Graduate Bonus Issue, Spring-Summer 2003

Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food, and Life Sciences (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville)

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History of Carnall (pronounced Car NELL) Hall

Ella Carnall Hall, built as a women's dormitory in 1906, was one of six new buildings on the campus completed that year.

The building is named for Miss Ella Harrison Carnall, associate professor of English and modern languages at the University from 1891-94. She had been a teacher in the University's Preparatory Department from 1881-84. She died in Fort Smith on March 30, 1894. Because of her excellence as a student and her later success as a teacher and role model for young women, the building was named in her memory.

All six buildings finished in 1906 were funded in 1905 by the Arkansas Legislature, which appropriated $90,000 for their construction. Ella Carnall Hall was by far the most costly of the six, with $35,000 appropriated for its construction. Colonial Revival in its design influence and detailing, Carnall Hall also incorporates Victorian architectural design, a typical fusing of styles by the architectural firm C.L. Thompson and O.L. Gales of Little Rock.

Carnall Hall was a priority for the campus. There had been no dormitory for young women while two new ones had been built for young men --- Buchanan Hall and Hill Hall, neither of which remains today. Carnall Hall was designed to be an island unto itself, with its own kitchen, dining room, toilets and bathrooms, and an independent steam heating plant.

The placement of Carnall Hall on the extreme Northeast corner of campus was no accident. It was put the farthest possible distance from the men's dorms. The strict separation of the sexes on college campuses was standard practice until the last third of the 20th century.

Carnall Hall was no longer used for a women's dormitory after 1967, by which time more modern residence halls had been built. In 1969, Phi Gamma Delta fraternity began using Carnall Hall as its fraternity house, remaining until 1977. The anthropology and geography departments also moved in during the early 1970s, and the sociology department joined them in 1979.

Ella Carnall Hall was accepted for listing the National Register of Historic Places in December 1982.

Carnall Hall ceased being used for academic purposes in 1991, when the restoration of Old Main created more space for academic departments. A chain link fence was placed around the unused building. Carnall Hall continued to deteriorate and by the late 1990s had become a candidate for demolition.

Ella Carnall Hall took on new life on October 2, 2001, however, when the University's Board of Trustees approved a plan for a private developer, Carnall Inn Development Co. LLC, to turn the structure into an historic hotel and restaurant at a cost of $6.9 million. James Lambeth was the lead architect for the project, with May Construction Co. as the contractor.

Campus History Committee, 2002

American Association of Family and Consumer Science Preparing for 100th Anniversary Celebration

The national organization that represent home economics professionals has initiated a program to identify those women in its ranks who are veterans of military service or are currently serving in the U. S. Military.

The program, entitled "Project Identify And Recognize," is being undertaken by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS), in preparation for its 100th Anniversary celebration in 2009.

Home economics professionals are being asked to submit information about themselves or family members to the AAFCS, said Janet Gibbs, director of the project.
"We're talking about a large group of professionals whose military accomplishments and contributions have been largely undocumented," said Gibbs. "Our plan is to identify them and then give them the recognition which they rightly deserve."

The U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs has estimated that there are more than 1.8 million women veterans. Currently about 200,000 women serve on active duty and another 225,000 women serve in the reserve components.

Exactiy how many have been trained in home economics is presently unknown. Gibbs said these women could obtain special "personal data forms" by mailing her at 135 Meadowview Road, Athens, GA 30606. Gibbs can also be e-mailed at jangibbs@ix.netcom.com. More information on Project Identify and Recognize is available at www.ihv-us.org, and the Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation Web site www.womensmemorial.org.

Remembering an AGR Brother, Danny Metz

James W. Fisher of 306 Grand Isle Court, Grover MO 63040 wrote about his memories of his friendship with Danny Metz while students at the University of Arkansas and brother in Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. Mr. Metz was a casualty of the Vietnam War, and a scholarship was established in his name in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural Food and Life Sciences.

I met Danny at Arkansas Tech University in September 1964 when we began our college education to earn an associate degree of science in agriculture. We had all of our agriculture classes together under either Melvin Watson, Chairman of the Division, or Dr. Herman Boutwell. Since I competed in football and track and Danny did not, our other required courses were taken at different times. We were actively involved in the Agri Club. We also had a friendship, as we would study together with other agri students before tests of all our classes. Danny was still in Fayetteville working and was considering requesting a deferment to attend graduate school to obtain his M.S. in Agriculture while at the U of A and was inducted in both the scholastic fraternities of Alpha Zeta and Gamma Sigma Delta. In addition, he was awarded a scholarship from the St. Louis Bank for Cooperatives that was annually given to an outstanding agriculture student at the University of Arkansas and brother in Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. Mr. Metz was a casualty of the Vietnam War, and a scholarship was established in his name in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural Food and Life Sciences.

When we entered college at Arkansas Tech, the Vietnam War was just beginning and all male students were required to complete two years of ROTC. Not until we completed our sophomore year in 1967 when we received our associate of science degrees from Arkansas Tech did we begin to feel the impact of the Vietnam War, as several of the graduating seniors would receive their commissions as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army. The draft was not a factor at this time if you were in college pursuing a degree in agriculture and in good standing academically. At the University of Arkansas, ROTC and train to be an officer or be subject to the draft and become an enlisted man. It also meant we would receive $50 per month if we signed up for ROTC. Danny signed up for ROTC during the fall semester, but I did not sign up until the spring semester. This meant that I did not go to ROTC summer camp after my junior year and required me to go one more semester to complete my B.S. degree in agriculture. By the time we completed our under grad study degree in agriculture, it was not a pleasant experience walking around campus with an army uniform on, and we did experience some harassment on the drill field and in the student union. Danny did well in ROTC and went to Fort Still, Okla., for ROTC summer camp. He went to Fort Benning, Ga., for the Infantry Officer Basic Course and then was assigned to a training company at Fort Knox, Ky. Prior to going to Vietnam, he signed up for the Army Jungle School in the Panama Canal Zone. He was proud he completed Jungle School and was designated a "jungle expert."

Danny completed his B.S. degree in agriculture at the U of A in the spring of 1968, and he remained on campus until he entered the Army in the infantry in November 1968. During his senior year at the U of A, he drove a school bus for students at Fayetteville High School and started dating a young lady, whom he married in 1969. Danny was still in Fayetteville working and was considering requesting a deferment to attend graduate school to obtain his M.S. in Agri Economics. He had interned at the Farmers Home Administration office in Russellville, Ark., one summer and would have pursued a job in financing production agriculture. However, his brother, David, was a sergeant serving in the Army in Vietnam near Tay Nein, which was six miles from the Cambodian border and Camp Zama, which was a short leg from Vietnam in the 25th Infantry Division that was in an area of intense fighting. While in Vietnam, David received the Bronze Star with "V" for bravery in July 1969. Danny corresponded with David and knew the danger David faced daily. His brother's frustration came through in their correspondence, which resulted in Danny forgoing graduate school at the U of A and entering the Army as a second lieutenant in the infantry. Following Jungle School in the Panama Canal Zone, he spent 30 days at home with his parents and visiting friends in Fayetteville prior to being assigned to Vietnam in the 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry as a mechanized infantry platoon leader. In two weeks of arriving in Vietnam, he was killed while leading a combat patrol on Thursday, Sept. 11, 1969. He was buried in the National Cemetery at Fayetteville, Ark., near the U of A and the Washington County Livestock Auction.

When Danny arrived in Vietnam at the replacement center near Ben Hai, he spent the day with his brother Bob Johnson. Danny described Brother Johnson as doing great and driving his own personal jeep with "ARKANSAS RAZORBACK" written across the front. Brother Johnson's living quarters were well secured, and he had all the amenities including a TV, refrigerator, etc. In Brother Johnson's capacity, he could have placed Danny almost any place in Vietnam away from major battle zones. However, Danny chose an assignment in Tay Nein, in the Tay Nang Province of South Vietnam where his brother was stationed. He
wanted to see his brother and hoped that one of them could then be transferred back to the states. As a result of Danny's decisions on choosing his Vietnam assignment and being killed in combat, Sgt. David Metz was sent home. Danny's commitment to his brother resulted in the highest honor an individual could achieve! He demonstrated the same commitment to his faith, family, friends, Brothers of AGR and his country. Although he did not realize his dreams, the commitment to his brother was an act of unselfish devotion, which we all can embrace. The time he spent as an AGR at the U of A helped him to mature, gain leadership skills and realize the most from his college education. His friendship was short in time but has given me courage to meet the challenges I faced in my life. I often thought about Danny when ever I had to deal with a tough situation at CoBank when dealing with a problem loan and meeting with a cooperative manager or board of directors. A country song by David Ball tells a story about the dreams Pvt. Malone did not realize as he was killed in Vietnam, but another person comes along to fulfill his dreams. Danny's sacrifice in many ways allowed his brother, David, to realize his dreams as well as allowed me to realize mine.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

We enjoyed your Fall/Winter edition very much, especially about Girls 4-H House.  

As a student (1937-1941), I dated some of the girls, one of whom I have been married to for 62 years Mary "Billy" Melton. We have 6 children, 13 grandchildren and 8 great-grands. Five of our children have 4-year college degrees, two from U of A, and two grandsons have degrees from U of A.

In the class of 41 were Joe and Jack McFerran --- identical twins. When Joe on a visit to see Jack the first time did not know exactly where Jack lived, he stopped at a service station and asked the attendant, "Do you know where Jack McFerran lives?" The attendant said, "Mr. Jack, you knows where you live."

This story was related to me by Jack's soil conservation District Director several years ago when I went to a Texas Crownover Reunion.

I expect Jack has retired by now as I am after 32 1/2 years with Soil Conservation Service, 10 years in South Carolina, transferred back to Arkansas in 1951.

Thanks for the delightful Issue.

- Jules V. Crownover, Clinton, AR. 72031

(Dr. Joe McFerran was on the faculty from 1946 to 1987 as a horticulture professor and vegetable breeder with the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station.)