-in” on its **C-SPAN 3 American History** channel in January. If you were unable to watch it, please contact or (417) 690-2212 to receive a free DVD.





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VIETNAM VETERAN THANK YOU RECEPTION



In honor of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, College of the Ozarks hosted a Vietnam Veterans Thank You Reception during Branson Veterans Homecoming Week. More than 700 Vietnam Veterans and their spouses attended the event, wherein C of O students, staff, and faculty took time to personally thank them for their service and sacrifice. Attendees enjoyed cake, cookies, and an array of sweets provided by The Keeter Center.

Every Vietnam Veteran in attendance received a handmade quilt, courtesy of the Quilts of Valor Foundation (QOV). The QOV mission is to cover all combat service members and Veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor. Dozens of QOV volunteers were present to help Veterans select their favorite quilt. The women then personally signed each of the quilts given to Veterans that afternoon.