



18th Edition

# GLEN ALPINE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1960

Our 50th Anniversary

By Classmate Dewey E. Fox

## HIGHLIGHTS

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- Sunny B. —Continued
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- 50 Years Ago
- September 24-25, 2010

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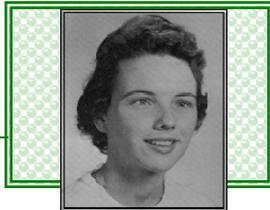
**50th Anniversary**  
**GAHS Class of '60**  
**Sept. 24-25, 2010**



*This 1960 Class Newsletter is an attempt to keep in contact with our classmates and update their happenings in life.*

Website to Browse:

[www.deweyfox.com](http://www.deweyfox.com)



**Becky BIGGERSTAFF Powell** died January 25, 2010

peacefully while looking out her window at the beautiful sunshine and the creations of God. She just stopped breathing.

Becky died one day after her son's "Rocky" birthday. Rocky said, "she was holding out one more day so she wouldn't die on his birthday."

We all remember Becky from our high school days for sure. I remember her carrying an arm load of books to all her classes. Is it any wonder why she made such good grades

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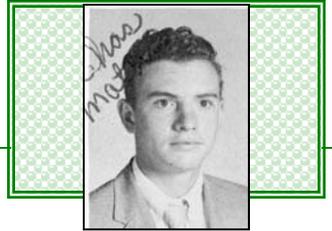
**Continued - Part II—**  
**See last Newsletter**

Surviving Mars Hill, I studied next at Wake Forest. James always drove me back and forth still in that flashy car! (He was a head-turner there too!) He always maintained that he started taking care of me when I was eighteen and he did!

That summer school term at Wake Forest the dorms were hot- no air conditioning; student-owned fans blew in comforting fresh air and evenings were

**SEE Page 2**

Please send me any news you may have and your email address for faster updates.



**Guess what?** After years of searching, Charles Mathis has been found living in McColl, S. C. Bill Brown gave me his address and phone number. I was so excited that I gave him a call and we talked for about 30 minutes. Reminiscing over old times and the classmates that he remembered, and it was most of them. He has a better memory than mine, I didn't believe anyone would remember that many classmates. **See P. 5**

Photo by Dewey Fox



Blue Bird feeding young outside my office  
They raised 3 broods

**IS IT GREED? By Dewey E. Fox**

Have you ever noticed the way things have changed. Companies always wanting to sell you something. For example when I go to the dentist now, instead of looking at fixing my teeth I always need something extra, such as, a complete set of x-rays, and a procedure where they put a dye type substance in your mouth and run this light over it to see if you have any cancer. I just wonder, is all this necessary?

I read the other day that it cost between \$8,000.00 to \$10,000.00 to keep a pet for it's lifetime. It's no wonder, pets are now getting the same diseases that humans are getting. Could it be they are now eating the same food as we are? I went to my family doctor a few months back and then I took my dog the same day to the vet. The vet bill for Katie was more than my doctor's bill. Something just doesn't seem right!

It goes on and on, every time you try to get information or ask a question about your account they try to sell you something. The phone company is always calling me, almost once a week, wanting to sell me more of their products. They noticed I had plenty, but wanted to sell me something else, like I needed it.

I went to have my oil changed the other day. They weren't satisfied with only changing the oil, they wanted to sell me a new air filter, and they noticed my transmission oil was not the right color so it needed changing. Of course, I turned down both these offers. "Just say no."

It doesn't matter where you go or call, the bank, dentist, doctor, vet, phone, they are trying to sell you something, bigger, nicer and better. According to them you can't live without it.

I even called Dell the other day for some computer support and they tried (did) sell me a program to keep my computer running smoother.

If I purchased everything they said I needed, I would be broker than I am. Then again, would my life be anymore complete? I don't think so, it's just something to keep up with. **Is it Greed?**



**FROM Page 1**—spent escaping the heat. First, either a group of girls or a date and I, went out-on-the-town to dinner as there was no on-campus dining; after dinner we went to the air conditioned "Polo" and danced to Chubby Checker's Twist, reviving us from the wilting heat - somewhat. Other times, the Wake Forest pool, or a stroll in Reynolda Park offered reprieve from the heat. Last of all for me, came study. In retrospect, strangely, students there, (including me), seemed removed from Castro's takeover of American businesses, the escalating Viet Nam involvement, and rising racial tensions of the time.

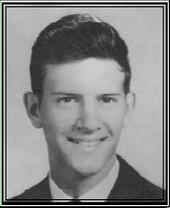
In 1964 I graduated from Lenoir Rhyne with a double major: elementary education and education for the acoustically handicapped.

Following graduation, I enjoyed a life-time career in education enormously. I served as Burke County's first speech therapist and most enjoyable of all, I taught grades 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and finished my career teaching high school government and economics, an academic challenge on which I thrived.

From the time I met him, James had real estate investment plans, so, once married in 1962, he and I began early to supplement our incomes (two fabulous sons to educate) through various roller-coaster real estate ventures: buying and selling unimproved land, speculative building, acquiring rental property, bidding on government rehabilitation projects, and flipping foreclosures. Could I write a book on the last two! Ever seen a house where the occupant did steal everything, yes, including the kitchen sink, the commodes, the carpet, the fixtures and even the interior basement walls, and more?

Luckily for us, the real estate, though tough and grueling, just like the farming I had known, did pay for the education of our first son, tall, and, I think, handsome, Hamilton Brown, who graduated from Western Carolina University with a degree in business management. It also paid for the education of our second son, John Brown, who graduated from Appalachian State, where he entered the football program as a walk-on and by his junior and senior years often "started" as a wide-receiver, playing for the now, well known, coach, Jerry Moore. Gotta say, it was pretty scary to Mom when the coaches played him as punt returner! Once, following a Clemson game, by tradition, as **GO TO Page 4**

## CONTINUED HAPPENINGS AND MESSAGES FROM CLASSMATES OF 1960



### Ed Justice Bio

I was the first of four children (all sons, poor Mother!) born to my folks here in Burke county.

I have a few early memories of my family living in different areas of Burke county, but by the time I was 4 years old we were back in the Long town area of the county.

My folks were working at the dairy farm at South Mountain Institute, and I can recall that there were only 2 telephones in the Longtown community, one at South Mountain Institute, and one at their dairy farm.

I started school at South Mountain. That was the county designated school for the first three grades for our community. But after my second year in public school, the county had merged us into the Glen Alpine School district.

Our family became permanent fixtures of the community when my folks bought land in the area (across the road from my cousin Sunny Nell and her family).

My brothers and I grew up in this community....we learned a lot about hard work, sharing, exploring, farming, animals, nature, play, and survival. We had our share of fun., swimming in Paddy's Creek, making weapons of minor destruction with one another when we were out of parental sight. We did not have electricity until I was 9 years old, and no television until I was 14. But I remember piling into the truck and going to Branton's Boat Landing and putting a quarter into the community television to watch some Saturday night TV ...where we were spellbound by Gunsmoke and other favorite programs.

Like many families at that time we were good at stretching dollars, and were glad of opportunities to earn money. I drove a school bus for Glen Alpine. We had a long route. I remember W. A. Young telling me that Glen Alpine School District had the largest number of school busses of any city school in the state.

Military exercises were fun when the Special

Forces trained in our area and incorporated the community members, including our family into their training exercises. Things moved from training exercises to reality when Viet Nam came along. I went there, second of my brothers, and flew helicopters there for my tour. Three of the four of us brothers were in the Army and did a tour in Viet Nam. We were lucky and all three came home; none of us chose to stay in the military.

After getting out of the Army I wandered a bit, into Virginia/D.C area, and Charlotte, but I came back to Burke county and family again by 1973.

I started working in a variety of jobs (farrier, stable manager, construction worker) but spent the majority of my working years (32 years) at Southern Devices here in Burke County, as a tool and die maker.

I also married and had two children along the way. I met my wife, Lynn (a transplanted Ohio girl), riding horses on the family's Hungry Horse Ranch.

Our oldest, a son, is married and has a stepson, and he is a Captain in the Army. At this writing he is stateside. Our daughter is married to an Army Major, and they have an eight year old daughter and a six year old son. Grandchildren certainly are delightful.

I retired a couple of years ago, and am still the 'frustrated farmer' my wife describes. We currently have some horses and several dogs. I am not counting the deer that move in on us as the world moves in on them. That makes us lower on the number of domesticated animals than we have been for most of our years here: we have also had cattle and goats and rabbits.

In addition to family and friends, I enjoy the outdoors, my farming and animal friends. I also enjoy reading most anything, many movies, some card and computer games, sudoku, and bluegrass music.

Our original nuclear family is smaller, as we have lost both my Father and our brother Phillip Lynn. My Mother and brothers Wynn and Dave, and Dave's wife Kay, still live on the family homeplace in Longtown, and my wife and I have

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**Class of 1960 GAHS trivia question: Fill in blank—**  
 Coach Ralph “Jug” Wilson came to GA in \_\_\_\_ Yr.  
 Who hired Wilson on the spot? \_\_\_\_\_  
 How many football players did He inherit? \_\_\_\_\_  
 How many students did GA have? \_\_\_\_\_ **See Page 5**

#### Emails Returned, Need New Email Address:

Pauline FOREMAN Searcy—  
 lovenia@pictorialedge.com

#### New Email Addresses:

Pat DEATON Kirk  
 patkirk66@insightbb.com

#### New Telephone Numbers:

Pat DEATON Kirk  
 1-859-913-6888

#### New Mailing Addresses:

Becky BIGGERSTALF Powell ( Son is —Rocky )  
 2733 Hollybrook Lane (If you want to mail card)  
 Morganton, N. C. 28655

Billy Jack Cooper  
 27 Patriots Lndg  
 Fillmore, IN. 46128

#### New Found Classmates:

Charles Mathis  
 2552 Newton Road  
 McColl, S. C. 29570  
 Phone—843-265-4852  
 Email: To be advised?

#### Burke County Trivia Question —

Who was Burke County named in honor of?

What is Burke County’s present size in miles?

**Go to Page 5 for Answers**



FROM Page 2—the parents all gathered on the field with the team, I could see blood all over John’s pants. Alarmed, since I could see no injury, I asked, “Whose blood is that?” He replied, “Oh mine, theirs, and everybody else’s”. He had only a small but profusely bleeding finger injury. I don’t know about the other guys. Anyway, John, too, graduated with a degree in business. Currently we are still active in the real-estate arena. Sometimes I wonder if we’ve got it, or if it’s got us! An engaging interest of mine is “ol’ time” music, (a forerunner of blue grass). James and I search the back-woods to hear good “ol’ time” bands, including an annual trip every August, to Galax, VA, to the Old Fiddler’s competition where if it rains, the mud will suck the boots right off your feet. I want to enter the flatfoot competition there, but I get stage-fright and looking into the faces of thirty or forty thousand people is enough to freak-me-out, even though I have taken clogging, buck-dancing, and flat-footing lessons from nationally, award- winning cloggers for several years – I still get scared! Maybe 2010 is the year. Maybe not!

Summing other stuff up quickly... love my adorable four year old grandson, Lucas Brown, (Jodi and Hamilton’s) ... praying for safe April delivery of twins via a high- risk pregnancy (John and Eli’s)... hate to fly (too little space), but a necessity, to revisit favorite spots: Key West, Vegas, Maine coastline, and lots of Alaska... am almost vegetarian, don’t like the thought of slaughtering animals; knew too many by name down-on- the- farm.

Last, I still have the farm; it’s my passion. Horses graze some of the pastures. We use the farm house as a second home. Occasionally, I look wistfully toward the dairy barn imagining Daddy finishing the milking, as the sun set low and the Whippoor Wills began to call. Then I turn toward the kitchen, remembering the clanking of the pans and the clattering of the dishes as Mama, singing her hymns, prepared our evening meal.

Come sit with me sometime under the shade of one of the big oaks and feel the breezes off Dobson’s Knob or we’ll walk across the pasture to hear the mesmerizing murmur of Paddy’s Creek. We might even talk about old Glen Alpine days!

**Sunny BROWNING Brown**



**The News Herald on January 11, 2010 in  
"50 Years Ago in Burke County**

The Glen Alpine Woman's club, now in its second year, announced plans for devoting the former American legion hut to community use as a civic center. Mrs. W. A. Young is club president.

**Burke County Trivia Answers — From page 4**

- Named in honor of **Thomas Burke**, then a representative in the Continental Congress and later the third governor of North Carolina.
- **514 square miles** in Burke County today.

*Remember our 50th Year Reunion—Mark it down.*

**The 23rd Psalm**

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he guideth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me: thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou hast anointed my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.*

**Class of 1960 GAHS trivia answers: From Page 4**

Coach Ralph "Jug" Wilson came to GA in 1949.  
Who hired Wilson on the spot? **W.A. Young**  
How many football players did He inherit? **14**  
How many students did GA have? **168**



**Eddie Justice from Page 3**— our place in the Glen Alpine area....where we watch the world change.

Time marches along. Here we are 50 years after High School. One wonders how that happened so

quickly, eh?

**Eddie**

Picture above taken at 2003 Class Reunion



**Charles Mathis- From Page 1**— As many of you recall Charles was raised at South Mountain and moved to Crossnore about his junior year. I had forgotten but I was at Crossnore High School in 1958-59, so we were there at the same time. He later moved to Thomasville, N. C. and graduated from Thomasville High School.

He later attended Wingate College outside of Charlotte, N. C. and then was in the Military Service for three years. He sold medical supplies before he was called to the ministry and attended Bible College. After graduation, he was a missionary to Mexico. Then worked at the Post Office for a short-time and now retired, but continues to preach where and when needed. He had the call of ministry upon his life in 1972.

His wife is Ronna and they have three boys and two grandchildren. He was excited when I told him about our 50th Class Reunion in September and he pledged to come. "Lord willing of course."

Happy to have Charles and Ronna on board!

His contact information is in this Newsletter.



**From Page 1**—  
**Becky BIGGERSTAFF Powell**

in all her classes. You may not have known it, but Becky was a little kin to me. Our grandmothers which were sisters by the last name of Dale. I'm not sure where that puts us in the kin arena. Probably second or third cousins once or twice removed or something like that? Our classmate Kenny Anderson was her first cousin.

This picture on right was taken at our 43rd Class Reunion in 2003.

Look at that smile, we will surely miss her.

Read her obituary on the web at [www.deweyfox.com](http://www.deweyfox.com)



*Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.*

**(Psa 46:10 RV)**

1. **Throw out nonessential numbers.** This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctors worry about them. That is why you pay 'them'
2. **Keep only cheerful friends.** The grouches pull you down.
3. **Keep learning.** Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle. 'An idle mind is the devil's workshop.'
4. **Enjoy the simple things.**
5. **Laugh** often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
6. **The tears happen.** Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person, who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. Be ALIVE while you are alive.
7. **Surround yourself with what you love** , whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. **Your home is your refuge.**
8. **Cherish your health:** If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
9. **Don't take guilt trips.** Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county; to a foreign country but NOT to where the guilt is.
10. **Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.**

**AND ALWAYS REMEMBER :**

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, **but** by the moments that take our breath away.

We all need to live life to its fullest each day!!

**Worry about nothing, pray about everything!!!**

First, i was dying to finish my high school and start college  
 And then i was dying to finish college and start working  
 Then i was dying to marry and have children  
 And then i was dying for my children  
 to grow old enough  
 so i could go back to work  
 But then i was dying to retire  
 And now i am dying...  
 And suddenly i realized  
 i forgot to live

Please don't let this happen to you  
 Appreciate your current situation  
 and enjoy each day

....old friend

To make money we lose our health,  
 and then to restore our health we lose our money...  
 We live as if we are never going to die,  
 and we die as if we never lived....

