



Florida Military School

Alumni Association



Vol. 7 Issue 3

November 2010



**From the
President's
Keyboard**
Harry C. Silvis '65
FMSA PRESIDENT

It has been a busy few weeks for FMSA business for us. We were informed about the recent death of Chaplin Dinkins on October 14th. He was a very beloved faculty member for many years. You will find his obituary in the newsletter with a web address to send the family your thoughts. You will notice that the link staying online, came from a FMS cadet, **we salute you!**

Zora Mae and I spent a wonderful week in Pierson with Max & Sue for the FMSA Annual Meeting and to work some more on the upcoming reunion next summer. We met with Teresa and Chris at the HIE Speedway and are looking forward to the reunion next July. We were able to complete a budget for the reunion and got it approved at the annual meeting. We will be adding a sandwich lunch on Saturday for everyone, thus providing all the meals, excluding Friday night for the weekend. To do so, we have removed the DJ from Saturday night from the budget and tightened our belts a little in other areas. There will be a DJ if the cadets provide the \$600.00 needed for one or if one steps forward from the Corps. There are additional opportunities for you to contribute to the reunion if you are able to, listed later in the newsletter. If you are not able to, that is ok, as there are also opportunities to give your time and talents to help produce the reunion. As a volunteer organization without membership dues, we will always rely on the members to assist us with their time and when possible money such as The "Purple Pumpkin Lady", Trudy Bulat, as well as our "Official Greeter", Jim F. Turner 59', as well as others.

The financial health of the organization remains strong in these uncertain financial times. At the annual meeting we had a report from the secretary as well as the audit of the books by Thornton Ridinger 59'. We start the next year with about \$7,000. in the bank. Last year was very good to us, as the sale of the "FMS History" books and Reunion CD.s has been very steady. We only have 35 CD's left to sell, so do not wait too late. As for the books, they are a "Limited Edition" and are all there will ever be.

There were 29 Cadets & guests at the annual meeting at Steve Nash's 65' hanger this year. As in the past the class of 1959 had the most present 9, out of the class of 26. We also had the newlyweds from the 2009 reunion. More on that elsewhere in the newsletter. I appointed Thornton Ridinger 59' to head the committee to nominate the next officers and board, as required

by the by-laws. More on that will be in the next newsletter. Dennis Eyre 59' was presented a plaque for his talents and skills at cooking the steaks at the dinner we hold after the meeting in Pierson. Also recognized were Steve & Sydney Nash 65' for their hospitality in letting us use their hanger every year to hold the annual meeting.

Wondering what to do while in Daytona next summer? Zora Mae says after you check in, go to the business center, which is the first left past the desk and it is on the right. Inside is a mini-welcome center with hundreds of flyers as well as magazines with discounts to use during your stay. We did and ended up at the Daytona Flea & Farmers Market with 1,000 booths. The flea markets have all been closed in the Atlanta area, as developers have purchased them for other uses and the largest one in Atlanta, is being turned into a film studio. Zora came away with a new everyday purse as well as a beautiful hand tooled leather purse at great prices. Deep sea as well as inland fishing, wonderful cruises, some with food service, and some unique eateries are also available. The Daytona Experience at the track has closed but, the word is Richard Petty driving school will open once the track surface is rebuilt and it is ahead of schedule. Also, look on your room card for other deals.

Special thanks to: Dennis Eye 59', Jeff Fawsett 60', Steve Nash 65', Terry Hollingsworth 66', Bobby Howard 66" and Robert Mouro 66', for spending a few days repairing the other end of the FMS column that has the plaque on it, after it was destroyed by a car early one morning. Please visit it next year when you come to the reunion. You will be surprised as we were, in the building that has taken place and Howard Hall's small section is now being dismantled.

WANTED! Someone to take over the search for "missing" cadets as Max & Sue are burned out and Zora Mae and I are continuing to deal with our son's death. We have not accounted for about 40% of the corps, but Max & Sue have a lot of leads that need to be followed up on!

After 18 years, we have "fired" the New AT&T as our phone and internet provider. Too slow internet and too expensive business phones. We moved to Comcast, our only other choice here and have changed the phones to residential, with an almost 50% savings. My new email address is kennesawgraphics@comcast.net. Will add more addresses at a later date.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year !!

FMSA Official Website:
www.fms-assn.org

FMSA Mailing address will continue to be:
FMSA c/o Elliott
PO Box 5 Pierson, FL 32180

In MEMORIAM

DINKINS, III., CHAPLIN AMBROSE, 72
Dunnellon - Chaplin Ambrose Dinkins, III, age 72 of
Dunnellon, died Thursday, October 14, 2010. Mr. Dinkins
was born and raised in Dunnellon on December 14, 1937
to the late Chaplin Ambrose Dinkins, Jr. and Virginia
Elizabeth (Byerly) Dinkins. He was the owner and
operator of Dinkins Service Store in Dunnellon and served
our Country in the U.S. Army Reserves. Mr. Dinkins was
an active member of the First United Methodist Church of
Dunnellon where he served as Church Treasurer for 26
years and Sunday School Superintendent. Survivors
include his brother, John Lester (Arlene) Dinkins of
Ocala, two sisters, Elizabeth LaRue Dinkins and Mary
Virginia Dinkins both of Dunnellon, two nephews, Davis
Lester Dinkins and John Chaplin Dinkins both of Ocala.

Memorial services will be conducted on Sunday, October
17, 2010 at 3:00 P.M. from the First United Methodist
Church of Dunnellon with the Rev. Eddie Fulford
officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the
First United Methodist Church of Dunnellon or Hospice
of Marion County. Roberts Funeral Home, Dunnellon.
Published in Ocala Star-Banner from October 15 to October 16, 2010



1963



1968

Chaplin Dinkins was more commonly known to the Corps prior to
1967 as Captain Dinkins or to the later Corps as Major Dinkins.
During his years at FMS, Maj. Dinkins taught World History,
English and typing as well as serving as adult officer in charge
of the Alleyne Hall, the barracks housing 7th & 8th graders.



Major Dinkins and Col. Ward at 2006 Reunion
The 1965 yearbook was dedicated to the then Capt. Dinkins:

It is hard to find a person who
is willing to devote nearly all of
his time to helping others, some-
one who takes more than just a
casual interest in his work. It is
yet harder to find someone who
is willing to do all this and then
step forward and offer assistance
in other fields. Such a man is
Capt. Chaplin A. Dinkins, and it
is to you that we dedicate the
1965 KNIGHT.

THE 1965 KNIGHT STAFF

ANNOUNCING:

FMS Reunion 2011

“Knights of The Renaissance”

July 29, 30, 31,
(Friday - Sunday)

Reunion Registration fee:

\$60* per cadet and **\$40** for guests and spouses

We have not increased the registration fee since our first reunion in
an attempt to keep the reunion affordable to all. The \$60 per cadet
includes a tote bag complete with a copy of the current Cadet
Directory, program and tickets for lunch and the buffet Saturday
night. The \$40 spouse or friend fee does not include the bag. Each
attendee will receive a reunion nametag.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Please do not confuse your hotel reservation with your reunion
registration. They are not the same thing. You must make your
hotel reservations directly with the hotel, but your reunion
registration needs to be made with FMSA. A registration form is
included for your convenience. We have already received several
and the hotel reports that many have called in for their hotel
reservations. Don't delay in making your reservations so that you
do not get closed out.

Holiday Inn Express – Daytona Beach, FL

2620 International Speedway Blvd.
(I-95 exit 261A south or exit 261 north)



Room Rates:

Double: \$69 per night plus tax

King: \$69 per night plus tax

Suite: \$99 per night plus tax

A block of rooms is reserved for FMSA so be sure to mention FMS when making your reservations. Holiday Inn Express will honor the rates for three days prior and three days after the scheduled reunion if you would like to make it an extended vacation.

Director of Sales: Theresa Graves

Phone: 386-258-6333, or
doshiexpress@elitehospitality.com

Amenities include: Complimentary Full Breakfast Buffet daily, Business Center, Olympic Swimming Pool, 6 Lighted Tennis courts and fitness room. In room coffee-maker, ironing board, hair dryer, complimentary wireless high speed access, and private balcony. A **Free shuttle** is available from nearby Daytona International Airport.

ANNUAL MEETING 2010

The annual meeting was held Saturday, October 23rd in Steve Nash's hanger at *Sky Dive Deland*. As usual, Steve ordered spectacular weather for the gathering.

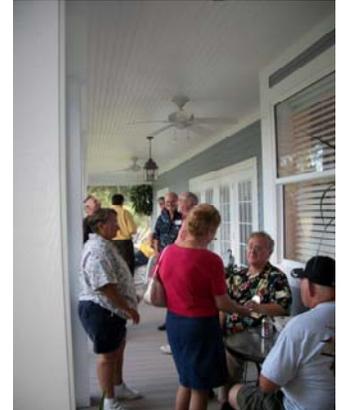
Miss Earp made her annual appearance as did 27 other cadets and spouses.

After a lively lunch at the *Perfect Spot*, the business meeting was called to order at 1 pm by President Harry Silvis.

After the usual reports, discussion turned to the plans for the 2011 Reunion. First a vote was taken on the name or theme for the reunion.

A general reunion budget was approved. An addition to this year's registration will be a ticket for a poolside box lunch on Saturday for everyone. In order to maintain the registration fee as in prior years, it was decided that we would cut the cost of a DJ out of the budget, and hope for someone or some class to sponsor the cost of the DJ. Discussion followed about possible raffle items and other committees needed.

Following the meeting, about 17 made the annual trek to Pierson to the Elliott's for a wonderful steak cookout before heading home. Dennis Eyre outdid himself again, cooking all the steaks to perfection.



The COLUMNS - HIT AGAIN -

Some time in August, the south side, antique brick column marking the entrance to the old Florida Military School campus was again damaged by a traffic accident. As was done before in November 2006, a volunteer group of FMS alumni was formed to make repairs and preserve this last remaining intact structure on the Florida Military



School campus.

Jeff Fawsett, '60 acted again as the project planner, for the venture. The volunteer



alumni workers were Dennis Eyre, '59; Terry Hollinsworth, '66; Steve Nash, '65; Robert Mouro, '66; Bobby Howard, '66 and Jeff.



REUNION

REGISTRATION-

A downloadable form is available on the FMSA website, or you may use the one included in this newsletter. All registrations must be received **by June 30th 2009**. Late registrations after June 30th, will include a **\$20 late fee**. Make your reservations EARLY!!!! No refunds available after July 15th.

Reunion Registration fee:

\$60 per cadet and \$40 each for guests & spouses

HELP WANTED –

In these trying times, that is a sign that gets attention more than ever. And we are hoping that it will get yours. Seriously, we do need help. This reunion can not be a "two man" job. Yes, we have done it several times and it does get easier each time but we still need others to assist.

There are so many areas that we can use your assistance. Some people have stepped forward already to volunteer but there are still jobs that need you.

- **Registration** – short shifts, could be combined with hospitality. We have a coordinator, but need people to work the shifts with her.
- **Greeters** - Jim Turner will coordinate this group who will act as our official greeters . Volunteers needed to assist him on Friday and Saturday morning.
- **Raffle** – selling tickets, conducting, etc. Trudy Bulat has volunteered to be coordinator. This lady with her "Purple Pumpkin" was hard to say "No" to at our last gathering. She has several fund raising activities planned and would gladly accept help.
- **Duck Race** – selling tickets, assisting with the race. This year it will be bigger and better and remember The prize is CASH \$\$\$\$. There will be a new twist to the race this year too with more chances to win. Help needed to pull it all off.
- **Ghost Tour** – Harry Silvis has prepared our Ghost Tour posters, but we can use help in the set up, etc.
- **Hospitality** - shifts maintaining the room. We do need a coordinator to oversee the operation of this room. And we

also need hosts and hostesses to man a shift or two during the weekend. (NOTE: any class group that would like to sponsor any hospitality event would be welcome.) We will keep the room open later this time.

- **Memorial Service** –We need a new coordinator for this event. He will need help with the set up, and people to participate in the service, or to give out the programs, etc.
- **Ladies Coffee Hour** – A coordinator is desperately needed for this special event. Other hostesses to assist are needed as well. (NOTE: a class group might want to sponsor this event.- . provide coffee, and get doughnuts or cookies donated, etc)
- **Games Coordinator**. – to organize several new games and competitions we have planned for Sat. afternoon. Possibly several people so each could set up one game.
- **Goodie Bags** – someone to gather items and prepare the bags. The gathering should be done prior to the reunion and perhaps some local cadets could handle the preparation of the bags with us at the HIE on Thursday evening.
- **Auctioneer** – Lee Hansen did such an outstanding job that we have enlisted him again for our Auction Sat. night.
- **Auction** – Prior to the reunion, we need a Coordinator, and possibly assistants, to gather or solicit items for the auction. The possibilities are endless...single items, perhaps a weekend in someone's timeshare or beach house; items from businesses, etc. The auction can only be fun and productive if we have good things to auction. THIS is our BUG fundraiser so we need some great stuff.

FMSA operates entirely by donations and monies we can raise with various fundraising activities, such as the Raffle, Duck Race and Auction. Without those activities we would have ended our last reunions well in the red. But thanks to you all, we had enough money to keep the association operating for these past few years and allow us to continue publishing the newsletters. The reunion itself is not a money making event. In truth, we are really lucky if we can break anywhere near even after all the unforeseen incidentals are covered. We would have been almost \$4000 in the red after the 2006 Reunion if it hadn't been for the results of the various fundraisers at the reunion.

After much discussion, it has been decided that another sword will be made available as a Raffle item. So for those of you that missed out last time, you now will have another opportunity to possess your very own sword.

Several events at the previous reunions were sponsored by individuals or class groups. The D.J., the cocktail hour, the coffee hour and the videotaping of the weekend were some of the events sponsored by cadets. This time we would welcome sponsors for the Hospitality Room, and the Ladies Coffee Hour. We will use a DJ for

our Saturday night music **IF** a sponsor is found. We had to cut this from the budget to keep our registration affordable for all. It has always been our goal to make the reunions self-sustaining and if possible, have a bit left over money-wise to keep the association afloat until the next gathering.

It seems we are always asking for help but we are totally a non-profit organization and have been kept afloat only by your generous support.

Annual Treasurer's Report

10/1/2009 – 10/23/2010

Beginning Balance – 10/1/2009 \$8199.72

INCOME

Donations	\$125.00
Sales (book, CD, Directory)	\$979.50

TOTAL INCOME - \$1104.50

EXPENSES

11/1/09 – Newsletter	\$406.00
11/25/09 – Postage	\$ 39.60
1/27/10 – Web Hosting – 1 yr.	\$ 99.00
2/9/10 – Domain Name – 3 yrs	\$ 33.00
2/9/10 – State of FL Annual Report	\$ 61.25
2/18/10 – WVHS Patron – 1 yr	\$150.00
4/30/10 – Newsletter	\$406.00
7/28/10 – Postage	\$ 65.65
8/6/10 – Holiday Inn Express deposit	\$500.00
8/11/10 – Newsletter postage	\$286.00
8/11/10 – Newsletter	\$120.00
10/18/10 – Annual Meeting postcards	\$182.00
10/20/10 – Calendars	\$ 90.00

TOTAL EXPENSES - \$2438.50

(Total income less total expenses = (-\$133.40) for the year)

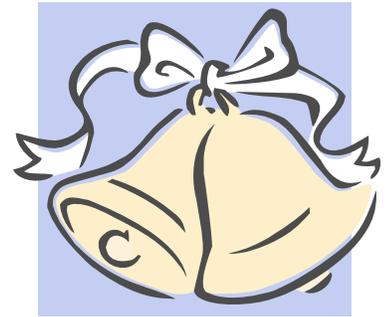
TOTAL ASSETS – 10/23/2010

Cash/Bank Account BB&T
\$6865.72

Sue Elliott, Treasurer

FMSA WEDDING BELLS RING -

At the reunion last year Bill Causey '60 spent time talking to Pauline Schmierer, an old friend, and revealed that he had had a crush on her sister Millie.



In Pauline's words : *" I saw him at the reunion and he said that he had a crush on my sister..... so I got her on the phone ...they talked and made a future lunch date. He said he had been looking for her for 37 years and they started meeting for weekends and he decided to propose and she said yes..all from meeting me at the reunion! They seem very Happy..They live in Lake City Cool huh!! Married three weeks..(Sept. 27,2010). "*

Bill and Millie were married this past summer and the happy couple made an appearance together at the FMSA Annual meeting. It just goes to prove that love conquers all, and **it's never too late.**



ONLY 8 MONTHS TO GO -

Bigger and better

And the last one for two years

So plan to attend...

Don't miss the FUN!!

Max Elliott
Post Office Box 5
Pierson, FL 32180

Address Correction Requested

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