

Copiah-Lincoln



*One Hundred Years of Quality
Education
1914-2014*

*By Kendall Chapman
And
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Prelude

The public system of community and junior colleges in Mississippi is an outgrowth of the agricultural high schools. The establishment of these high schools in Mississippi actually began with legislation passed in 1908. However, that legislation was struck down by the State Supreme Court and a new act was passed in 1910.¹ This was a time of poor transportation, rural populations, and small local schools that did not have a sufficient number of students to justify a secondary school. The Agricultural High Schools provided facilities that met two goals, a quality education and housing for the students.

Under the provisions of the 1910 act “county school boards may establish agricultural high schools in each county. Any community can bid for a school but must provide a minimum of twenty acres of land for a site; also a school building and dormitory facilities for at least forty boarders before the school can be accepted by the State Superintendent for State support. Two counties may cooperate and locate the school at or near the county line.”²

Each agricultural high school was required to have a school farm which would provide food for the dining hall and work for the male students. The boys were required to do five hours of work each week on the farm, and the girls were required to work in the dining facility or home science department.

With improvements in transportation and the consolidation of schools, agricultural high schools lost their importance. Educational leaders then began promoting the idea that these schools could provide a higher level of education. Legislation was enacted and the junior colleges were born.

The leaders in the junior college movement were Hinds Junior College, under the presidency of Robert Edward Lee Sutherland, and Pearl River Junior College, under the presidency of James Andrew Huff. These men, with the assistance of other educational leaders, persuaded the legislature to enact a law in 1922 authorizing the establishment of the junior colleges. This law was reenacted in 1924, with minor changes, and again in 1928, when marked improvements were made in the statute.³

In addition to Hinds Junior College and Pearl River Junior College, institutions were organized in the Harrison-Stone-Jackson County area, Holmes County, Southwest Mississippi and Northwest by 1927. Copiah-Lincoln would follow in 1928.

¹ Roland, Dunbar. *History of Mississippi, The Heart of the South*. 2. Chicago: S. J. Clarke, 1925. 326-330. Print.

² Roland, p.329.

³ McLemore, Richard Aubrey. *History of Mississippi*. 2. Jackson: University & College Press of Mississippi, 1973. 424-425. Print.

Three histories have been written covering the establishment, development, and growth of the junior and community college system in Mississippi. *History of Mississippi Public Junior Colleges, A State System of Public Junior Colleges, 1928-1953* covered the first quarter century.⁴ In this short publication we find Knox Broom, one of the earliest leaders, who helped write the laws. Russell Ellzey would serve a prominent role in the early development with James M. Ewing ushering in the next twenty-five years.

Dr. Ewing and James B. Young would write the second history, *The Mississippi Public Junior College Story: The First Fifty Years, 1922-1972*.⁵ The final volume, *Mississippi Public and Junior College Story, 1972-2002*,⁶ published in 2007, takes readers through an overview of the recent histories of the fifteen community and junior colleges. It covers a thirty year span of immense growth and a change from two year education to community involvement.

All three histories provide readers with excellent information on Copiah-Lincoln Community College. But, what is the real story of Co-Lin? As we near the one hundredth birthday of the school let's look back. Through the construction of the physical plant of the Wesson campus, we will take a building-by-building look at the history of Copiah-Lincoln which all began under the shade of a magnolia tree.



⁴ Mississippi Junior College Association, . *History of Mississippi Public Junior Colleges, A State System of Public Junior Colleges, 1928-1953*. 1954.

⁵ Young, James B., and James M. Ewing. *The Mississippi Public Junior College Story: The First Fifty Years, 1922-1972*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1978.

⁶ Crews, Edna. *The Mississippi Public Community and Junior College Story, 1972-2002*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2007. p. 26-40.

Under The Shade Of A Magnolia Tree



Copiah-Lincoln's beginnings can be traced to Mr. R. L. Landis. The Legislature had made changes in the 1910 law during the 1912 session. After the changes were made Mr. Landis began promoting such a school to be located in Wesson. Wesson being on the county line (at one time being in Lincoln County, later residing in Copiah), Mr. Landis decided to promote a school serving both Copiah and Lincoln counties. A booster club was formed whose main purpose was to increase public awareness of the importance and value of a school. The Wesson Booster Club membership included Mr. Landis, Mr. Russell Ellzey, Mr. Paul Burt, Dr. W. L. Little, Mr. R. E. Rea, Mr. V. D. Youngblood, and Mr. I. J. Williams.⁷

It is said that Copiah-Lincoln began at a picnic held under a Magnolia Tree on the lawn of Mr. Ike Williams. The Booster Club planned the picnic and the Woman's Club provided the food. Mrs. F. B. Hodges, one of the members of the Wesson Woman's Club, in an interview in 1968 with Mrs. Frances Frazier, former librarian for the college, stated that Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School was "born that day under the magnolia tree."⁸

The above information was found in an essay written by former Copiah-Lincoln Librarian, Frances Frazier in 1968. Reverend Graham Hodges, in his book, *Old Wesson*, has another slightly different version of the picnic. The narrative was written by his mother, Frances B. Hodges.

⁷ Frazier, Frances. *Copiah-Lincoln Junior College: Development, Scope, and Perspectives, a paper presented to the Faculty of the Department of Library Science, University of Mississippi*. 1968.

⁸ Frazier, p. 10.

*Big Oaks from Little Acorns Grow*⁹
By Mrs. F. B. (Frances) Hodges

Somebody dreamed a dream then set about making it come true – between 1900 and 1910. The greatest cotton and woolen mill in the South was closed; being located in Wesson, Mississippi. Some five thousand workers and towns' people looked upon it as a disaster – like a cyclone having struck a new big town. There were no houses lost in Wesson – but street after street there were vacant houses where the tenants had folded their things and sadly went away – hoping – but in vain to soon return. The mill bell that had rung every morning to summon the workers was silent.

It was a stunning blow to all, but the few that were left did not sit and wring their hands. They had their churches and school left but the school they would not have long – rated high as an accredited school; they would lose that rating for the lack of pupils and teachers. There was a rumor that an Agricultural High School would be established either in Copiah or Lincoln County. The young men organized a Booster Club and the women and Woman's Club. These two groups got busy investigating a location where a school would be located. They contacted every person who in any way as an official or citizen might have influence in helping their cause. The leader of this group was Mr. Paul Burt, and as a traveling salesman – in addition to his good – he tried to sell the idea of locating this school in Wesson. Everyone worked hard with the ladies going in buggies and most of the time it was a day's trip. Others who worked unceasingly were Mr. R. E. Rea, Dr. W. L. Little, and Mr. Virgil Youngblood, also, Mr. R. J. Landis. There was much opposition in Wesson. Too small a town and numerous other excuses at times made the cause look hopeless. The people continued to work diligently. Opposition was mostly from the supervisors who claimed they would have to raise taxes.

These two groups decided to have a dinner on the grounds and invite everyone who was needed to come to as well as their friends. This delicious dinner was held in the front yard at the home of Mrs. F. B. Hodges who was president of the Woman's Club. This home is now owned by Miss Evelyn Williams. To the happy surprise of the hostess everyone came in their Sunday best. Copiah and Lincoln County Superintendents of Education, Board of Education, Board of Supervisors, school superintendent and teachers. They were all there and did they EAT!!!! After dinner they assembled under the magnolia tree – some discussing – after which it was the unanimous decision that the new Agriculture High School would be located in Wesson with the town of Wesson putting up \$8,000. This was big money in those days during depressed times.

(Note: In April 2010, the home is now known as the Oliver House – see picture next page – The Hodges family rented the house before it was purchased by I. J. Williams in 1915.¹⁰)

⁹ Hodges, Graham, "Old Wesson" 1864-1948, Memories of thirty people about Wesson, Mississippi and nearby communities.

¹⁰ "Images of Wesson," Copiah Courier, June 14, 1989, p.7.



Oliver, Hodges, Williams home, now known as the Oliver House Framed by the Magnolia Tree

Reverend Graham Hodges wrote an essay, “Some Scattered Memories of Co-Lin in the Early 1930’s,” in 1996 for the 70th birthday celebration of Copiah-Lincoln which he also included in his book. Mr. Hodges, a 1933 graduate of Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School and 1935 graduate of the college, grew up in Wesson. **Hodges Lane** is named for the family.

Why was the Hodges residence, now known as the Ike Williams house, chosen by the Wesson Booster Club and its auxiliary to host the movers and shakers of Copiah and Lincoln counties, meeting to decide on the location of the proposed Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School?

The house was central in location in town as Wesson was central in the two county area, right on the Illinois Central railroad, by which most people going anywhere at all travelled, connecting all the two counties’ main towns and just two blocks away from the depot.

The huge level front yard contained large shade trees and the front porch was enormous in case of rain. Plenty of parking for those who came by buggy as well as the one or two affluent enough to have an automobile.

Why were these Boosters and why were they so intent on bringing the high school to Wesson? First, they were all young, in their twenties and thirties. My parents, Fred Barry Hodges, Sr. was only 31 and his wife Frances (Fannie) was 25. Recent newcomers from Jackson, they chose Wesson because the closing of the mighty Mississippi Mills that had employed over 1000 for 48 years (including children) had left scores of empty houses at dirt cheap prices. Also, it was near the center of Barry's territory as salesman for the Vories Baking Company, New Orleans, instead of its edge, as Jackson was.

Other Boosters and their Boosterettes were similarly young, all good friends, and included Dr. and Mrs. Little, the Virgil Youngbloods, the Robert Hamiltons, the Rob Reas, the Landis (he was to be Co-Lin's first principal), the Weathersbys, the Burts, and others. All with large families or the beginnings of them.

Besides wanting a partial economic replacement for the mills they had very personal reasons for wanting the school. The mills' closing meant that the Wesson High School that had ranked with Jackson and Meridian schools sent its sons to Harvard, Yale and Princeton, would now lose its accreditation. And with that the right of their children to attend college, which all of them hoped for.

They were smart and had the enthusiasm of youth. Older leaders had already left town or had no children to educate. It was up to this bright young group to capture the school if anybody did. All were loyal members of one of the three churches, Baptist, Methodist, or Presbyterian.

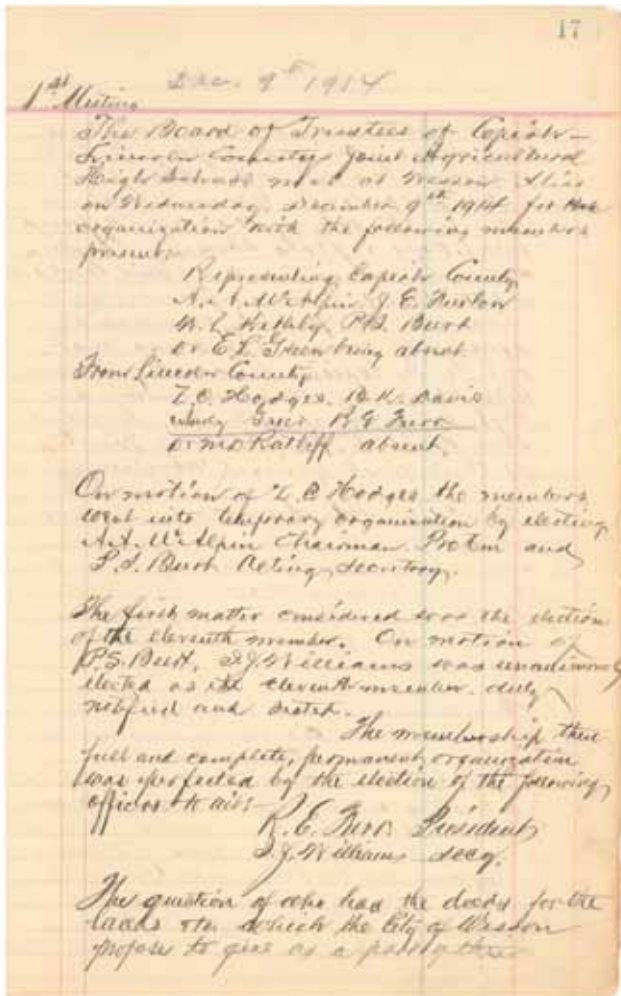
Previous to the fateful meeting under the magnolias in 1913 (I think) the lovely young Boosterettes, like seasoned politicians, had personally canvassed the key educational and political figures of both counties, all male, of course. How could these men resist these charming creatures all dolled up in wide brimmed feather trimmed hats, with hat pins sticking through rolled up long hair, high laced, pointed shoes, ankle length skirts, and hour glass figures firmly confirmed?

To reach officials out in the country from the towns the young women rented horse and buggy from livery stables.

When the vote was taken after a sumptuous meal in the front yard the decision had really already been made. The vote was perfunctory but decisive just the same. The school was to be built in Wesson. And it was to train farmers and housewives for the two counties according to the funding regulations of state and federal aid.¹¹

¹¹ Old Wesson. Essay for the 70th Anniversary, 1996.

From the stories provided by Graham Hodges and Frances Frazier we have a good view of the picnic that was held on the lawn that day. The stories have slightly different accounts but the outcome was the same...the picnic was the beginning of Co-Lin. In the fire-proof file cabinets located in the Oswalt Library are three record books that contain valuable information on the early years of Copiah-Lincoln.



Two books contain the hand-written minutes of the Trustees of Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School beginning with the first meeting of the trustees on December 9, 1914. The third book contains the ledger of the Co-Lin farm in the early 1920's. Although they show tremendous wear, these books are being preserved from further neglect. The *Copiah-Lincoln Junior College and Agricultural High School Catalogues* and the college annuals have also served as a valuable source of information providing both pictures and a narrative of the buildings. The earliest pictures of the college were found in the *1916-17 Catalogue*.

Like so many records, these books did not end up in the dump. Much of what we know about the early years has been found in these books. From the minutes, the farm record, the catalogues, the annuals, and some really good stories, a history of college has been written.

Left is a view of the first page of the minutes.

The minutes of the first meeting of the Board of Trustees follow – as written:

1st Meeting December 9, 1914

The Board of Trustees of Covich-Lincoln County's Joint Agricultural High School met at Wesson, Miss on Wednesday, December 9, 1914 for organization with the following members present

Representing Covich County

A. A. McAlpin

J. E. Furlow

W. L. Kethly

P. S. Burt

Dr. E. L. Green being absent

From Lincoln County

Z. C. Hodges

B. K. Davis

Andy Greer

R. E. Furr

Mr. M. D. Ratcliff, absent

On motion of Z. C. Hodges the members went into temporary organization by electing A. A. McAlpin Chairman Protem and P. S. Burt Acting Secretary.

The first matter considered was the election of the eleventh member. On motion of P. S. Burt, I. J. Williams was unanimously elected as the eleventh member duly notified and seated.

The membership then full and complete, permanent organization was perfected by the election of the following officers, to wit:

R. E. Furr, President

I. J. Williams, Secretary

The question of who had the deeds for the land etc. which the City of Wesson propose to give pass after the Eight Thousand Dollar donation was discussed and Capt. J. G. Lyell who has looked after this part of the proceedings securing options etc. for the City of Wesson, appeared with maps and plots showing location and exact measurements of said lands and the Board having previously inspected the property unanimously agreed to accept the Deeds, made out to the Covich-Lincoln Agricultural High School, and their successors, and Capt. Lyell was instructed to deliver said deeds to the Board of Trustees at their next general meeting.

Prof Smith State Superintendent of Education was present at the meeting and a general discussion of all matters as to what procedures the Trustees should take was held and Mr. Smith gave them many suggestions as to what their duties were and what must be done.

By a unanimous vote the trustees agreed that the cash money put up by the City of Wesson towards building dormitories and school building if represented by a building committee from the Wesson City Council who would act with a like committee of the Board of Trustees be supplemented with the monies (1/4 mill levy) from each of the counties and all expended together in erecting and equipping building and other necessary equipment decided upon by the Trustees.

The following Building and Central Committee was then appointed: R. E. Furr, P. S. Burt, I. J., Williams, Z. C. Hodges, and A. A. McAlpin. This committee was instructed to act with a like committee from the City of Wesson in getting plans and specifications for buildings etc. and have same ready to submit at the next general meeting of the Trustees.

The secretary was instructed to buy a minute book and that he be allowed stamps and stationary for all necessary correspondence.

No further business. The meeting adjourned subject to the call of the President.

Approved January 12, 1915
R. E. Furr, President
I. J. Williams, Secretary



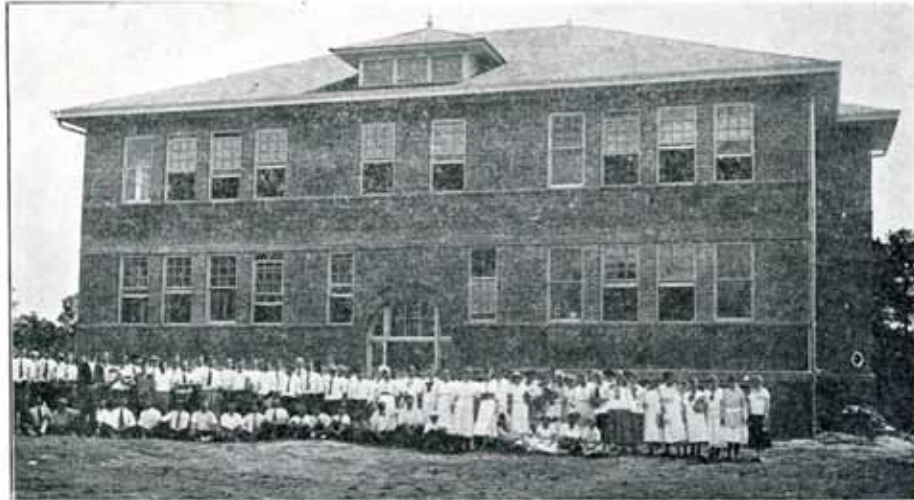
Buildings were built and a faculty was elected. Mr. R. L. Landis was elected to serve as the first principal.

Copiah-Lincoln opened its doors to the first students on September 6, 1915, with a chapel program under the old oak grove.

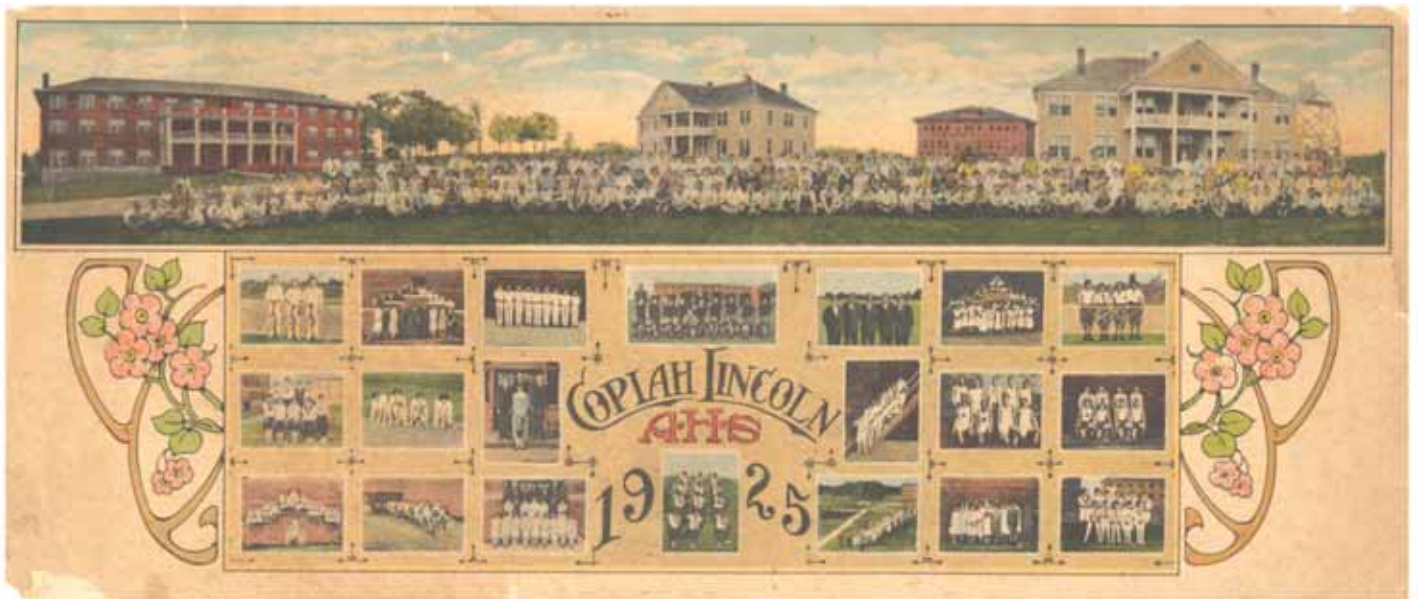
Reverend J. M. Williams of the Wesson Presbyterian Church conducted the devotional, choosing as his text from Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning, God created..."¹²

¹² Frazier, p.13.

"In The Beginning..." The Administration / Classroom Buildings



From 1917-18 *Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School Catalogue*¹³
Earliest known picture of the campus



Girls' Dormitory, East Dorm, Administration Building, West Dorm (Mutton)
Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School students in front of the buildings from 1925. Picture from an envelope. The bottom of this picture is framed and hangs in the Ewing Administration Building.

¹³ *Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School Catalogue, Wesson, Mississippi, 1917-1918, V.3, Brookhaven: Lincoln County Times, 1917.*

The 1922-1923 *Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School Catalogue* provides the first description of the buildings and equipment on campus.

“It is a source of pride today to announce the completion of a modern administration building with well equipped class rooms; an attractive auditorium with excellent stage, inclined floor, balcony, a seating capacity of one thousand; two boys’ dormitories remodeled and equipped with shower baths; a beautiful brick dormitory for girls, steam heated, hot and cold water in each room, and a large dining hall.”¹⁴

After the initial organizational issues were settled at the first trustee meeting, the members discussed the land deeds as well as how the cash money put up by the City of Wesson would be used “towards building dormitories and school buildings.” A Building Committee, appointed by the Trustees, was to act with a like committee from the City of Wesson. The joint committee held its first meeting on Friday, January 8, 1915, in the City Hall of Wesson. The committee consisted of R. E. Furr, P. S. Burt, I. J. Williams, Z. C. Hodges, A. A. McAlpin, J. D. Day, and J. E. Patterson. The meeting’s purpose was to review the plans and specifications submitted by Mr. Eugene McCormick of Brookhaven for the construction of two dormitories. The Trustees met on January 12th reviewed the plans submitted by the joint building committee, approved the plans, and hired Mr. McCormick to supervise the construction of two buildings. The Trustees then accepted the deeds to the land paid for by the City of Wesson and of the proceeds of the city’s \$8,000 bond issue. The minutes reflected the official acceptance of the property “to wit: R. E. Furr, A. A. McAlpin, Z. C. Hodges, Andy Greer, B. K. Davis, J. E. Furlow, W. L. Kethly, P. S. Burt, Dr. M. D. Ratcliff, Dr. E. L. Greer., I. J. Williams and their successors in office.”¹⁵

The third meeting of the Trustees was held on February 9, 1915, in the Wesson City Hall. Bids were received and the committees took the bids under consideration. After reviewing the bids the Trustees decided that the funds available for the two dormitories were insufficient to award contracts and upon a “motion of Dr. M. D. Ratcliff unanimously carried all bids were rejected and the secretary ordered to re-advertise for bids.”

New bids were opened and considered at the meeting on March 2, 1915. On the motion of P. S. Burt, the Board went into executive session to discuss the new bids which resulted in the awarding of the contract for the erection of the two dormitories to W. P. Thompson and H. B. Nelson of Meadville for the sum of \$6806. Some minor modifications were made to the original proposal to bring the construction costs in line.

The Central Committee met on July 20, 1915, to discuss “various items needed for the dormitories and school rooms.” “Several Travelling Salesman being present with cuts, samples, descriptions and prices on the various items needed for the Dormitories and school rooms, the Board after due consideration gave orders as follows.

¹⁴ *Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School Catalogue, Announcement 1922-1923*. 8th. Brookhaven: Lincoln County Times, 1922.

¹⁵ Minute Book, February 9, 1915.

To wit:"

"Jackson Mattress Company was awarded 46 cotton mattresses 30 lbs. each 3 by 6 @ 2.75. Freight allowed to Wesson. Shipment August 25th. Terms payable January 25, 1916 or before with 8% interest 60 days from date of shipment.

New Orleans Furniture Company to ship August 20th – Terms will carry until February 1916 at 8% interest after December 1st. 23 Double deck Iron Beds @ 8.00, 4 -2" Post 3 / 6 Iron Beds @ 3.50, 4 Springs @ 2.00, 14 doze Tell City Chairs @ 5.75, 1 Desk @ 14.50, 25 Washstands @ 5.00, 25 3 ft. Tables @ 1.00, 1 Table @ 3.00."

"Owing to the lateness of the hour the Committee adjourned to consider further furniture and proposals on Saturday July 24, 1915."

The original minute book details the purchases of all the equipment for the new buildings as well as the purchase of the farm animals and other items needed to "run the school." During the October 5, 1915, Board of Trustees meeting – "The matter of buying further needed equipment for the school – farm animals, implements, heating stores etc. was considered and discussed at length and the Board agreed unanimously that the items as listed must be purchased even the Trustees borrow the money for pay for mules cows etc. that can't be bought in deferred payments." It was also mentioned that "there was no funds available to pay the Teachers and upon direct communication over phone with Supt McAlpin it was suggested that the Board borrow sufficient funds to pay for certain items including mules and cows and to pay for the first month teachers' salaries and the following order was passed by a unanimous vote of all present..."

"Whereas in the opinion of this Board, it is necessary for the successful operation of the Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School to procure sufficient farm animals, implements and other things for the use of said,

And Whereas there will be no funds available with which to purchase said animals and other necessary equipment until the County Taxes which have been levied are collected,

It is therefore ordered that the President R. E. Furr and the secretary I. J. Williams of this Board be and are hereby authorized and requested to borrow from the Bank of Wesson the sum of Two Thousand dollars for the purposes of above mentioned and that they are authorized to execute the note of the Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School for said amount at 6% interest." (p39-40)

On February 9, 1916, (p 45) the board considered funds through another source. "The matter of making a loan as authorized by the Legislature now in session to build another building and make other improvements on the school property a motion made by Andy Greer and seconded by Dr. M. D. Ratcliff, the Central Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School were authorized to negotiate a loan not to exceed Fifteen Thousand dollars for a period of six years, at a rate of interest, not to exceed 6% per annum and to execute a mortgage on the property of said school to secure the payment of same for the purpose of erecting an administration building and to improve the property in general and request the Boards of Supervisors of Lincoln and Copiah Counties to permit said loan in accordance with Act 170 of the Legislature of 1916 and that the said Board of Supervisors agree to set aside from each County over Thousand dollars per year for six years out of the levy already made for said school for the purpose of liquidating the said indebtedness." Thus, we have the beginning of the original administration building.

The **Administration Building** stood until 1967 on the site where **Smith Hall** now resides. In March 1922, a tornado severely damaged the dormitories and administration building. At a special meeting of the Trustees on March 31, 1922, a motion was carried that Eugene McCormick be employed as architect to prepare plans for reconstruction of the administration building. The repaired building was enlarged to include an auditorium. In 1928 a third section was added which today is called **The Annex**.

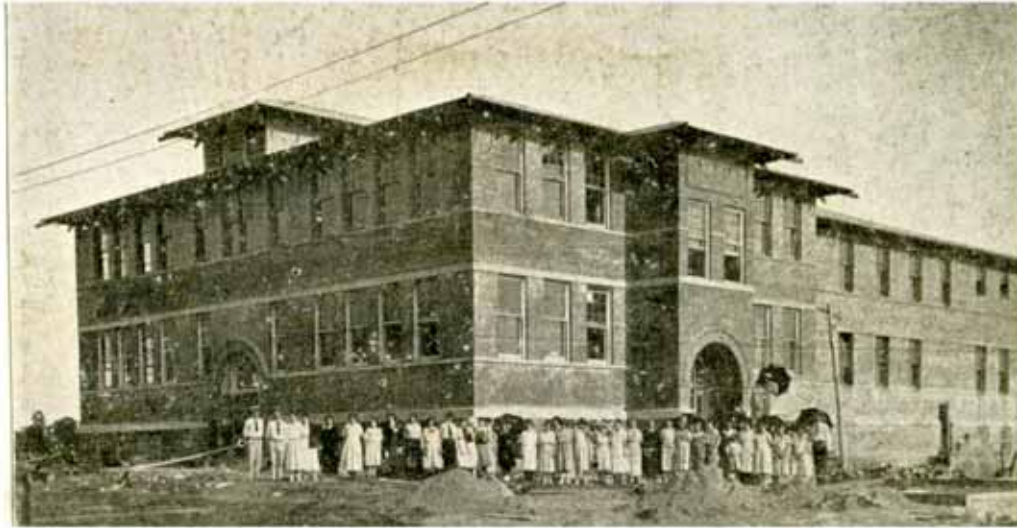


Photo taken from the 1922-23 *Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School Catalogue*¹⁶

Below: School officials survey damage left by the Tornado of March, 1922.



¹⁶ *Catalogue 1922.*



OLD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

The Domestic Art and Commercial Department Classrooms from the 1928 annual. Note the three-panel mirror in the far corner of the Domestic Art Classroom. The mirror, a typing desk, and the original library card catalog have been saved and can be found in the Oswalt Library (below).



During the 1937-1938 session two new buildings were added to the plant of Copiah-Lincoln.

These buildings were constructed through the efforts of the Board of Trustees and the Boards of Supervisors in cooperation with the United States Government through the Public Works Administration. One building was the **Faculty House** and the other was the **Chapel Building**...The buildings are well kept and carefully preserved against abusive use. The grounds are being continually beautified and present a most attractive appearance, with additional landscaping being done each year, largely through the Works Progress Administration.¹⁷

It appears that Copiah-Lincoln benefited from the Roosevelt Administration and the Works Progress Administration.

The **Chapel Building** was designed by Hull and Drummond and built by I. C. Garber for \$98,700. In 1981, under Watkins and Ford as architects and Wise Construction Company, the building was renovated at a cost of \$277,333. A new office for the President was added on the east side of the building and a new records vault and restrooms were added on the west side. In May 1992, a major renovation of the auditorium was completed at a cost of \$510,920.

Upon the completion of the **Chapel Building** in 1938 the original **Administration Building** became the **Academic Building**. The **Academic Building** contained "some twenty classrooms and offices in addition to the library, science laboratories, and Little Theatre Auditorium." The **Chapel Building** housed "the administrative offices, faculty room, four classrooms and the spacious auditorium." In 1969 the **Chapel Building** was named in honor of Dr. James M. Ewing, President of Copiah-Lincoln at the time the building was built. The auditorium which is a major part of the building was named in memory of R. E. Rea, one of the early supporters of the school who served on the Board of Trustees from 1922 until his death in 1962. On February 21, 1996, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History designated the **Ewing Administration Building** as a *Mississippi Landmark Building*.



¹⁷ *Catalogue for 1938, Copiah-Lincoln Junior College and Agricultural High School* . McComb: Daily Enterprise, 1938. P. 15.

James M. Ewing Administration Building



December Snow, 2008



From a postcard



1990's Winter's Day



March 2, 1945

The old **Administration Building** would go through several changes before being demolished in 1967 to make room for the new **Classroom Building**. The addition, built in 1928 to the back of the building, remains today. The “**Annex**,” (below) served as the classroom and administrative offices for Wesson High School in their later years on campus. Today it houses academic classrooms for the college. In 1969, the **Academic Building** was named in memory of Mr. Willie Smith, acting President from 1943-1945.

The new **Academic Building – Smith Hall** – was “completed in the fall of 1969 and is one of the most modern facilities in the state. Included in this building are the science departments, classrooms, teacher’s offices, lecture rooms, reading laboratory, audio-visual room, and student lounges.”¹⁸



The Annex, after the front portion had been torn down.

Below, The Annex in 1942.

Bottom Left, Smith Hall shortly after completion in 1969.

Bottom Right, Smith Hall in 2001. Some of the blocks were removed during the 1996 renovation.



¹⁸ 1969 *College Catalogue*.

Smith Hall has undergone several renovations since it was completed in 1969. One renovation took place in 1996 under the direction of Watkins and Cox as architects and Paul Jackson and Sons as contractors. The most recent renovation was in 2007 under Carl Nobles as architect and Thrash Commercial Construction Inc. as contractor. Below are pictures taken in 2007 and 2010 of Smith Hall?



Above and below during the 2007 renovation. Bottom right, Smith Hall showing the Annex in 2010.



The Dormitories Honor to Miss Lula Stevens

On March 2, 1915, a contract was given to Thompson and Nelson of Meadville to erect two buildings which would serve multiple purposes but were considered the dormitories. The construction began immediately. In the very beginning the girls lived downstairs and the boys lived upstairs in the building that came to be known as the **Arts Building**. That building still stands as the **Mutton Building**.¹⁹

When the school opened, the high school department of the Wesson Public School transferred to the new campus. Of the 125 pupils enrolled, forty boarded. Board ranged from \$4.60 to \$5.75 per month. To keep those rates low it was necessary for the boys to work on the farm one day each month and the girls to serve for a six week term in the dining hall.²⁰

Housing immediately became a concern of the school. From the minutes of the meeting of the Central Committee on July 7, 1916, "as advertised for bids for the completion of the Boys Dormitory and Electrical wiring of the three buildings. Completion of dormitory according to plans specifications to Thompson and Nelson for \$1100. Electric wiring for the two dormitories and Administration building complete to Fatheree Brothers of Jackson for \$340."²¹ To this day housing is a main concern on the Wesson campus. New dorms are under consideration in 2010.

The enrollment of 1918 produced an unanticipated situation with both dormitories filled to overflowing, and thirty students on a waiting list. This increased attendance called for another building to be used as a dormitory. Superintendent Thames learned that the Hotel Home in Wesson could be rented for \$20 a month and would accommodate at least thirty boys. The Trustees voted to give Mr. Thames authority to rent the Hotel Home for the remainder of the year. These crowded conditions prompted the Boards of Supervisors to levy a one-half mil additional tax and make available \$2500 from each county to finance the new demands.²²

The need for new boarding facilities was met by the building of a three-story brick dormitory to house the girls. Using day labor and buying materials carefully kept the cost down. Since the building was so near completion, opening of school was postponed until October 5th in 1920.

Two disasters struck in 1922. First the tornado ravaged the campus in March 1922 damaging the Administration Building and completely removing the roof of the West Dormitory and damaging the roof on the East Dormitory. Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the girls' dormitory with all furnishings and the personal belongings of more than one hundred girls

¹⁹ Frazier.

²⁰ Frazier.

²¹ Minute Book I. p. 59.

²² Frazier, p. 15.

and teachers on September 29, 1922, at two o'clock in the morning.²³ Because of the courageous action and wise judgment of Mr. Russell Ellzey and Miss Lula Stevens, there was no loss of life and little bodily injury.

By noon on the day of the fire the Board of Supervisors and Board of Trustees met to make arrangements for continuing school. Tents were used for a temporary dining room and kitchen, and for housing some of the boys. The girls occupied the boys' dormitories and lived with families in town. The dormitory would be rebuilt using the plans of the original structure. (Minutes of the Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School Board of Trustees Meeting; J. M. Ewing, "A Brief History of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College," 1954)²⁴



Picture from the 1922-1923 High School Catalogue of the Girls' Dormitory.

Just after the fire – pictures given by Mrs. Ruth Stevens of Summit in 2008. Her mother-in-law, Mamie Davis Middleton, was a student at the time of the fire.



²³ Minutes, Board of Trustees, September 29, 1922.

²⁴ Minute Book I. 59.



Upper left: Early picture of the rebuilt girl's dorm.
 Upper right: 1960's view of the dorm.
 Center left: Interior view of the dorm from the early years.
 Center right: Lobby view from postcard 1960's.
 Stevens Hall today.

At Homecoming in 1969 the Girls' Dormitory was named in memory of Miss Lula Stevens. Three buildings have been named for Miss Stevens. The original Stevens Hall built in 1922, which was demolished, and the new Stevens Hall, built in 1971, and Stevens Annex built in 1988. The new dorm (1971), built with a \$595,000 loan from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, was occupied by the students in September of that year. Mid-State Construction of Jackson built the facility for \$711,000.

Miss Lula Bell Stevens served for forty years as Dean of Women. Three weeks after she came to Copiah-Lincoln in 1922 she saw the original girl's dormitory burn to the ground.²⁵ Miss Stevens can be found on the Roster of Teachers attending the Second Annual Alumni Banquet for the Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School on May 24, 1923. She signed in giving her hometown as Oakland, Mississippi. The ledger which contains the names of those attending the earlier functions can be found in the archives file in the Oswalt Library.

From the Faculty Roster in the *Copiah-Lincoln Junior College and Agricultural High School Catalogue for 1929-1930*, Miss Stevens is listed as the Dean of Women and English instructor. She had a B. A. degree from Blue Mountain College; Summer Work at Peabody and the University of Chicago. By 1934 she had additional studies at Columbia and had received her M. A. degree. Like many early employees, Miss Stevens had several positions with the College. She is listed in the 1929 annual as the Registrar – Dean. Based on information in the 1961 and 1962 *Trilliums*, Miss Stevens retired at the end of the 1961 term.

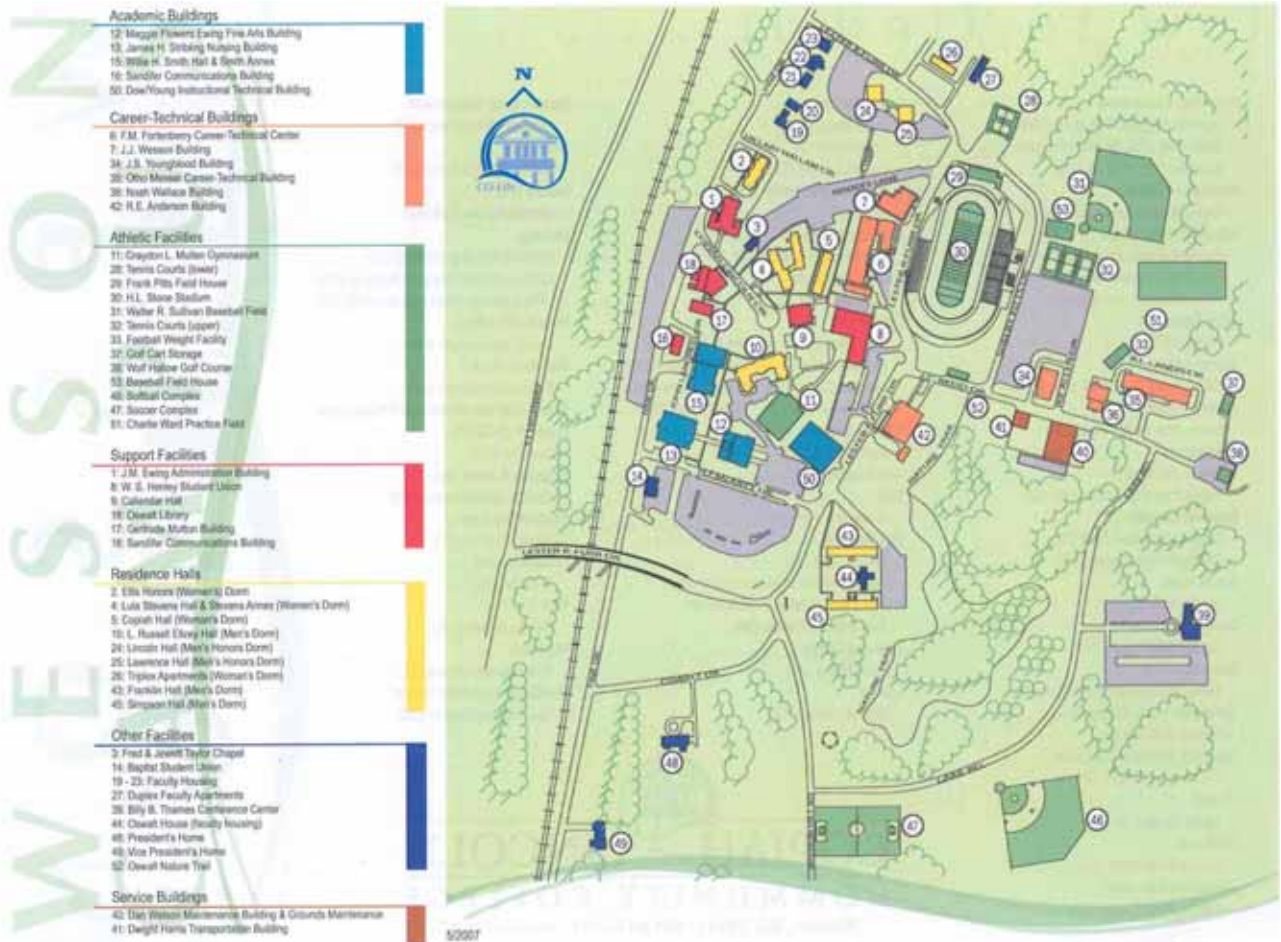
Miss Stevens died on February 27, 1965, in Jackson. Correspondence concerning her death can be found in the archive papers of Dr. James M. Ewing. These papers are located in the college files as well as in the official records of Dr. Ewing at Delta State University. No obituary was found in the *Brookhaven Leader-Ledger* for the first week of March, 1965. Her memorial is in the 1966 annual on page 171.



²⁵ "Lula Stevens Hall," *Wolf Tales*, September 2, 1968, p.2.

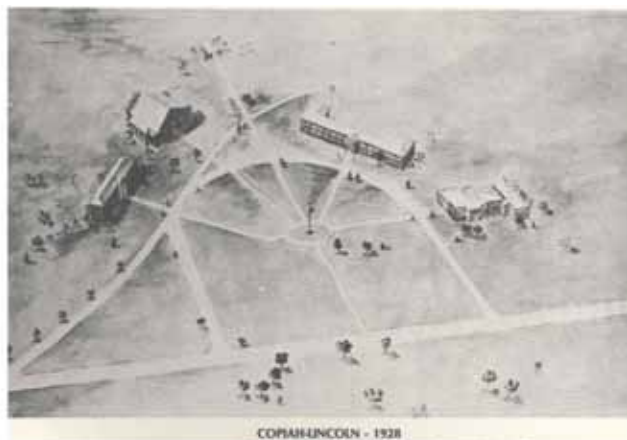
Physical Plant The Growth of the College

From Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School to
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
1914 - Today



The Trustees accepted the land deeded to the Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School and its successors on December 9, 1914. By law “a minimum of twenty acres of land must be provided for the accreditation of the school.” In addition the physical facilities were to include a school building and dormitories. As part of the agricultural program a portion of the land was to be used as a farm. Over the course of the next few months the Trustees would secure funds to build the buildings and put the land to good use. Sixty-two additional acres were purchased from J. Marion Smith and his wife, Lucretia for \$1800 in January, 1915.

By 2010 the college would own 542 acres with a physical plant valued at over \$48.5 million. (Chart of Accounts, March 25, 2010, Business Office) From the humble beginnings of three buildings would rise a complex of over fifty structures and facilities. The 2010 physical plant includes five academic buildings, a library, six career-technical buildings, seven support facilities, nine student residence halls, a chapel, nature trail, faculty housing, eighteen-hole golf course, and athletic facilities for football, baseball, basketball, tennis, softball, and soccer.



An architect's drawing of the 1928 aerial view of campus appearing in the 1929 and 1953 annuals.

From left: Girl's Dorm, Gym, President's Home, Boy's Dorm, Administration Building

This drawing does not show the Arts Building (Mutton Building) which was one of the original buildings.



An architect's drawing of the aerial view of campus appearing in the 1953 annual celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the college.

From left: Administration Building, Faculty House, Activities Building, Dormitory, Gym, (behind are the vocational buildings), Football field, President's Home, Boy's Dormitories, Academic Building, Science Building, Arts Building, Library

The **Mutton Building** served first as a dormitory then as the **Arts Building**. As the **Arts Building**, the first floor housed the cooking laboratory, clothing laboratory, and Practice House of the home economics department. The second floor housed the band, piano, and voice studios with practice rooms including ten practice pianos. The building would continue to house the home economics department until the high school moved to Wesson Attendance Center in 1979. After the completion of the **Ewing Fine Arts Building** in 1973 the second floor became the offices for the student services department. Student Services would occupy the space until the department moved to the **Henley Student Union Building** in 1980. The first floor was renovated in 1988 to serve as a learning resources companion to the library. The Learning Center moved to the **Dow-Young Building** in 2005. The building continues to serve the college as office space for the Foundation and the ABE/GED programs.



The **Mutton Building**, the only surviving original structure, left photographed when it was serving as a dormitory. By 1929 new dormitories had been built and the building was renovated to become the **Arts Building**. The interior staircase was turned 180 degrees and an east entrance was attached to the building. The building was brick veneered. Above picture from 1990s. Above left – April 2010.

On June 1, 1928, an election providing for a \$150,000 bond issue, resulted in the college securing funds to build a new, modern boys' dormitory, dining hall-gymnasium, and an annex to the **Administration Building** which provided classrooms, laboratories, and library space. These are now known as **Ellzey Hall**, **Callender Hall**, and **Smith Hall Annex**.

Although the **Mutton Building** remains the oldest structure on campus, **Ellzey Hall**, **Callender Hall**, and **Smith Annex** date back to 1928. All four buildings have undergone many renovations in their history. **Callender Hall** served as the college gymnasium until the **Mullen Gym** was built in 1957 and the dining facilities until the **Henley Building** was completed in 1980. The "old" gym continues to serve as a practice court and for physical education activities. The ground floor serves as the student grill and activity center. **Smith Annex** contains classrooms and office space for the Humanities Division and the Business Division of the college.



Smith Hall Annex and Callender Hall from 1929 annual. Color photo taken in 2010 of the **Annex**.

Steel frame placed on outside of the Annex in 1996 to shore up the exterior walls.



In January 1969, “the Board of Trustees awarded a contract to C. E. Jackson Construction Company of McComb for \$502,228 for the complete renovation of the freshman boy’s dormitory. The dorm will be completely rebuilt with the exception of the outside walls.”²⁶ Changes in **Elzey Hall** are noted in pictures from the Co-Lin annuals. The pitched roof was removed and a flat roof placed on the building. Additional renovations have been numerous. One earlier renovation took place in 1954. Architect proposals in the 1990’s were to build a new men’s’ dormitory and renovate the building for classrooms. Those plans were placed on hold.

A home for the President and the Girl Reserves “Y” Hut were constructed between 1928 and 1931. The exact construction dates are unknown. The home would serve the Presidents until 1976 when, a new home was constructed for Dr. Billy Thames. The old home would be auctioned and moved. In the process of moving the structure, it fell apart. The home had been built with support beams running in several directions and the moving caused the various sections of the house to dislodge. Parts of the house were salvaged and the remaining structure now resides on property several miles south of the college on old highway 51 near the Clear Branch crossing.

²⁶ “Contract Awarded to Re-Build Dorm,” *Wolf Tales*, January 23, 1969, p. 8.



The house was built by 1930 and served the Presidents until 1976.
The **Henley Building** was built on the property in 1979-80.



**Y-Hut on site where the
Taylor Chapel now resides**



Ellis Hall in 2001

Due to the Depression, building construction was halted until funds became available through Roosevelt's recovery act. The first building constructed under the WPA funds was the **Faculty House** built in 1937. The building, located behind the **Ewing Administration Building**, provided housing for faculty members. Employees moved out of the dormitories making more rooms available for students. Mrs. Josie Ellis served as hostess of the **Faculty House** for a number of years. Later, Helen Mullen served in a similar position. The Faculty House was in memory of Mrs. Josie G. Ellis in 1969. In 1976 the structure would be renovated into apartments serving married faculty and students. In the 1990's it would become the girls' honor dorm.²⁷

²⁷ *The Colinian*, V. 3, No. 1, Fall 1975, p. 3.

The **Field House**, constructed during 1939 by the National Youth Administration, answered a long felt need for dressing room and storage facilities for Copenh-Lincoln Athletics. In 1972, Mr. Lloyd Frank Pitts of Dallas, Texas donated \$30,000 for the construction of a new field house which was ready for occupancy in July, 1973. At Homecoming activities in October, 1973, dedication ceremonies officially opened the **Frank Pitts Field House**.



The Field House from 1967.



The New Frank Pitts Field House in 2009.

By 1942 two shop buildings were constructed on campus. This was the beginning of the vocational programs. The **General Shop Building** and **Farm Shop Building** gave students an opportunity to learn the use of hand tools and some machine tools. The **Auto Mechanics Building** was under construction in 1944 with occupancy by September 4th. The building was designed to teach all phases of engine mechanics.



WOOD-WORKING



AUTO MECHANICS



Through the cooperation of the 1946 Session of the Mississippi Legislature and the Federal Public Housing Authority, buildings were constructed to house married veterans. One and two-bed room apartments with dining-kitchenettes and private baths were provided. The **Apartment Building (F.P.H.A. Units)** consisted of four apartment houses which accommodated a total of thirty-two veterans' families. The **Apartment Building** would later be named **Copiah Hall** and house sophomore girls. 1948 saw the construction of the **Veterans Dormitory** funded by the Mississippi Legislature and the State Building Commission. By 1953 the **Veterans Dormitory** would become the sophomore dorm for men and finally the athletic dorm. When named it would be **Lincoln Hall**. It would be the first of two dorms to carry that name. Old **Lincoln Hall** would be demolished in 2004 to make room for the **Dow-Young Technology Building**. A new **Lincoln Hall** and **Lawrence Hall** would be built in 2004 as the men's honors dorm.²⁸

After World War II emphasis was placed on veterans and the need for vocational education. Housing had been provided through various state and federal funding programs. In 1947 the college constructed the new **Vocational Building**. The building would be funded in part by the Federal Works Agency. Also completed by September 1947, would be a new **Science Building**. This building was also constructed through funding from the Federal Works Agency. The building would serve the science department until the program moved to **Smith Hall** in 1968. Beginning in 1969 the building served as the high school principal's office, store rooms, and day rooms for local students. By 1972 the building had become the **Student Activities Center**. The building would go through still another change in the 1980s and be known as the **Communication Building**. Finally in 1993 the building would be named the **Jesse Sandifer Communications Building** and house the Humanities Division offices.

Jesse Sandifer Building 2010
Houses
Campus Security, Pottery
Classroom, Offices
It appears from church records that
Jesse is the correct spelling.

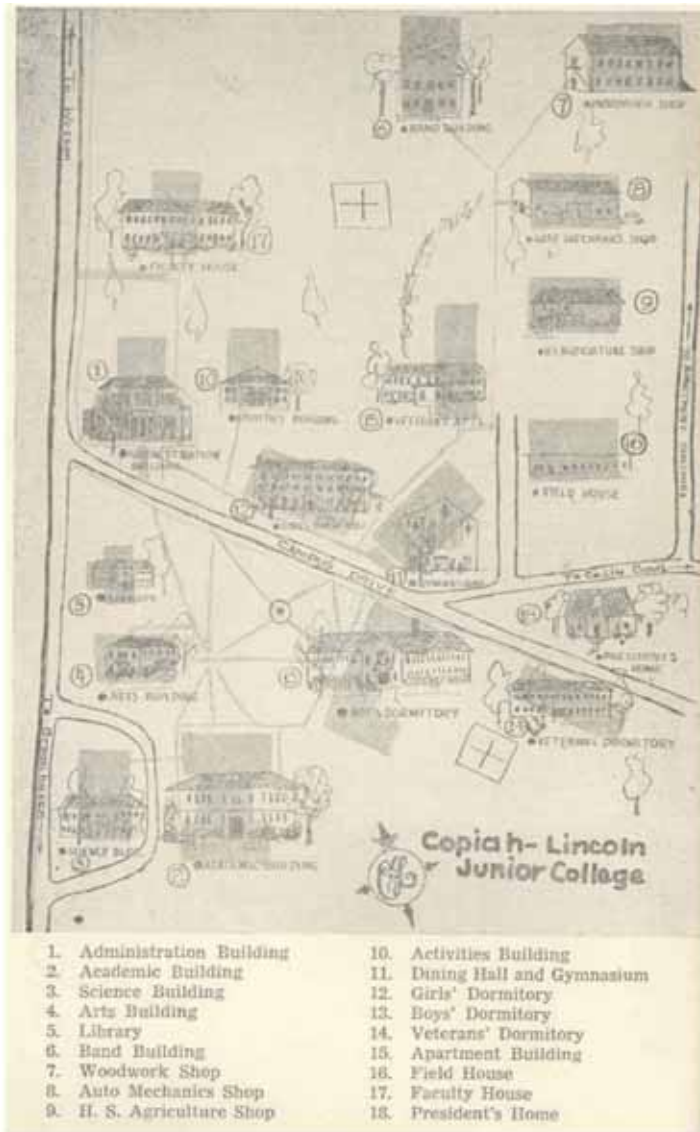


²⁸ "Dedication," *The Colonian*, V. 29, No. 1, January 2003, p. 3.

The **Band Building**, built in 1949, housed the Co-Lin band and orchestra. The band and other arts programs would reunite in 1973 when the **Maggie Ewing Fine Arts Building** was completed. After being damaged by a violent storm in September 1978, the college completed the process of demolishing the building. The area would be used for parking. The “Y” Hut would make way for the **Activities Building** by 1950. The **Activities Building** would serve as a student activities center, office space for clubs and organizations, and a recreation hall. It became the college bookstore and student grill in 1964 and was known as the **Bookstore Building**. The building would also house the student mailboxes, offices, and the faculty lounge. It was torn down in 1996 to make way for the **Taylor Chapel**.

Band Building – Below, after storm damage in September 1978. Right from 1966 photography in Building Commission Publication, Right below, from aerial photograph in 1968 annual. Activities Building – Bottom right, from 1966 Building Commission Publication. Bottom left, photo as building was being torn down to make room for the Taylor Chapel.





Campus Map found in Catalogues during 1950s

Closing the first 25 years would be the building of the **Memorial Building** which would house the **Evelyn W. Oswalt Library**. The building was occupied in September, 1951. Funds for the building were made available through the Mississippi Legislature. The Memorial Building originally housed the library, several conference rooms, work rooms, modern visual aids room which seated 100 persons, and facilities for art classes. (1952-53 Catalog) The building was completely air conditioned, a novelty for the time.

After a period of several years when no new buildings were constructed, the new **Gym** was begun in 1957. The building, completed in the spring of 1958, had roll-away bleachers and a seating capacity of 2,000. Funding for the building was made possible by the Mississippi Legislature, the State Building Commission, and the Board of Supervisors of Copiah and Lincoln counties. In 1969 the **Gym** would be named in memory of Graydon L. Mullen.



Memorial Building



Mullen Gym

Aerial View of Campus from 1963 Catalogue



AERIAL VIEW OF CAMPUS

Construction of new facilities would slow down in the early 1960s. The new **Vocational-Technical Building**, completed in the spring of 1966 at a cost of \$448,000 would be named in honor of President F. M. Fortenberry.



Board of Trustees
Unanimously Votes to
Name New Building
in Honor of
President Fortenberry

OFFICERS of Co-Lin's board congratulate President Fortenberry after announcing to him their decision to name the new building in his honor. From left are Mr. Lester Furr, secretary; President Fortenberry; Dr. Otho Messer, vice-president; Mr. W. S. Henley, president.

THE MILLION-DOLLAR "F. M. FORTENBERRY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL BUILDING"



F. M. Fortenberry Building
and the
J. J. Wesson Building in 2009

The following year another vocational-technical facility, the **Heavy Equipment Mechanics Building**, was completed and named in memory of Noah “Cap” Wallace, a long-time maintenance employee. The construction picture (left below) is from 1968 annual.



The new **Academic Building** was completed in 1969. The science department would move from their small structure across the parking lot into the new facilities which provided the department with new classrooms and labs.

Until 1966 the buildings were referred to by their purpose – **Academic Building, Administration Building, Fine Arts Building**, etc. The new **F. M. Fortenberry Vocational-Technical Building** was the first building to be named after an individual.²⁹ The **Memorial Building**, housing the new library, had been earlier named for those who lost their lives in World War II.

At Homecoming activities in 1969, Dr. Billy Thames would officially recognize those that had provided the school with quality leadership by honoring them in naming each building. The buildings would be named as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Administration Building | The J. M. Ewing Administration Building |
| Football Stadium | H. L. “Hook” Stone Stadium |
| Library | Evelyn W. Oswalt Library, housed in the Memorial Building |
| Baseball Field | Walter R. “Polie” Sullivan Field |
| Men’s Dormitory | Russell Ellzey Hall |
| Auditorium | R. E. Rea Auditorium |
| Gym | Graydon L. Mullen Gym |
| New Academic Building | Willie H. Smith Hall |
| Old Gym / Cafeteria | Fannie Callender Hall |
| Heavy Equipment Mechanics | Noah Wallace Heavy Equipment Mechanics Building |
| Girls’ Dormitory | Lula Stevens Hall |
| Faculty House | Josie Ellis Hall |
| Sophomore Men’s Dorm | Lincoln Hall |
| Sophomore Girls’ Dorm | Copiah Hall |

²⁹ *Trillium*, 1966. p. 18.

“Buildings Named At Homecoming” from the *1970 Trillium*:

“Accepting on their behalf were Dr. J. M. Ewing, Ewing Administration Building; Hook Stone, Stone Stadium; Mrs. Evelyn Oswald, Evelyn Oswald Library; Poley Sullivan, Sullivan Baseball Field; and Russell Ellzey, Ellzey Hall. Speaking on behalf of those for whom the buildings were named were Miss Ann Rea, R. E. Rea Auditorium; Mrs. Helen Mullen, Mullen Gymnasium; Miss Janet Smith, Willie H. Smith Academic Building; Mrs. Hiram Nevels, Fannie Callender Hall; and Mrs. Ruby Pearl Smith, Noah Wallace Building.

Other buildings on campus were named Lula Stevens Hall; Josie G. Ellis Faculty House; Lincoln County and Copiah County Halls. Previously, the vo-tech complex had been named the F. M. Fortenberry Building, and the library was named Memorial Library for those who gave their lives for freedom during World War II.”³⁰

The Copiah-Lincoln Board of Trustees honored several former students, employees, trustees and a Wesson family during the April 1992 meeting by naming campus streets in their honor.

The new street between the Ewing Fine Arts Building and the Baptist Student Union was named in honor of Mr. H. F. McCarty, Jr. of Magee.

The street leading to the golf course has been named for Mr. J. C. Redd.

The street running around the Pitts Field House and up by the tennis courts has been named for Mr. Shelby Pitts.

Mr. Lester R. Furr was honored by having the new access road and bridge to the campus named in his honor.

The road leading to the back entrance of Stevens Hall and Stevens Annex has been named Hodges Lane.

The circle west of Smith Hall has been named for Mr. John R. Landress.

The circle around Ellis Hall has been named for Mr. Hillary Hallum.

The circle around the Youngblood Building has been named for Mr. Ike Allen.

The circle around the Messer Building has been named for Mr. R. L. Landis.³¹

³⁰ *Trillium, Copiah-Lincoln Junior College Annual. 1970.*

³¹ “Co-Lin Out Front”...by Dr. Billy Thames, *Colinian*, May 1992, inside cover.

Buildings Named at Homecoming



AT DEDICATION CEREMONIES—(left to right) Mrs. Hiram Nevels; Mrs. Helen Mullen; Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Ewing; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Oswalt; Miss Ann Rea; Mr. and Mrs. Russell Ellzey; Dr. Otho Messer; Mrs. Poley Sullivan; President Billy B. Thames at speaker's stand; Mr. and Mrs. Hook Stone; Mrs. Willie Smith; Miss Janet Smith; Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Fortenberry; and B. F. Hunter. On stage but not pictured were Mrs. Ruby Pearl Smith and Poley Sullivan.



HOOK STONE

MRS. HELEN MULLEN

MISS JANET SMITH

MRS. HIRAM NEVELS

MRS. EVELYN OSWALT



DR. J. M. EWING

MRS. RUBY SMITH

POLEY SULLIVAN

RUSSELL ELLZEY

Accepting on their behalf were Dr. J. M. Ewing, Ewing Administration Building; Hook Stone, Stone Stadium; Mrs. Evelyn Oswalt, Evelyn Oswalt Library; Poley Sullivan, Sullivan Baseball Field; and Russell Ellzey, Ellzey Hall. Speaking on behalf of those for whom the buildings were named were Miss Ann Rea, R. E. Rea Auditorium; Mrs. Helen Mullen, Mullen Gymnasium; Miss Janet Smith, Willie H. Smith Academic Building; Mrs. Hiram Nevels, Fannie Calender Hall; and Mrs. Ruby Pearl Smith, Noah Wallace Building.

Other buildings on campus were named Lula Stevens Hall; Josie G. Ellis Faculty House; Lincoln County and Covich County Halls. Previously, the vo-tech complex had been named the F. M. Fortenberry Building, and the library was named Memorial Library for those who gave their lives for freedom during World War II.

From *The Wolf Tales*, October 16, 1969, "Co-Lin: Past, Present, Future"

"The Present"

Much progress on the campus has been made since President Billy B. Thames came in September 1968. The freshmen's men's dormitory nears completion. The dorm (Ellzey Hall) was completely renovated. Last spring only the outside walls were left standing...Cost of the new dorm was \$540,000.

The golf course, opening Saturday for the first time...It is described as one of the most beautiful courses on any college campus in the nation.

Complete renovation of both sophomore women and men's dormitories was done over the summer months. Air-conditioning of dorms, repainting, new stairways and entrances, add to the comfort of the dorms.

The new Academic Building, opening in January of 1969 at mid-semester, is one of the finest in the state.

"The Big Future"

Copiah-Lincoln Junior College's proposed tentative building program might seem elaborate at first glance, but when completed by September of 1979 it will provide adequate space in classrooms and dormitories for the expected enrollment.

Expected to start in a few months is a new girls' dormitory to replace the present freshman girls' dormitory (Stevens Hall) structure.

To be started in September of 1970 is a green house at the estimated cost of \$5000.

In September of 1972 a new student center should be completed at the cost of one-and-a-half million dollars (Note: Henley built in 1980). In September of 1973 the faculty house will be renovated at the cost of \$200,000 and 1,000 additional parking spaces will be added.

Also on the plans for the campus is a new library for September of 1974 at the cost of \$1,000,000 and a fine arts center at the cost of \$800,000. (Note: The Ewing Fine Arts Building was built in 1973)

A new administration building at the cost of one-an-one half million dollars is planned for September of 1976, with a new classroom building to be finished by September of 1977 at the cost of \$1,000,000.

Completion of the proposed tentative building program is the construction of a humanities building in September of 1979 at the cost of \$800,000.

Some of the proposed buildings materialized others did not.

The **Motor Pool Building**, completed in January 1971, houses the mechanic shop for the college-owned vehicles. The building, named the **Dwight Harris Transportation Building**, is seen with the **Dan Watson Building** in 2010 photo.



Dan Watson Building and Harris Transportation Building



Architect's Sketch of Motor Pool

The **J. J. Wesson Building** (right 3 pictures) and the **J. S. Youngblood Building** followed.

The **Wesson Building**, originally housed the welding shop, was renovated to house the data processing center and classroom space for the new college art department. The original building with the old band hall can be seen in the pictures below. The bottom right picture shows the original structure when it was being built.³²



J. J. Wesson Building in 2009



Original Structures

³² "Four Buildings to be Dedicated," *Wolf Tales*, October 20, 1971, p. 3.

The **J. S. Youngblood Building**, named for long-time Board Secretary, was built to house the welding program and the air-conditioning, heating, and refrigeration program,



Dedication ceremonies for the new **Lula Stevens Hall**, **The J. J. Wesson Building**, **The J. S. Youngblood Building**, and **Dwight A. Harris Transportation Center** were held during Homecoming activities, Saturday, October 23, 1971.

In 1972 the **Maggie Ewing Fine Arts Building** would be built followed by the **Frank Pitts Field House**. Dedication for these facilities was held during Homecoming activities, Saturday, October 13, 1973. The **Ewing Fine Arts Building** was completed in December 1972. The building contains a band and orchestra room, 245 seat auditorium, music studios, practice rooms, and art classrooms. The **Pitts Field House** was completed in August 1973. The building provides modern facilities for football, track, and baseball. The architect was James T. Canizaro.



Maggie Ewing Fine Arts Building



Frank Pitts Field House

With the expansion in the physical plant came the need to have a place to centralize the maintenance activities. The **Dan Watson Physical Plant Building**, housing the school's maintenance office, workshops, and shipping and receiving services, was constructed in 1975.

The President would get a new home in 1976. The old home would remain for several years until it was removed to make room of the **Henley Building**.



The **R. E. “Bob” Anderson Vocational-Technical Building** would follow in 1977. The original plans called for a two story structure costing \$450,000. The final building provides housing for several vocational-technical programs including Child Care Supervision, Food Service Supervision, Medical Laboratory Technology, and Practical Nursing programs.



The **W. S. Henley Student Union Building** was completed in early summer of 1980. The 43,000 square feet of space was built to house the cafeteria, offices for student services, lounge area for commuter students, the college grill, and bookstore. This brought the student services groups from three buildings under one roof. The bookstore, later named for Mr. Fred Thompson, was moved from the old **Activities/Bookstore Building**. Student Services, Guidance and Counseling moved from the second floor of **Mutton Building**. The food services moved from the ground floor of **Callender Hall**. The total cost of the facilities, reported in the *Brookhaven Daily Leader*, was \$2,233,965 which included \$1,749,500 for the structure. Polk Construction Company of Columbia was the general contractor. The renovation of **Callender Hall, Memorial Building, and Ewing Administration Building** followed.



“Co-Lin nearing completion of 10-year building program” was the headline for an article appearing in the *Brookhaven Daily Leader* in 1980. “The construction includes a student union building, renovation of the administration building, re-working the present student cafeteria into a recreation facility and adding a new unit to the student library. The program also includes renovation of all four dormitories and laying the groundwork for the construction of two new buildings to replace two antiquated dormitories.” The offices in the administration building were renovated with additions of a new office for the President and a new records vault.

Another period of no construction was experienced between 1981 and 1986. Activity picked up with the building of the **Otho Messer Career-Technical Building** in 1986, **Franklin Hall and Simpson Hall** dormitories in 1987, **Stevens Annex** in 1988, and finally the **Stribling Associate Degree Nursing Building** in 1994.³³

Although the two dorms, **Franklin** and **Simpson**, were built to replace the worn-out **Lincoln** and **Ellzey** dorms, not until 2003 would **Lincoln Hall** be demolished to make room for the **Dow-Young Technology Building**.

Franklin Hall and **Simpson Hall** were built on the home site on each side of the **Oswalt House**. Upon the death of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Oswalt, the college received the balance of the property that had once stretched from the corner where the **Anderson Building** is located to the water tower. The Oswalts had donated the corner lot on the north side of the house to the Baptist Student Union in August, 1966. On September 1, 1966, the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board acknowledged the gift in a letter to Mr. Oswalt. The letter also included a check for \$37.50 to cover one-half the cost of surveying the lot. In January 1968, the Oswalts would sell 1.5 acres of land on the south side of the house to Charlie and Lucy King. The college would eventually own the entire tract of land, by purchasing the land and a house built by Mr. King. The house, which was used as the residence for the Business Manager and later the Dean, was destroyed by fire in 1996 when it was occupied by Dr. Howell Garner and his family. After negotiations between the College and the Baptist Association, the college was able to swap land with the BSU and obtain the corner lot for the **Anderson Building**. The BSU received property on the west side of the campus. Upon the death of the Oswalts in 1983, the balance of the property would be conveyed to the College. The **Oswalt House** today is used to house the Chief of Campus Police and land behind the house has become the **Oswalt Nature Trail**.



Oswalt House in 1959
Franklin and Simpson Dorms
2000



³³ *The Colonian*, V. 14, No. 2, August 1987, p. 1.

The **Messer Building**, named for long-time board member, Dr. Otho Messer, was completed in November 1986, using state and local funds. The facility was built to house several vocational-technical programs including Auto Mechanics and Heavy Equipment Mechanics. The area previously occupied by Auto Mechanics in the **Fortenberry Building** was renovated for the Cosmetology program.



The **James H. Stribling Associate Degree Nursing Building**, named for another long-time board member and chairman, was completed by the summer of 1994 for the first nursing class that fall. The building was constructed and equipped at a cost of \$1.3 million.³⁴ A renovation would provide space for the L. P.N. program.



Stevens Annex



Lincoln and Lawrence

On February 13, 2002, groundbreaking ceremonies were held marking the beginning of the construction of two new men's dormitories, the new **Lincoln Hall** and **Lawrence Hall**. The two new dorms have a capacity of 64 students, the project costs \$1.327 million, architect was Carl Nobles, and construction manager was Paul Jackson and Sons of Brookhaven.

³⁴ "Dedication," *The Colinian*, V. 20, No. 1, August 1994, p. 9.

The Fred and Jewett Taylor Chapel, a project of the Copenh-Lincoln Foundation and Alumni Association, was begun on November 11, 1997, and was dedicated on October 30, 1998. The Chapel was made possible by a generous donation from Mr. and Mrs. Fred Taylor of Oxford and alumni, faculty, and supporters of the College.³⁵



Groundbreaking Ceremonies for the **Conference Center** were held on March 4, 1999. This project was funded through state bond money costing approximately \$2.3 million. Additional funds for technology features were provided from the Fred and Jewett Taylor annuity. Dedication ceremonies were held on February 3, 2000, for the **Thames Conference Center**, named in honor of former Co-Lin President Billy B. Thames.³⁶



³⁵ *The Colinian*, V. 25, No. 1, October 1999, p. 10.

³⁶ *The Colinian*, V. 26, No. 1, May 2000, p. 14.

On October 2, 2003, groundbreaking ceremonies were held for the new instructional technology building. The building was designed to house classrooms, computer technology laboratories for instructional support, office space, and the Learning Center. The **Dow-Young Instructional Technology Building** was dedicated on September 2, 2004.³⁷ The building was named for long-time board members, Mr. John Dow of Lincoln County and Mr. L. G. Young of Franklin County.

B. Frank Hunter, Maurice Cammack, James M. Lewis, and Dr. Roy Daughdrill are honored with rooms named for them in the building. Portraits of each honoree are found in the building.



Night View, Dow-Young Technology Building

³⁷ "Dedication," *The Colinian*, V. 31, No. 1, January 2005, p. 13.



On January 5, 2012, Bates Residence Hall was opened to students. The \$3.2 million hall accommodates 57 students inside of its 18,724 square feet. The building replaces Ellzey Hall (seen in the background of the picture on the left from 1945) which has served as a men's dormitory since 1928.

The dorm was dedicated to Mr. P. Eugene Bates, Chairman of the Covich-Lincoln Board of Trustees, on June 7, 2012.



Forces of Nature

Weather has played a major role in Copenh-Lincoln's history. The local area has been the scene of several violent storms. The "Great Cyclone" of 1883 was reported in the May 5, 1883, issue of *Harper's Weekly*. "The awful storm of wind and rain which on Sunday, April 22, swept over Mississippi, Georgia, and South Carolina, leaving ruin and devastation in its track, was one of the most extended and destructive cyclones ever known in this country. Between two and three hundred lives were lost, and nearly a thousand persons were injured. The towns of Wesson and Beauregard, in Mississippi, suffered more severely than any other places in the track of the cyclone." The entire town of Beauregard was blown away.

Copenh-Lincoln has seen at least three damaging tornado-like storms. The first occurred in March 1922. The **Administration Building** was almost totally demolished. The two dormitories were badly damaged. The picture was taken near campus just after the storm.



It would be several decades before storms hit once again - in September 1978, and on November 16, 1987. The 1978 storm damaged the old **Band Building**. The tornado that ripped through Copenh-Lincoln on Monday, November 16, 1987, at approximately 2:45 p.m. left a path of destruction. Worst hit was **Callender Hall**. A 30 by 40 foot section of the roof was taken off by the storm. The **Henley Student Union Building** and the **Anderson Building** received damage as well. A large tree was uprooted in the yard of the **Oswalt House**. The Board of Trustees met in special session on November 23 to assess the damage and prepare for renovations.³⁸ March of 1996 and March of 1998 saw wind damage to trees in front of the **Ewing Administration Building**.



³⁸ *The Colonian*, V. 14, No. 3, December 1987, p. 1.

Three fires have consumed residences on campus. In the early morning hours of September 29, 1922, the Girl's dorm burned. Forty-eight years later on March 9, 1970, the house on Faculty Row, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. John Landress, burned. Their daughter, Denise, was at home when the fire was discovered around 11:15 a.m. The third fire was on the night of June 1, 1996, when the house purchased from Mr. Charlie King, occupied by Dr. Garner and his family, burned. It was believed that the fire was caused by a lightning strike.



Those We Honor

The April 20, 1915, meeting of the Copiah-Lincoln Board of Trustees opened with President R. E. Furr announcing "that this meeting was for the purpose of electing the Faculty for the session 1915 & 1916 and that nominations were in order. A suggestion which was after some discussion put in the form of a motion and unanimously carried that the salaries to be paid the different members of the faculty for the 1915 & 1916 session should be determined before electing said. It was unanimously agreed that the Salary of the Principal for Twelve months be \$1500, assistant for 9 months be \$1000, English teacher \$75 per month for the session, Domestic Science \$75 per month for the session, Music and Merits no salary to be paid by the school, Teacher of Agriculture Department \$100 per month. The matter of salary being settled the secretary was requested to present the list of applicants and there being many it was agreed that elect by secret ballot and that the applicant receiving the greatest number of votes would be declared elected and invited unanimously."

After some discussion the election resulted were announced with the follows:

For Principal	R. L. Landis
Assistant Principal	Russell Ellzey
Language, Etc.	Miss Gertrude Davis
Domestic Science	Miss Elma Jones
For Music	Miss Pinkie McCalib

For the Department of Agriculture the election was postponed.

The letters of resignation from Mr. Ellzey and Miss McCalib would be accepted at the June 14, 1917, meeting of the Trustees. Mr. Landis would be removed from office by the Trustees the next year and replaced by Mr. W. I. Thames. "The Committee after much discussion decided that he could no longer render valuable service to the school and that the earlier Supt Thames assume these duties and responsibilities connected with the school..." (Central Committee Minutes, July 6, 1918) The term of Mr. Landis was for one year but did not expire until September of 1918. His successor had been appointed and was anxious to move his family into the housing provided for the superintendent on July 12th and 13th. To make room for the new Superintendent the action was taken by the Trustees to move Mr. Landis out earlier than the end of his contract.

Over the years Co-Lin has been the home of countless trustees, administrators, employees, and students who have excelled at Copiah-Lincoln and then gone to other jobs where they have also excelled. Mr. Ellzey left Co-Lin to be a member of the U. S. House of Representatives. Mr. Ewing became President of Delta State. Did you know that a former First Lady of Mississippi and a former Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives were students at Co-Lin? Did you know the relationship of Ed Murphy, Richard Williams, and M. K. Turk? Ed Murphy at Ole Miss, Richard Williams at Mississippi State, and M. K. Turk at USM were the head basketball coaches at their respective institutions at the same time. Ed Murphy had been a student and basketball player at Co-Lin. Richard Williams had been the men's basketball coach prior to going to MSU. M. K. Turk had been a student, player, and head men's basketball coach at Co-Lin. The following people are honored by Co-Lin with buildings and roads named for them.³⁹

³⁹ "Campus Streets Named," Wolf Tales, April 30, 1992, p. 2.

- **Ike Allen**

Ike Allen, an employee in the Maintenance Department, began working for Co-Lin in 1936. He was in charge of plumbing and electrical services on campus. At the meeting of the Board of Trustees in October 1972, Ike Allen was honored for his years of service to the college. **Ike Allen Circle** is named in his memory. Both Ike and his wife, Elizabeth, are deceased. Their granddaughter, Mary Motley, and nephew, Bruce Irvin, are employed at Copiah-Lincoln.



- **R. E. "Bob" Anderson**

State Representative Bob Anderson graduated in the Copiah-Lincoln Class of 1936. He served for over 25 years in the Mississippi House of Representatives representing District 32 from the Wesson area. Bob Anderson was an outstanding supporter of Copiah-Lincoln as well as all junior colleges in the state. In 1969 he served as Alumni Association President. The **R. E. "Bob" Anderson Vocational Building** is named in his memory.



- **P. Eugene Bates**

Mr. Bates has served on Co-Lin's Board of Trustees for 28 years and has served as Board Chairman for the past 10 years. He follows in the footsteps of his father, Pettus Bates, who served as a member of the Board representing Jefferson County for 16 years. Mr. Bates attended Co-Lin and received his bachelor's and master's degrees in agriculture from Mississippi State University. A cattleman and conservationist, Mr. Bates and wife, Susie, are the owners and operators of Villa Gayoso and Idlewild Plantations in Church Hill. They are members of First Baptist Church in Natchez, where he serves as a Deacon and Sunday school teacher. (Picture see Trustees)

- **Fannie Callender**

Fannie Callender began as dietitian when Copiah-Lincoln was an agricultural high school and went on to serve Copiah-Lincoln for over 40 years. The 1941 Annual was dedicated to Miss Callender. Miss Callender is pictured beside the bell she rang signaling the familiar "dinner is served." The old gym, **Callender Hall**, is named in her memory.



- **John Dow**

Mr. John Dow served two terms for a total of 20 years on the Copenh-Lincoln Community College Board of Trustees from 1974-1985 and 1988-1997. He began his long career in education as a teacher and coach at Alexander High School in Brookhaven. After serving as Principal at Mullins Elementary and Alexander Junior High Schools, Mr. Dow was Assistant Superintendent of the Brookhaven School District from 1981 until his retirement in 1986. The **Dow-Young Technology Building** was dedicated to his memory on September 2, 2004.



- **Josie Ellis**

Josie Grandberry Ellis (Mrs. Hal R. Ellis) served as **Faculty House** hostess. "A charming hostess who adds a touch of home to the faculty house is Mrs. Ellis. She is well known to the students for her piano accompaniments at chapel and vesper."⁴⁰ She is first listed in the 1940 Catalogue and a memoriam is found in the 1951 Trillium. The **Faculty House**, now known as Ellis Hall, was dedicated to her in 1969.



- **Maggie Flowers Ewing**

Maggie Flowers was born in Lincoln County on November 7, 1901. She married James Milton Ewing on June 1, 1927. Mrs. Ewing's contributions to Copenh-Lincoln are innumerable. She worked tirelessly with vocal groups and served the college as an outstanding first lady. The **Maggie Flowers Ewing Fine Arts Building** was dedicated to her at Homecoming on October 13, 1973.



- **Lester Furr**

Mr. Furr, a student, alumni association officer, and a distinguished member of the Copenh-Lincoln Board of Trustees from 1960 until 1983, served as Board Secretary beginning in 1963.⁴¹ **Lester R. Furr Drive**, was named in his honor in 1992.⁴²



⁴⁰ Annual, 1947.

⁴¹ "Furr Family: A Co-Lin Tradition," *Wolf Tales*, October 29, 1998.

⁴² "Co-Lin Out Front"...by Dr. Billy Thames, *Colinian*, May 1992, inside cover.

- **Alton Bruce Greenlee**

Alton Greenlee, a 1958 graduate of Copiah-Lincoln High School and a 1960 graduate of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College, began coaching at Copiah-Lincoln in 1963. He was all-state and Junior College All-American in football in 1959. At Copiah-Lincoln, Alton served as an instructor, coach, and later as manager of the college golf course. The **Golf Pro-Shop** is named for him.



- **Hillary Hallum**

“Copiah-Lincoln Junior College is the home to Hillary Hallum, the only home he wants to know. The old man, who is believed to be 94, first came to work here in the early 1930’s even though he isn’t sure of the exact year. He got his first job through the WPA. When he first began working for Co-Lin, he would walk from nearby Beauregard, some 3 or 4 miles away, to work each morning, leaving home at 4 a.m. to get to his job in the college cafeteria.” The Board of Trustees eventually constructed an apartment for Hillary adjacent to the faculty house garage. Throughout the years Hillary worked in the cafeteria, he did much of the baking, cutting the meats, and made coffee for breakfast, a fact that many alumni will recall as one of the best cups of coffee around.⁴³ The circle around **Ellis Hall** is named for Hillary Hallum.



- **Dwight A. Harris**

Dwight Harris was in charge of the transportation at Co-Lin from 1951 to 1969. Beginning in 1969 until his retirement, Mr. Harris was the auto mechanics instructor. He was a native of Rockport and a graduate of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College. The **Harris Transportation Building** is named in memory of Dwight Harris.



⁴³ “50 Years of Service”, Copiah-Lincoln Junior College Homecoming Program, 1978, p. 27.



Lester Furr, W. S. Henley, Otho Messer
Copiah-Lincoln Board Members

- **W. S. Henley**

Mr. William S. Henley served for fifty years as a member of the Copiah-Lincoln Board of Trustees with forty of those years as chairman. He began his service to the Copiah-Lincoln on July 1, 1924. A native of Chickasaw County, Mississippi, he moved to Hazlehurst in 1919 and set up a law firm. He announced his retirement in 1974. The **W. S. Henley Student Union Building** was named in his honor. Additional biographical information found in the first issue of *The Colinian*, Fall 1973.⁴⁴ His obituary appears in the November 1974 *Colinian*.⁴⁵ He died on October 14, 1974.

- **Hodges Family**

F. B. and Frances Graham Hodges were instrumental in the founding of Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School. They moved to Wesson in 1913 from Jackson. Their children, Dr. Fred Barry Hodges, Jr., Jimmy Hodges, Dr. Lucien Hodges, Frances Hodges Brown, Jessie Hodges Puryear, Lucille Hodges Bennett, and Reverend Graham Hodges, all attended Co-Lin. **Hodges Lane** is named in memory of the family.

- **John Landress**

John Landress, an instructor of speech and theatre, began his career at Copiah-Lincoln in 1955. Prior to that time he taught at Bethel College in Hopkinsville, Ky. Mr. Landress is best known for his active role in the Brookhaven Little Theater. **John Landress Circle** is named in honor of Mr. Landress.⁴⁶



⁴⁴ *The Colinian*, Vol 1, No 1, Fall, 1973, p. 5.

⁴⁵ *The Colinian*, Vol 2, No 2, November 1974, p. 7.

⁴⁶ *The Colinian*, V. 18, No. 3, May 1992, p. 20.

- **H. F. McCarty**

Mr. H. F. McCarty was the owner of McCarty State Pride Poultry Farms, one of the largest poultry productions in the country. He graduated from Copiah-Lincoln in 1940 and from the University of Mississippi in 1948. He was selected Alumni of the Year in 1978. He also served as Alumni Association President in 1983. **McCarty Drive** is named in his memory.⁴⁷



- **Otho Messer**

Dr. Messer served for nearly 34 years on the Copiah-Lincoln Board of Trustees from 1939 to 1972. He served as Vice-Chairman for several years. The **Messer Career-Technical Building**, housing auto mechanics and heavy equipment mechanics, was dedicated to Dr. Messer on April 26, 1987. Dr. Messer practiced dentistry in Crystal Springs for over 30 years.⁴⁸ See picture on previous page.

- **Graydon L. Mullen and Helen Ellzey Mullen**

Graydon L. Mullen served as Copiah-Lincoln Business Manager from 1946 until his untimely death in 1966. The **Mullen Gym** is named in his memory.



Helen Ellzey Mullen served in many capacities until her death in 1994. Among her many jobs was Faculty House Hostess and Assistant Librarian for the Oswalt Library. Helen is honored with the naming of the media classroom on the second floor of the **Memorial Building**.⁴⁹



⁴⁷ *The Colinian*, V. 14, No. 2, August 1987, p. 4.

⁴⁸ *The Colinian*, V. 14, No. 1, June 1987, p. 7.

⁴⁹ "Obituary," *The Colinian*, V. 20, No. 2, April 1995, p. 12.

- **Gertrude Mutton**

Miss Mutton was an instructor in the Music Department. The **Mutton Fine Arts Building** was named in her memory. In the 1990's the Fine Arts portion of the name was dropped from the building.



- **Evelyn and Frank Oswalt**

Mrs. Evelyn West Oswalt, employed by Copiah-Lincoln from 1925 to 1962, served as librarian from 1928 until she retired. Mr. Frank Oswalt served as a member of the Copiah-Lincoln Board of Trustees representing Copiah County from 1936 to 47. Mr. and Mrs. Oswalt were active in church affairs, garden clubs, and in other civic activities in the Wesson community. Mrs. Oswalt died on December 27, 1983, just a month after her husband.

In their early years Mr. and Mrs. Oswalt lived in an apartment at the rear of the old girls' dormitory where they were foster parents to four of Mrs. Oswalt's nieces and nephews. The Oswalts then bought a home near the Co-Lin campus. This home, which is between Franklin Hall and Simpson Hall, became a show place of the community. The beautiful lawn and flower gardens were enjoyed by all.



The Library is named in memory of Mrs. Oswalt. The **Oswalt Nature Trail** was created along the back of the original Oswalt Property. Dr. Thames named the street in front of the President's home, **Oswalt Drive**.

- **Lloyd Frank Pitts**

Mr. Pitts was a native of Lincoln County having been born three miles from the campus. He attended Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School for four years and then the junior college, graduating in the Class of 1931. In 1948 he ventured into the oil business as owner of Pitts Oil Company of Dallas. In 1967 he organized and became president of Computer Systems Corporation, Inc. of Dallas. He and his wife, the former Martha McCann, also a Co-Lin graduate, lived in Dallas. Mr. Pitts gave \$500,000 to endow programs in 2003.⁵⁰ He had previously given over \$30,000 to rebuild the field house which is named in his honor.



⁵⁰ *The Colinian*, V. 29, No. 2, June 2003, p. 11.

- **Shelby Pitts**

Mr. Pitts, a member of the Class of 1935, was President of Natural Gas Finders, Inc. He and his brothers, Frank and Troy, were active in the Texas oil business. Mr. Pitts served in the U. S. Navy during World War II was married to the former Mary Tillman of Wesson. He was chosen Alumni of the Year in 1977.⁵¹ Mr. Pitt's father, Lloyd Pitts, was a supervisor in Lincoln County during the formative years of Copiah-Lincoln. The Pitts Family has been very instrumental in the growth and development of Copiah-Lincoln since the 1920's. **Shelby Pitts Drive** is named in his honor.



- **R. E. Rea**

Mr. Rea, a member of the Board of Trustees for 40 years from 1922 to 1962, served for 37 years as the Board Secretary. He was President of the Bank of Wesson for 28 years. Mr. Rea died on December 29, 1962, in his hometown of Wesson. The **Rea Auditorium**, located in the **Ewing Administration Building**, is named in his memory.



- **J. C. Redd**

Mr. J. C. Redd was President of Redd Pest Control and a member of the Mississippi Economic Council. A native of Norfield, he was a graduate of the Copiah-Lincoln Junior College Class of 1932. While at Co-Lin he was a member of the choral group directed by Maggie Ewing. In an interview, Mr. Redd noted how he came to Co-Lin and worked his way through school by milking cows on the Co-Lin farm for \$10 a month. He served as Alumni Association President in 1953. In 1973, Mr. Redd established scholarships to honor both Russell Ellzey and J. M. Ewing. **J. C. Redd Drive** is named in memory of Mr. Redd.⁵²



⁵¹ *The Colinian*, V. 20, No. 1, August 1994, p. 13.

⁵² *The Colinian*, V. 3, No. 2, Winter 1976, p. 16.

The Colinian, V. 5, No. 1, Summer 1978, p. 6.

The Colinian, V. 15, No. 2, October 1988, p. 16.

The Colinian, V. 15, No. 3, April 1990, p. 7.

"Obituary," *The Colinian*, V. 19, No. 1, September 1992, p. 13.

- **Jesse Sandifer**

Jesse W. Sandifer was a dedicated employee in the physical plant from 1948 until his retirement in 1969. He was a football player for Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School and graduated from Copiah-Lincoln Junior College in 1933. The old Science Building was named the **Jesse Sandifer Communications Building** in his memory by the Board of Trustees in September, 1989.



- **Grover Smith**

Grover Smith served for 35 years in many capacities while employed at Copiah-Lincoln. He retired in June 1982. Beginning in 1973 until his retirement he was the Director of Student Life. He joined the Co-Lin faculty in 1947 as a vocational agriculture instructor. He served in that capacity until he was recalled to active duty in 1950 during the Korean conflict. Upon his return to Co-Lin in 1952 he continued to teach until he was appointed Dean of Men. During one point he briefly served as High School Principal. A veteran of World War II and of Korea, Mr. Smith served as Commander of the 854th Medical Collecting Company. He retired as a Lt. Colonel with the Mississippi National Guard in 1981. The 854th Medical Company established a scholarship in honor of Grover Smith. Pictures of the company and the company flag are displayed in the Oswald Library.^{53 54} **Grover Smith Lane** runs between the **Ewing Fine Arts Building** and **Mullen Gym**.



- **H. L. "Hook" Stone**

Hook Stone was a legend by virtue of the fact his football teams won state championships nine of eleven years. He came to Co-Lin in 1927 where he served as athletic director, coach of football, basketball and baseball and trainer. He managed the farm and dairy and taught agriculture and physical education. In 1969 the Copiah-Lincoln football field, originally called the Co-Lin Bowl, was named **Stone Stadium**. In 1974 approximately \$190,000 was allocated for the renovation of the stadium. An all-weather grass tex track was installed.



⁵³ *The Colinian*, V. 7, No. 1, Spring 1980, p. 8.

⁵⁴ *The Colinian*, V. 9, No. 1, Summer 1982, p. 20.

"Obituary," *The Colinian*, V. 18, No. 1, August 1991, p. 10.

- **Dr. James H. Stribling**

Dr. Stribling replaced W. S. Henley as chairman of the Copiah-Lincoln Board of Trustees in 1974. Dr. Stribling served as a member from 1967 to his death in 2001. Dr. James Stribling was a native of Vicksburg having graduated from Carr Central High School and was a graduate of the University of Maryland School of Dental Surgery. He lived in Brookhaven. The **Stribling Associate Degree Nursing Building** is named in his memory.⁵⁵



- **Walter R. "Polie" Sullivan**

Walter Sullivan was born in the Dentville Community of Copiah County. He attended Copiah-Lincoln, beginning in 1927 as a junior in the high school, where he lettered each year in football, basketball, baseball, and track. He then went on to L.S.U. where he was an outstanding football player. At LSU he lettered in football and track. Walter Sullivan was a classmate of Frank Pitts and attended Co-Lin when Russell Ellzey was President and "Hook" Stone was his coach. He was inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame on March 25, 1974. "He was among the first junior college graduates in Mississippi to ever receive the honor of being inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame. This honor was based upon his record as an athlete and student at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College, at Louisiana State University and upon the service as a county agent in Holmes County for 25 years."⁵⁶ His older brother, Jack, served on the Board of Trustees. The baseball stadium is named in memory of Polie Sullivan.



⁵⁵ *The Colinian*, V. 1, No. 3, June 1974, p.2.

⁵⁶ "Sports Hall of Fame Selects Sullivan," *Wolf Tales*, February 12, 1974, p.8.

- **Fred and Jewett Taylor**

Born in Gallman, Fred Taylor was a graduate of Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School in 1926. He was an outstanding football, basketball, and baseball player and was inducted into the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Athletic Hall of Fame in 1989. He and his wife, Jewett, moved back to Mississippi to run a 600-acre registered cattle farm in Oxford after he retired from business. They restored an 1842 antebellum home, Sunset Hill, in 1958, where they resided until their deaths. He and his wife were generous donors to the college. Mr. Taylor died on September 14, 2003. His wife, Jewett, died at the age of 105 on March 7, 2010.⁵⁷ The chapel is named for the Taylors.



- **Noah “Cap” Wallace**

Noah Wallace was an employee of the college in the maintenance department. For many years Mr. Wallace had a rose and flower garden between Pine Drive and the railroad tracks. “Cap” supervised the work day for the male students. “One day a month each Co-Lin boy tosses his Lit book in a corner and dons overalls and brogans for a day’s work with Cap Wallace.”⁵⁸ Mr. Wallace attended Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School the first year it was organized in 1915. His grandson, Lee Smith, was an honor graduate of the last senior class to attend high school on the campus of Copiah-Lincoln in 1979. His daughter, Ruby Pearl Wallace Smith served as high school secretary.⁵⁹ The **Noah Wallace Building** houses space for the commercial truck driving and heavy equipment maintenance technology programs. Mr. Wallace’s son, Joe, gives a little different version of the family life at Co-Lin.



The Wallace Family has had a long tradition of involvement with Co-Lin. Mrs. Lona Bufkin Wallace attended Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School the first year it was organized in 1915. The three Wallace children and several of their grandchildren and other relatives attended Co-Lin. One of the Wallace’s grandsons was an honor graduate of the last senior class to attend high school on the campus of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College in 1969; thereby the Wallace participation spanned the entire 63 years of the high school’s existence.⁶⁰

⁵⁷ *The Colinian*, V. 30, No. 1, January 2004, p.2, 20.

⁵⁸ *Trillium*, 1941.

⁵⁹ *The Colinian*, V. 8, No. 1, Summer, 1981, p. 4.

⁶⁰ Interview, August 6, 2010.

- **Charlie Ward**

The football practice field is named in memory of Charlie Ward. Mr. Ward was a 1938 graduate lettering in football, basketball and baseball and was captain of the basketball team and an All State guard in 1938. He attended Millsaps College after Co-Lin.⁶¹



Charlie Ward and Dennis White

- **Dan Watson**

Dan Watson served as Plant Superintendent for 24 years until he retired in June 1974. It is believed that the only job Dan had was at Co-Lin. His father, Robert William Watson, was a night watchman for Co-Lin. Male students who misbehaved would walk the beat with Mr. Watson all night as punishment for their bad deeds. The **Dan Watson Building** houses the offices for the maintenance department.



- **J. J. Wesson**

Mr. Wesson, Registrar at Copiah-Lincoln from 1946 – 1953, was fatally injured in an accident on April 6, 1960, in Saltillo. The **J. J. Wesson Building** houses the Data Processing Center and Career-Tech Computer Information Systems Technology classes.



⁶¹ *The Colinian*, V. 6, No. 1, Spring 1979, p. 20.

The Colinian, V. 14, No. 3, December 1987, p. 3.

- **Dennis White**

Mr. Dennis, as he was most fondly known, was a volunteer with the Co-Lin baseball program for 13 years. Mr. Dennis was the public address announcer, filmer, score keeper, and performed other jobs to assist the baseball program. Mr. Dennis passed away in December of 2005 after a courageous battle with cancer. In honor of Mr. Dennis White and his contributions to Co-Lin baseball, the baseball field press box was dedicated, the **Dennis White Press Box** at **Sullivan Field**.

- **L. G. Young**

Mr. Young represented Franklin County on the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Board of Trustees from October 1977 until his retirement in April 2001. In his 24 years of service to the college, Mr. Young served as chairperson of the budget and finance committee and for the last eleven years as the Board Secretary. He has been an educator his entire life serving as an agricultural teacher at Shannon High School from 1950-1956, at West Lincoln School from 1956-1967 as an agriculture teacher and from 1967-1970 as Principal. He served as vocational director for Franklin County Schools for sixteen years until his retirement in 1986. Mr. Young is the father of Copiah-Lincoln basketball coach, Gwyn Young. The **Dow-Young Technology Building** is named in his honor.



- **J. S. Youngblood**

One of the people instrumental in helping establish Copiah-Lincoln, a Wesson native, Mr. John Simmons Youngblood served from 1927-1940 on the Board of Trustees. Part of that time he served as President of the Board. The **Youngblood Career-Tech Building** houses the welding and the air conditioning, heating and refrigeration programs.



Others We Have Honored

- **Noel Assink**

Noel Assink began as a data processing instructor in 1966 after having served for 23 years in the United States Air Force. Mr. Assink retired as a Lt. Col. in 1963 from the Air Force. He retired in 1983 from Copiah-Lincoln. Mr. Assink was from the Loyd Star area in Lincoln County. The Noel Assink Data Processing Scholarship was created in his honor. His portrait is displayed in the Data Processing Center in the **Wesson Building**.



- **Vivian Armstrong Byrd**

Mrs. Vivian Byrd, a native of Lumberton, taught for Co-Lin from September 1950 until her retirement in 1967. She received a B.A. Degree from Mississippi Woman's College (William Carey) and later a Master's Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. She was chairman of the Social Studies Department. The 1968 Annual is dedicated to Mrs. Byrd. A picture of Mrs. Byrd can be found in the Oswalt Library. Her brother, John Armstrong, and son, Otis Byrd, presented the portrait to the college in 1971.⁶²



- **Maurice Cammack**

Maurice Cammack was born on February 25, 1938, in Terry, Mississippi. He joined the Copiah-Lincoln faculty as a part-time instructor in Computer Science in 1985. By 1988 he had become a full-time instructor as a member of the Mathematics Division teaching computer programming. In 1994 he assumed additional duties as the Computer Resource Specialist to assist faculty and staff in using computer related resources. In 1995 he accepted the full-time position as the Technology Specialist for the college district. Through the tireless efforts of Mr. Cammack, the college was wired for the new technology age. Fiber optic cable now connects all the buildings to the internet which is due to Mr. Cammack, who worked for Copiah-Lincoln from 1985 to 2000. His portrait is in the **Dow-Young Instructional Technology Building**.



⁶² "Upstairs Lounge in Library Named After Vivian Byrd," *Wolf Tales*, December 15, 1971, p.11.

- **Dr. Roy Daughdrill**

A graduate of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College, Roy joined the Co-Lin faculty in 1970. Roy taught mathematics and would eventually become the Chairman of the Math Department. His degrees were from the University of Southern Mississippi, Mississippi State University, and his Ph.D. from Ole Miss. After retirement, Dr. Daughdrill returned to Co-Lin to help with the Southern Association Quality Enhancement Plan. His portrait is also in the **Dow-Young Instructional Technology Building**.



- **Julia Guess**

Julia Guess had a total of 30 years of service to Copiah-Lincoln as both head of the Music Department and an instructor of voice and theory. She was employed from 1942 to 1949 and again from 1956 until her retirement in 1983. She organized the Co-Lin singing group, The Sojourners, in 1970. Miss Guess, a native of Brookhaven, graduated from Whitworth College, Mississippi University for Women, and Columbia University.



- **B. Frank Hunter**

Benjamin Franklin Hunter was born in Decatur, Mississippi, on January 1, 1915. He received the Associate in Arts Degree from Each Central Junior College, The Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi, and the Master of Arts Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. After nine years of military service, Mr. Hunter served as Principal of Monticello High School from 1946-1958. From 1958-1964 he served as Registrar and Director of Guidance at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College. From 1964 until his retirement in 1979, Mr. Hunter served as Dean of Instruction.



- **James M. Lewis**

James Lewis of Brookhaven served as the Principal of Copiah-Lincoln High School from 1948 to 1968 and as Registrar of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College from 1963 until his retirement in 1977. Mr. Lewis is a 1936 graduate of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College and a graduate of Mississippi State. He served in the Army during World War II. Mr. Lewis was President of the Alumni Association in 1961 and was Alumnus of the Year in 2005.



- **Fred E. Thompson**

Mr. Fred Thompson began his career at Copiah-Lincoln in March 1933. He served in several capacities including Business Manager, Chairman of the Business Division, and Bookstore Manager. The Co-Lin Bookstore is named for Mr. Fred Thompson.⁶³ Mr. Thompson is pictured with his son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Ed Thompson and Marsha Pollard Thompson.



Others who have served: Front l to r: Alton Ricks, Dean of Students; Ralph Frazier, Registrar; Ken Chapman, Librarian; B. F. Hunter, Dean; F. K. Horton, Director of Maintenance.

Back l to r: Burlian Walker, Director of Public Relations; Jim Kyzar, Business Manager; Danny Dykes, Data Processing; Helen Mullen, Librarian; Ed Martin, Special Services. 1977



⁶³ *The Colinian*, Vol 2, No 4, April 1975, p. 4.

The Leaders

From High School to Junior College to Community College

Superintendents Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School

1916 – 1918	Landis, R. L.
1919 – 1920	Thames, W. I.
1921 – 1922	Cathey, T. S.
1923 – 1932	Ellzey, L. Russell

Presidents Copiah-Lincoln Junior/Community College

1928 – 1932	Ellzey, L. Russell
1932 – 1956	Ewing, James M.
1943 – 1945	Smith, Willie H, Acting President
1956 – 1968	Fortenberry, F. M.
1968 – 1996	Thames, Billy B.
1996 – 2008	Garner, Howell
2008 -	Nettles, Ronald E.

Mr. R. L. Landis, the first of ten leaders, served from 1915-1918. He was followed by Mr. W. I. Thames, 1918-1920; Mr. T. J. Cathy, 1920-1922; and Mr. Russell Ellzey, 1922-1932. Mr. Ellzey, served in the transition, was the first President of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College. Following Mr. Ellzey were Mr. J. M. Ewing, 1932-1956; Mr. Willie Smith, acting President from February 1943 until November 1945 while Mr. Ewing was on active duty as a Lieutenant in the U. S. Naval Reserve; Mr. Frances Marion Fortenberry, 1956-1968; Dr. Billy Bass Thames, January 18, 1968-June 1997; Dr. Howell Garner, July 1996-June 2008; Dr. Ronnie Nettles, beginning in July 2008.

In 1991, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Landis of Jackson, son of Mr. R. L. Landis, came to Wesson and visited with Dr. Thames. Mr. Landis recalled how the family arrived in Wesson in 1912 from Eagleville, Tennessee by freight train. The elder Landis had applied by mail for the job as principal of Wesson High School. Mr. R. J. Landis, as a child, was impressed by the large town of Wesson and the mills.

His father recognized that children of the area needed additional education beyond what was being provided and began his push for what would become Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School. Mr. R. L. Landis met with the Wesson Booster's Club in the Richardson House (old Wesson Hotel) and actually made the motion to investigate the possibilities of establishing this new school. Leaders of the club included Paul Burke, the group's President; Virgil Youngblood, Landis' next door neighbor; Ike J. Williams; Dr. W. L. Little; Major McDonald, who owned a store in Wesson; and Robert Rea. Mrs. Frances Hodges, President of the Woman's Club, volunteered to help. Mr. Landis would serve one term as superintendent before moving to head the Durant Schools.⁶⁴

Not much is known about W. I. Thames or T. S. Cathey who followed as agricultural high school superintendents. It is believed that Mr. Cathey moved to Texas after serving at Copiah-Lincoln. Russell Ellzey would serve as the last agricultural high school superintendent and bring about the creation of the junior college in 1928.

Copiah-Lincoln High School Principals

1948	Campbell, C. L.
1949 – 1963	Lewis, James M. (Became Registrar for the College)
1963 – 1966	Ricks, Alton (High School Principal and College Basketball Coach)
1966 – 1972	Smith, Grover
1972 – 12/1974	Garner, John C. (High School Principal and football coach)
1/1975 – 6/1975	Smith, Grover*
1975 – 1976	Smith, Bill
1976 - 1977	Frazier, Ralph (Became Registrar when Mr. James Lewis retired)
1977 – 1979	Williams, Larry (Principal when HS Moved to Wesson Attendance Center in 1979.)

John Garner provided dates for his time and that of Bill Smith (11/10/09)

*Richard Case corrected and added second term of Grover Smith (11/12/09.) Richard was high school football coach, serving under 5 principals.

+ Death notice and picture of his last appearance on campus on page 206, 1978 *Trillium*. Mr. Ellzey died December, 1977.

⁶⁴ *The Colinian*, V. 18, No. 1, August 1991, p. 11.

Lawrence Russell Ellzey 1923 – 1932

Russell Ellzey was born on March 20, 1891, on a farm near Wesson. He graduated from Mt. Zion High School and then went to Mississippi College where he graduated with an A.B. degree in 1912. Mr. Ellzey's first teaching experience was at Auburn High School in Lincoln County. After teaching at Auburn for three years, 1912-1915, he was named assistant to the superintendent of the newly established Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School in Wesson. He served from 1915 to 1917 at Copiah-Lincoln where he was in charge of the dormitories, served as coach of all athletics, and taught mathematics and Latin. In 1917 Russell Ellzey enlisted in the army and served in World War I for eighteen months in the states and in France. After his service he returned to the area where he was elected as Lincoln County Superintendent of Education. He served in this capacity from 1920 to 1922. In 1922 he was asked to become Superintendent of Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School. Mr. Ellzey's service would bridge the gap between the Agricultural High School and the Junior College.

As early as 1923 the Trustees were interested in moving Copiah-Lincoln into the Junior College arena. On March 6, 1923, Dr. H. M. Ivy, high school superintendent of the Mississippi State Department of Education, outlined the procedures for establishing a junior college. Mr. Ellzey was authorized to begin the process for a possible opening in the 1924-25 session. The movement was delayed until 1928.

Lawrence Russell Ellzey would become the first President of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College in 1928. He remained in that position until 1932 when he resigned to enter politics. Mr. Ellzey served in Congress for three years representing the Seventh Judicial District of Congress from Mississippi. He supported public education and was the coauthor of the George-Ellzey Vocational Act.⁶⁵ He returned to campus in the fall of 1977 to meet with Dr. Billy Thames.⁶⁶



⁶⁵ *The Mississippi Public Junior College Story*, p. 68.

⁶⁶ *The Colonian*, Vol 4, No 2, Fall/Winter 1977, p. 4.

James Milton Ewing 1932 – 1956

It is hard to write about Dr. Jimmy Ewing without also writing about his wife, Maggie Flowers Ewing. The two worked hard to promote Copiah-Lincoln.

James Ewing came to Copiah-Lincoln in 1922. He first served as women's basketball coach and instructor of agriculture for Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School. His obituary and other publications only give him credit for his college service beginning in 1928. Between 1928 and 1932 he served as Dean and Registrar and assistant to President Ellzey. After the resignation of Russell Ellzey, Mr. Ewing was elected President of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College and Agricultural High School on March 3, 1932, and would serve in that capacity until he resigned to become President of Delta State College on August 23, 1956. Mr. Ewing had participated in the establishment of the junior college and been a part of the program since the beginning.

In his remarks about Dr. Ewing, E. Ray Izard stated that "He is one of the hardest workers for schools that I have ever known. He exercised the same zeal and determination when he became President of the State Junior College and the National Junior College Associations..."



Mr. Ewing was born on December 2, 1901, in Vaughn, Mississippi. He died on September 4, 1973.

Maggie Flowers was born in Lincoln County on November 7, 1901. She received two B. A. degrees, one from Whitworth College and the other from Millsaps. She was first employed in 1920 to teach voice. After she and Jimmy Ewing were married on June 1, 1927, she would continue to work at Copiah-Lincoln teaching in the music department. Maggie Ewing was a character. She did not back down from her beliefs. In a return to campus in the 1980's she would try to teach the "new" faculty the Co-Lin Alma Mater. It took many tries...I'm not sure if we got it right or if Miss Maggie finally gave up!⁶⁷

⁶⁷ "Obituary," *The Colinian*, V. 24, No. 1, October 1998, p.4.

The picture on the right was taken with Miss Maggie at the piano in the Anderson Building Food Service area as she “tried” to teach the faculty the Copiah-Lincoln Alma Mater. Standing in the background are Dr. Phyllis Hayes-Lanier and Mr. Jack Thomas.⁶⁸



Miss Maggie would suffer for the cause but would also stand her ground. This letter is undated but believed to be from the early 1930s addressed to President Russell Ellzey:

Dear Mr. Ellzey.

I gladly volunteer a reduction in salary for this emergency and I will consider any proposition made by the trustees. If I accept their proposition, I will continue to give myself, body, mind, and soul to Copiah-Lincoln.

The experience of “being reduced” is not a new one for me. Last year I got a 33 1/3% cut by the board. My class fell short at least ten or fifteen percent as a result of the depression. Finally, my total salary has been reduced at least 20% from what it has been the past three years. I have made this year about what I did the second year I taught.

I say these things in the kindness spirit, and only to show I have sacrificed already.

Maggie Flowers Ewing



Maggie Flowers Ewing Fine Arts Building



J. M. Ewing Administration Building

⁶⁸ “Miss Maggie’ Leaves Her Mark on Co-Lin,” *Wolf Tales*, December 9, 1993, p.4.

Willie H Smith
Acting President
1943 – 1945

Mr. Willie Smith, came to Copenhag-Lincoln in 1929, served as a science instructor and Registrar before being appointed by the Board of Trustees in 1943 to serve as acting President while Mr. Ewing was on military leave. Mr. Smith served in the position, providing the leadership necessary to maintain the stability of the educational institution during a period of national turmoil, until October 1945, when Mr. Ewing returned. In the spring of 1946, Mr. Smith resigned from Copenhag-Lincoln to devote his full time in active work in the investment business.⁶⁹

According to Mrs. Willie Smith: ‘there were no teas or frills’ when her husband was President. Although her husband served as president during the lean years of World War II, Mrs. Smith remembers often hearing him say he thoroughly enjoyed being president. But that optimism and joy was the fiber of his being. Willie was president when there were few male students, when there was no annual, no team. Nor were there any teas or other frills. No buildings were built, either, although BSU began on the campus. Willie never saw these tight days as problems, however; he was an optimist saying on rainy days that “the sun will be shining tomorrow.”

The Smiths lived first in the boys’ dormitory, when Janet (their daughter) was a little girl, then in a house built for them just off the campus. Before being president Willie had taught zoology and been registrar and academic dean. Once he told Edith, “I need a dark suit for a picture.” She asked why he needed it. Then she found out: “I am going to be president.”



After leaving Copenhag-Lincoln until his death a few years ago, Mr. Smith kept his ties close - he did not teach anywhere but sold savings plans to people, always urging them to save so that their children could attend Co-Lin.⁷⁰

Dad's middle name is a simple capital H with no period.....my grandmother had 7 boys so she just gave each one a single name. When Dad went to Brookhaven Bank to open his first account, there were so many Smiths, including some Willie Smiths, so they told him he had to have a middle name; my grandfather was Huey Smith, and Dad had a brother Hugh, so he just chose the initial H and the

⁶⁹ “Five Have Served as President of Copenhag-Lincoln Junior College,” *50 Years of Service*, 1978, p. 12.

⁷⁰ “Mrs. Willie Smith: ‘there were no teas or frills,’” Keith McDaniel, *50 Years of Service*, 1978, p.33.

bank was satisfied.....Dad graduated with a BS degree from Mississippi College in 1928 and taught one year at Fair Oak Springs. Mr. Ellzey, the first President of Co-Lin hired by Dad to teach Zoology and Biology in 1929 Later as you know he became the college Registrar until the Board of Trustees asked him to serve as Acting President in Mr. Ewing's absence during WW II.....My Dad had a hernia from earlier surgery and was declared "4-F" and unable to join the military, so he agreed to remain at Co-Lin until Ewing's return. The Ewing family returned in the fall of 1945 and Dr. Ewing returned at the beginning of 1946, at which time we moved to Brookhaven that February.

My Dad received his Master's in School Administration from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY through summer sessions in the early 30's, since there was no summer school at the community colleges until after WWII. Later on in the 30's Dad became associated with Investors Syndicate of America, selling savings plans to families, which were in turn invested in stocks and bonds until their maturity date. The company became Investors Diversified Services in the 50's and then some time after Dad's death, a part of American Express. There is still an office in Brookhaven next to Janie's bakery but I do not know the present personnel. He was very successful in this type of business and had decided to leave education and begin a career with ISA/IDS when WWII broke out. So his intention was to follow that plan after his tenure as acting president ended with Ewing's return.

My Dad was born in the community of Caseyville, west of Brookhaven, in Lincoln County, on June 11, 1905, to Huey and Mollie Smith. He attended the schools in that area, graduating from Lloyd Star High School in 1924. He entered Mississippi College that fall, graduating in 1928. My Mother, Edith Elizabeth Crawford was born in the Fair Oak Springs/Clear Branch community of eastern Lincoln County. Her parents were Luther and Belle Crawford. Mother attended several schools in the area, graduating from New Site in 1928. She attended Mississippi College during two summers where she earned her teaching certificate, and taught English at the Beauregard Schools until I was born in 1934.⁷¹



⁷¹ Smith, Janet. E-mail, janetclare@bellsouth.net, April 28, 2010.

Francis Marion Fortenberry
1956 – 1968

Francis Marion Fortenberry was born on August 29, 1913, in Smith County, Mississippi. He graduated from high school in Clinton, attended Hinds Junior College, and received his bachelor's degree from Mississippi College. He would earn a master's degree from the University of Mississippi. Mr. Fortenberry came to Copiah-Lincoln in 1939 as an assistant football coach, assistant dean of men, and teacher. He would leave Copiah-Lincoln from 1942-1944 to serve in the United States Navy. Upon his return to Co-Lin, Mr. Fortenberry served as athletic director, head football coach and Dean of Men. In 1950 he was appointed as the administrative assistant to the President of the College. When Dr. Ewing resigned to become President of Delta State College, F. M. Fortenberry was elected President of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College. Mr. Fortenberry served as President until January 1968 when he assumed the position as Supervisor and Director of the State Division of Junior Colleges.



Mr. F. M. Fortenberry and his wife, Nona.

Board of Trustees During Mr. Fortenberry's Administration



Billy Bass Thames

1968 – 1997

Billy B. Thames was thirty-four when he came to work at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College on January 20, 1968. He would serve longer than any other as President of the College. Dr. Thames was born in Monticello where he graduated from high school in 1952. He graduated from Co-Lin in 1954, where he was selected to the very first Hall of Fame. He earned his bachelor's degree, master of science degree, and doctorate from the University of Southern Mississippi.

If buildings are a measure of his accomplishments then Dr. Thames will not be topped. During his presidency Willie H. Smith Hall, W. S. Henley Student Union, Maggie Flowers Ewing Fine Arts Building, Noah Wallace Building, Lula Stevens Hall and Annex, Frank Pitts Field House, Walter R. Poley Sullivan Baseball Field, Charlie Ward Football Practice Field, Otho Messer Vocational-Technical Building, Dwight Harris Transportation Building, Dan Watson Physical Plant Building, J. S. Youngblood Building, R. E. "Bob" Anderson Vocational Building, Franklin and Simpson Halls, and the James H. Stribling Associate Degree Nursing Building were all built. Many others were renovated. The new bridge over the railroad providing a direct route from U. S. Highway 51 to the campus, was probably his greatest accomplishment.

The establishment of the Natchez campus and the completion of permanent Co-Lin facilities in Natchez took place under Dr. Thames. Dr. Thames led the college through three successful accreditation projects (1974, 1985, and 1995) with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.⁷²



The Thames Family

Cover photo by Johnny Smith

⁷² "Retirement," *The Colinian*, V. 23, No. 1, October 1997, p. 4.



B. Frank Hunter, Dean; Dr. Thames; Billy Folkes, Assistant to the President; James Lewis, Registrar; F. K. Horton, Business Manager; Burlian Walker, Director of Public Relations.

Howell Garner, Dean of the College; Alton Ricks, Dean of Students; Dr. Thames, Jim Kyzar, Business Manager, Burlian Walker, Director of Public Relations



Burlian Walker; Marilyn Brown, Executive Secretary to the President; Ray Ishee, Dean of Students, Jim Kyzar, Howell Garner



Howell Garner 1997 – 2008



Dr. Howell C. Garner became President of Copiah-Lincoln Community College on July 1, 1997. He had served the college for 23 years prior to becoming President. He became Dean of the College in 1985 after Dr. Eddie Smith resigned to become President at East Central Community College. Before coming to the Wesson campus Dr. Garner was the assistant dean and then Dean of the Natchez campus.

Dr. Garner earned a Bachelor's Degree from Mississippi State University. He received both his Master's Degree and Doctorate from the University of Southern Mississippi.

During his tenure as President he saw the growth in the Natchez campus, the opening of the Simpson County Center, and the building of **Taylor Chapel, Thames Conference Center, Dow-Young Technology Building**, the removal of old **Lincoln Hall**, and the construction of two new dorms, **Lincoln Hall** and **Lawrence Hall**.

Dr. Garner retired on June 30, 2008.

Justin, Dr. Garner, Brad,
Candace



Ronald E. Nettles
2008 –

Dr. Ronald E. Nettles II, became the seventh President of Copiah-Lincoln Community College on July 1, 2008. Dr. Nettles served as Executive Vice-President beginning July 2004, Dean of the Natchez campus from 1997-2004, and Director of Community and Economic Development on the Wesson campus from 1994-1997. Prior to his employment at Copiah-Lincoln, Dr. Nettles held various administrative positions with the University of Southern Mississippi.



Dr. Nettles is from the McNair community of Jefferson County. He received his Bachelor's Degree in political science and his Master's Degree in counseling and personnel services from the University of Southern Mississippi. He received his PhD. from the University of Mississippi in 1994.



Brandon, Dr. Nettles,
Jordan and Rosie



Trustees

Over two hundred and twenty-five have served on the Copiah-Lincoln Board of Trustees representing the seven counties that support the College. Mr. R. E. Furr was chosen as the President of the Board of Trustees at the first meeting on December 9, 1914. Mr. A. A. McAlpin was chosen Chair Protem, and Mr. P. S. Burt as acting secretary. When Mr. I. J. Williams was selected by the members to fill the eleventh position on the first Board, the position of Secretary was handed to Mr. Williams. The other members included J. E. Furlow, W. L. Kethly, Dr. E. L. Green, Z. C. Hodges, B. K. Davis, Andy Greer, and Dr. M. D. Ratcliff. Mr. McAlpin, Mr. Burt, Mr. Furlow, Mr. Kethly, and Mr. Green represented Copiah County. The other members were from Lincoln County. (Minutes)

Only five men have served as leader of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Furr would serve as President of the Trustees until 1925. He would be replaced by Mr. J. S. Youngblood who would serve until 1940. Mr. W. S. Henley of Copiah County would serve as the third President from 1940 to 1975. Dr. James Stribling of Brookhaven would serve until his death in 2001. The current President or Chairman of the Board of Trustees is Mr. P. Eugene Bates of Jefferson County.

R. E. Furr



J. S. Youngblood



W. S. Henley



James H. Stribling



Mr. Eugene Bates



OSWALT LIBRARY

Copiah-Lincoln Community College is served by three independent libraries. Though the libraries share a common website, each library has a separate director, staff, and budget. The Evelyn W. Oswalt Library, located on the Wesson campus, was begun in 1929. The Willie Mae Dunn Library, located on the Natchez campus, was begun in 1973. The Fred and Jewett Taylor Library, located on the Simpson County Center, was begun in 2005.

The first books for the Wesson campus library were accessioned in March, 1929. The first book placed in the collection was Conrad's *Almayer's Folly* published by Doubleday in 1926. The book cost \$1.50. During the 1928-29 session, the library books were kept in a small room immediately behind the desk of the study hall teacher, Mrs. Evelyn Oswalt. When the Annex to the Administration Building was completed in 1928, the books were cataloged and the first library was created. An oblong room with glass windows partitioned the library from the study hall so the librarian could manage both facilities. Mrs. Evelyn West Oswalt, employed by Copiah-Lincoln in 1925, served for 33 years as librarian beginning with the 1929-30 session as college librarian. Mrs. Oswalt would oversee the development of the library into a collection of over 13,000 volumes and be housed in its own building by the time she retired in 1962. "The Memorial Library Building was completed in 1951. Upon request of the Copiah-Lincoln Alumni Association the Board of Trustees officially named the building Memorial Library in memory of the forty-eight former Copiah-Lincoln men and women who paid the supreme sacrifice in World War II."⁷³

Mrs. Gladys A. Ward served as Librarian for the next four years followed by Mrs. Frances Frazier from 1966 to 1976. Upon the retirement of Mrs. Frazier, Helen Ellzey Mullen served as Librarian for one year. Although hired a year earlier, Kendall Chapman became Library Director in 1977.

Over the years the library collections have been carefully selected and maintained. In 2010, district-wide resources included nearly 80,000 printed volumes, 34,000 electronic books, current periodicals, multi-media, and online databases. As a service to the citizens of the district, the Evelyn W. Oswalt Library allows residents living in the seven-county district to borrow materials from the collection. The Wesson and Natchez libraries are also a member of the Mississippi Library Commission's Union Catalog providing inter-library loan services.

"Also on the plans for the campus is a new library for September of 1974 at the cost of \$1,000,000 and a fine arts center at the cost of \$800,000, completed by September of 1975."⁷⁴ An addition to the Memorial Building, designed by Watkins and Cox of McComb and constructed by Wise Construction of Jackson, was completed in 1981.

⁷³ *Copiah-Lincoln Junior College Catalogue*, 1962.

⁷⁴ "Co-Lin: Past, Present, Future...," *Wolf Tales*, October 16, 1979, p. 16.



Top Left: Front of Memorial Building in June 1980, just prior to renovation and addition.

Top Right: Library 1930s in old Administration Building.

Left: Library 1956 in Memorial Building.

Below: Addition exterior and interior 2013.





Evelyn and Frank Oswalt

Left: Oswalt Home

The Horace and Jodie Kyzar Greer Library Fund was established by Mrs. Jodie Kyzar Greer George in memory of her late husband. Mrs. George was a 1937 graduate of Copiah-Lincoln. Mr. Greer, a 1931 graduate of Copiah-Lincoln, was killed in World War II. The fund was an endowment for the Evelyn W. Oswalt Library with the interest to be used to purchase books, periodicals, and materials which will strengthen the library's collection.⁷⁵



President Thames, Jodie George, Ken Chapman



Gladys Ward



Frances Frazier



Helen Mullen



Kendall Chapman

⁷⁵ *The Colinian*, V. 21, No. 1, August 1995, p. 8.

Trillium, Wolf Tales, Microcosm

Co-Lin's Many Publications

Trillium, Catalogue, Wolf Tales, Microcosm, Colinian, imPack are just a few of the publications produced by Copenhag-Lincoln. Two publications have provided valuable information on the development of Copenhag-Lincoln. The first, *Copenhag-Lincoln Agricultural High School Catalogue*, which was begun with the 1915-1916 session. A catalogue has been published each year since. The Oswald Library has a complete set of *Catalogues* beginning with the first college catalogue in 1928. Prior to the 1928 the library has copies of the 1917-18, 1922-23, 1923-24, and 1924-25 catalogues. The *1917-18 Catalogue* was found in items given to the college by Paul Ott from the estate of Paul Robertson of Wesson. The *1922-23 Catalogue* was given to the library by Tony Laiche, employee in the college's maintenance department. Tony found the catalogue several years earlier in the M. C. Stapp house in Hazlehurst. The *1924-25 Catalogue* was donated by Thomas H. Youngblood of Parks, Arizona.

The second publication, the *Co-Lin*, a yearbook was begun in 1925 by the high school senior class. Two gaps appear in the publication of the yearbook. The first gap from 1930-1936 due to the Great Depression and the second gap from 1943-1946 due to World War II. The permanent name for the yearbook did not come about until Simpson County joined the support of Copenhag-Lincoln. With the renewal of the publication in 1937 the title of the yearbook was changed to *Trillium*. The Oswald Library has two complete sets of yearbooks.

From the 1937 *Trillium*:

Eight years have passed by since the students of Copenhag-Lincoln published their last volume of the *Co-Lin*. Since then much water has gone under the bridge. Many changes have been wrought in our college. We have ridden triumphantly out the depression, preserved our traditions, and achieved some of our ambitions. We have grown steadily stronger in the things that make a college great. Academic achievements, dreamed of in 1929 have become ours; athletic honors, cleanly won on fair fields of competition have brought us fame; character education has continued to be a noble influence in our class-rooms.

Now, to celebrate the glories of our greater college and to better preserve its hallowed traditions, we are publishing, after a lapse of eight years another annual, which we christen The *Co-Lin Trillium* in honor of our beloved Alma Mater and a wild spring flower, native to the fields and woods of Copenhag and Lincoln Counties.

Trillium is a wildflower that has a three-petaled flower. It was chosen to represent Copenhag-Lincoln in 1936 after Simpson County became the third contributing county. Although the college has seven supporting counties, the annual remains the *Trillium*.

The current college newspaper is known as the *Wolf Tales*. The first *Wolf Tales* came off the press on May 9, 1968, with Paul Grice as editor, Robert Wilson as associate editor, Janice Ratcliff as business manager, Shirley Simmons as news editor, June Spitchley as feature editor,

James Peace as sports editor, Sandra Monroe ad club editor, Alan Hunter as high school editor, Dale Greer as photographer and Burlian O. Walker as advisor. The front page headline announced the *Trillium* dedication for 1968 was Mrs. Vivian A. Byrd and the three selected to the fifteenth annual Hall of Fame were Martha Carol Hunter of Wesson, Paul Henry Ponder of Mendenhall, and Elgin Kenneth Walley of Fayette. "Ernie" the new school mascot was pictured with his designers Billy Sparkman and Bill Richardson. The paper also included the announcement of Billy B. Thames as President of Copiah-Lincoln and articles on Mr. Frank Hunter's ten years at Co-Lin and 44 years of service to the Board by W. S. Henley.

This was not, however, the first college newspaper. *The Confederate* came off the press on November 23, 1948. "Edited by T. Lea Delaney, *the Confederate*, a Copiah-Lincoln Junior College Publication, is making its public appearance on the Co-Lin Campus today. It is the first newspaper published at Co-Lin." The second edition, December 14, 1948, was called the *Blue and Gray*. The newspapers were found in a scrapbook given to the library by Mrs. Sara Conerly Bruce, a 1949 Co-Lin graduate. Mrs. Bruce is the mother of Dr. Melody Musgrove. Yet another newspaper was discovered. In an article by Dr. Thames in the *50th Anniversary Magazine*, the May 17, 1929, issue of *The Lin-Copian*, the school newspaper, was referenced.⁷⁶

Microcosm, "campus literary magazine," was first published with the Winter, 1973 issue. Mrs. Edna Earle Crews was the faculty Advisor. Caren Sullivan served as editor, Alita Summers as assistant editor, and Betty Baker as art editor. The literary magazine has been published each year since.

A number of publications have been produced by the Copiah-Lincoln Alumni Association for its members. The *Colinian* began with the Fall, 1973 issue. The first *Colinian* announced, "Mrs. Ruby Larkin of Brookhaven, Class of 1927 and Mr. Frank Pitts of Dallas, Class of 1931, were named Alumni of the Year during Homecoming activities." The issue also announced the death of Dr. James M. Ewing on September 4th. *Alumni Accents* and *imPack* would join the *Colinian* as Alumni Association and Foundation publications.



Trillium

⁷⁶ "Messages from the College President," 50 Years of Service, p. 4.

Legend of the Bell and Other Stories

“Miss Fannie Callender may never write a masterpiece of music, but the resonance of her ancient dinner bell is the most welcome musical note on the campus. She is a connoisseur of good, wholesome food and a symbol of dependability.” Students today may not know Miss Callender but she is remembered by the picture of her standing inside the Administration Building with the bell she rang just outside the window.



The huge deep toned bell that stood atop four eight by eight wooden beams adjacent to the east door of the ad building, just feet away, tolled the class times. From 1864 to 1912 it had awakened the more than 1000 Mississippi Mills workers at four A.M. six days a week, to work six to six Monday through Saturday for \$1 a day. After that is served as Wesson’s fire bell and when the town fathers bought a hand crank siren the bell went to Co-Lin. Now it sits over the antique circular concrete watering trough that quenched the thirst of so many generations of oxen, mules, and horses in the middle of Wesson’s business district. My mother, among others, saved these two reminders of our past from the junk man and there they stand today.⁷⁷



The dinner bell display is located on the corner by Copiah Bank. The above picture, taken in April 2010, shows the only surviving building of the old Mississippi Mills in the background.

⁷⁷ Hodges, *Old Wesson*, np.

Students came to Co-Lin to stay. Only students who lived in Wesson could go home each day. The 1922 catalogue explained the administration's view of the importance of living on campus.

The students who go home the fewest number of times during the session do the best work in their studies and in every phase of school work. However, at stated intervals (every six week), or when there is necessity, pupils will be allowed to go home, but only by written permission from their parents directly to the Superintendent.⁷⁸

There was another reason why students did not go home very often. Except for the train, transportation was very poor in the early years of Co-Lin. The campus was located about a mile south of the Illinois Central Railroad station in Wesson. Trains regularly stopped in Wesson to deliver and pick up passengers. The roads were another issue.

New Orleans is one hundred and thirty miles south, Jackson about forty five miles north. A gravel pike runs through the farm, and extends more than a hundred miles north passing through Hazlehurst, Gallman, Crystal Springs, Jackson and other points of importance. With improved roads to the south, Brookhaven, Bogue Chitto, McComb and other points are easily reached.⁷⁹

Mike Clark of Brookhaven tells that his father, Venerable Clark of Ruth, a student at Co-Lin in the early 1920's, lived in dormitory because of the poor roads. In 1924, it could take more than a day to reach Ruth. Mary Shivers tells a similar story about her mother, Wilma Walker Cole, who came to Co-Lin in the 1930's. Mrs. Cole, a 1936 graduate of Co-Lin, was from Rials Creek near Mendenhall.⁸⁰ Mrs. Cole would catch the bus in Simpson County at the beginning of the school term and might go home only once during the term. Today students commute from all points in the district. Ruth is only about twenty-five minutes by the back roads of Lincoln County. A 1992 report issued from the Office of Admissions and Records indicated that two-thirds of all students commute to the Wesson campus each day.⁸¹

Until the early 1990's, the college provided commuter bus service. Regular routes ran from Meadville through Brookhaven to Wesson; from Monticello through Brookhaven, stopping at Lincoln County Courthouse, to Wesson; and from Crystal Springs, with a stop in Hazlehurst, to Wesson. Each bus would leave early enough from their point of origin to arrive on campus by 7:30 a.m. and would depart by 3 p.m. for home. When the new Henley Student Union was built in 1980, a student commuter lounge was built on the upper level. Buses would arrive and depart from the Henley Building parking lot each day. Today one



⁷⁸ "Home Visits," *Copiah-Lincoln Catalogue*, 1922-1923, p. 23.

⁷⁹ "Location," *Copiah-Lincoln Catalogue*, 1917-1918, p.8.

⁸⁰ "Alumna of the Year," Homecoming 2002 Program.

⁸¹ "Two-thirds commute," *Wolf Tales*, September 24, 1992, p.1.

can see the "Bus Parking" sign still painted on the parking lot curb.



Previous page: Top picture from 1928 annual. Bottom picture: Submitted by Marguerite Rutledge of Monticello, showing the Co-Lin bus either 1936-37 or 1937-38. Inez May Vinson is identified as the student in the center. Left: 2010 Co-Lin Bus

Even faculty members rode the bus. I decided to e-mail Edna Earle Crews to find out when the bus service stopped and find out about her experiences on the bus. This is her response.

I started riding the bus after Cindy was born in 1969, but not immediately. I think it was about 1973. I had begun going to sleeping driving down--from late nights up with her and grading papers. Gas went up about the same time and the two things together helped me decide to ride the bus. I think Clint Watkins was the driver. He kept the bus really quiet. As the years passed the drivers became less rule-oriented and by the time I stopped riding the bus was too noisy to ride. (At least for me.) I think an Armstrong boy was one of the last drivers when I quit riding. You look to see when Clint was in school and that would give you a specific time. I think I started riding when the service was first offered.

Oh, I reread your note. You wanted to know when it stopped. I started riding with Steve Harris and Jack Berry after I stopped riding the bus. The buses were still running then and continued for some years.

The energy crisis during the early 70's scared the "wise" national Congress into bumping daylight savings time back to Feb. The buses rolled into Co-Lin before daylight. This not good because I couldn't grade papers as I rode. To catch up on sleep, I waited until I got to Co-Lin to put in my contacts. That was a really bad idea because without the contacts, I have very little vision. Don't know what I would have done had I lost my contacts on one of those dark mornings. My glasses had been broken for years. I guess I would have been like Mr. McGoo!

We had some bad experiences, but you don't want to tell about the girl who threatened someone on the bus with a knife one morning! Her mama knew she was up to something and flagged the bus down and got her off!

Travel is much different today. Good roads provide students with quick access to campus. In 1991 the overpass, connecting the campus to Highway 51, was completed providing even quicker access over the railroad tracks to the campus. The road, begun in October of 1990, had been a dream of the school administrators since 1985. The opening ceremonies were held on July 3, 1991, in the 90-plus degree temperature.



“Withstanding 90-plus degree temperatures on black-top pavement was a small price for state, county, local officials to pay to see the opening of the long-awaited access road at Copiah-Lincoln Community College.”⁸² The day also marked the 58th birthday of Dr. Thames. Officially the bridge is named in memory of Lester Furr, but for some of us, the bridge is affectionately called, “The Billy Bass Overpass.”



In 1997 the old wooden overpass (left) just north of campus was replaced with a modern concrete structure. The dedication ceremony was held on a much cooler day in 1998.

Left: Overpass from 1941 annual. Right: Attending the opening ceremonies for the new north overpass were left to right, Ray Ishee, Dean of Students; Dr. Paul Johnson, Dean of the College; ?, Winfred Hammack, Copiah County Supervisor; Dr. Howell Garner, President; Mike Hux, Trustmark Bank; Tony Smith, Copiah County Supervisor; Jim Lightsey, Wesson Alderman; Buddy Blailock, Co-Lin employee; ?, Margie Panquerne, Co-Lin employee; Joe Johnson, Project Civil Engineer; Shag Pyron, former Highway Commissioner; Cecile Chapman, Co-Lin Nurse; ?, Manuel Welch, Copiah County Supervisor; Lura Greer, Wesson Alderman – Mayor Pro-tem; ?; Hollis Cowen, Jr., Wesson Alderman; Maudell Weeks, Co-Lin employee; C. B. Hawkins, former employee; Dr. Billy Thames, former Co-Lin President.



⁸² “Access Road Opens,” *Colinian*, August 1991, p.1

Copiah-Lincoln Junior College, according to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, has been accredited by SACS since 1936. In April 1951, March 1964, April 1974, April 1985, April 1995, and September 2004, the college would host a SACS visiting team and have the accreditation reaffirmed. In the 1951 Report of the Visiting Committee the following response was found.

We, the members of the Visiting Committee for the evaluation of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College and Agricultural High School, wish to express our heart-felt gratitude for your demonstration of Southern Hospitality. The ones of us who were born and reared in the South have never seen hospitality dispensed with more grace and ease, and surely it fills our hearts with pride that our northern brethren on this committee have seen such a marvelous demonstration of true Southern Hospitality.

To Dr. Ewing and Members of the Staff:

We are at loss for words that would adequately express our appreciation because, although the work has been taxing and continuous, you have made us feel so much at home that it has been a pleasure. We will be looking forward to another opportunity to visit this institution.

The commendations in the Report of April 11, 1951, were too numerous to count. Several noted commendations included the pleasant student-teacher relationships and the many evidences of superior teaching.

The college is to be commended on its faculty. The faculty has a very good understanding of the philosophy of the junior college. The faculty is interested in good teaching, student activity programs, the welfare of the college and the students. Good teaching was found in practically all fields.

Someone has said that an institution is the length and shadow of some one person. At Copiah-Lincoln Junior College that person is its president, James M. Ewing. For many years he has put his heart and soul into this college. Of course, he has had wonderful help from his co-workers and the students; but his has been the moving spirit behind Copiah-Lincoln.⁸³

Copiah-Lincoln would host another SACS reaffirmation visit March 8 – 11, 1964. It would be in the fall of 1982 that Dr. Billy Thames, President of Copiah-Lincoln, and Dr. Eddie Smith, Dean of the College, would call me in to the President's office and give me the assignment that would become one of my permanent "and other duties as assigned." I was to become the Self-Study director for the 1985 Reaffirmation Report and that assignment would carry on to 1995 and 2005.

During the nearly 30 years of working with Southern Association I have served on thirty-one teams visiting institutions from Texas to Kentucky to North Carolina and to Florida. I have been from the coal mining region of Kentucky to Paris – Texas that is! I have seen the campus pet at River Parishes Community College in Louisiana, a gator, the wrath of a hurricane, Andrew, on the campus of Miami-Dade Community College, and the first Hilton Hotel in Cisco, Texas.

⁸³ "General Summary," *An Evaluation of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College and Agricultural High School*, April 9-11, 1951, p.41.

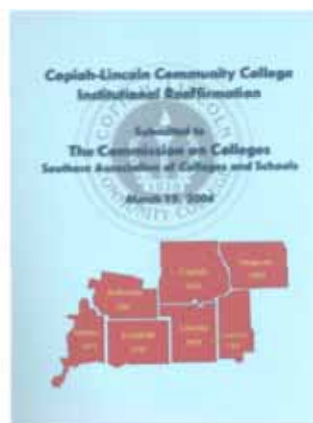
SACS would get me into a “scrape” with the President and the Dean. Dr. Thames and Dr. Smith would on occasion not see eye-to-eye. Dr. Smith had been an excellent Dean of the Natchez campus but as Wesson campus dean he sometimes could not play second fiddle to Dr. Thames. This one occasion in 1984, Dr. Jean Walker, our SACS liaison, was coming to Mississippi to share a visit with Copiah-Lincoln and Holmes Junior Colleges. She would arrive from Atlanta by plane, drive to Wesson, spend the day working with Co-Lin, and then both schools would take her to dinner in Jackson that night. About 30 minutes before Dr. Walker arrived, I first received a call from Dr. Thames and very shortly after received the same call from Dr. Smith. “As soon as Dr. Walker arrives bring her directly to my office!” Now, I am dealing with my direct supervisor and the chief administrator of the college– the one that signs you contract, what do I do?

My solution, I called each, in the order they had called me, and informed them that Dr. Walker had arrived and we were on our way across to the Administration Building. Dr. Smith met us at the front door of the Administration Building and escorted Dr. Walker to his office...and shut the door. I waited impatiently in the lobby. Shortly, Dr. Thames came out of his office to inquire as to the where-about of Dr. Walker. When I explained what had happened I received a stern reprimand. Finally, Dr. Walker emerged and went down to Dr. Thames’ office.

That night I was to accompany Dr. and Mrs. Thames to Jackson to have dinner with the group from Holmes and Dr. Walker. I arrived at the Thames’ home and was invited in by Mrs. Thames but only as far as the utility room. When we got ready to leave, I went around and opened the front passenger door for Mrs. Thames. “No, Mr. Chapman, you get to sit in the front seat, I’m in the back!” My reprimand continued all the way to Jackson. On our way to Jackson, we passed Dr. and Mrs. Smith, who were not joining us that night. It was their anniversary and they were celebrating. I’m sure the food was good that night but I don’t remember a bite. Dr. Smith went on to become President of East Central Community College, a job he excelled in until his retirement. I would visit ECCC several times while he was President and stop by his office. I never mentioned the day. I wondered if he knew the wrath I had incurred?



Dr. Jean Walker and Dr. Eddie Smith, 1984
SACS Logo and 2004 SACS Cover



H. L. "Hook" Stone, as football coach, won state championships nine out of eleven years. It would not be until 1985 that the state championship returned to Co-Lin.⁸⁴ Gwyn Young, as Women's Basketball Coach, reached a milestone in Mullen Gym on December 13, 2008, when he beat the Northeast Mississippi Lady Tigers 80 to 81. It was his 700th career win. At the time this made him the second winningness active coach in the National Junior College Athletic Association. In 2010, the Women's team would go 31-2 on the season and finish 8th in the national tourney.

Henry Lafayette Stone, A. J. Mangum, Gwyn Young, M. K. Turk, Alton Greenlee, Alton Ricks, James Sloan, Mike Jones...and the list continues. Sports play an important role at Copiah-Lincoln. Not to mention sports would be a grave error. However, Sports at Copiah-Lincoln is a whole book unto itself.



Top: April 2010, Alton Greenlee, A. J. Mangum, and Alton Ricks
 Top Right: Gwyn Young
 Right: 1985 East Bowl Championship Team Reunion
 Bottom Left: M. K. Turk
 Bottom Middle: Gwyn Young and Mike Jones
 Bottom Right: J. Mike Smith, James Sloan, Ray Ishee



⁸⁴ "Opinions," *Wolf Tales*, March 31, 1989, p. 2.

The “Hot Rocks,” as they are referred today, began in the 1930’s as a nice fountain. Some claim that the rocks had a “promiscuous yet romantic past.” They were a gathering for young lovers at a time when the social code at Co-Lin was very strict. According to Alton Ricks, former Dean of Students, girls were not allowed to socialize with guys and would “casually” meet their boys at the “Hot Rocks.” The term, hot rocks, came from the fact that in the hot summer sun, the rocks got very hot, making them uncomfortable to sit on, according to former student and instructor, Jean Ricks.

The fountain, starting out with a smooth concrete surface, appears to have been constructed in 1934. The rocks were added in 1939 and by the late 1940’s the water for the fountain was shut down and a small garden replaced the inside of the fountain. Sometime in the 1950’s the Hot Rocks fell on hard times and neglect. Weeds were pulled one last time in the late 1970’s and a holly bush was planted in the middle. Over the years the bush grew and took over the rocks. In 2008, the bush came down and a new shrub was planted in the middle. The thrill is gone but the rocks are still there as a reminder of times past.



There are other tales to be told. Tales about the girls being escorted from the dorm to the library each night. Tales about Mrs. Frazier drawing clothes on the necked figures in the art books in the library. Tales about Mrs. Edith Mae Presley, the janitor for the Fine Arts Building, that cleaned the building, answered the phone, and knew more about the Fine Arts program than those who taught there. When asked about her job, Mrs. Presley said, “I’m supposed to be the hostess, but I’m a general flunkie. I do everything from sweeping and mopping floors to answering the telephone, giving rubber-bands for ponytails and safety pins to hold up the clothes. I also run my mouth a lot.” Mrs. Presley always liked to keep busy. She also had the attitude that her only job was in the **Fine Arts Building**. One summer, Mrs. Presley brought a bushel of butter beans to school to shell when she finished her work. Once she had finished

her cleaning chores she sat down to shelled the beans. Dr. Thames came in and a few sparks began to fly. Mrs. Presley finished her beans but not before her job description was explained to her.

There are a few more tales to tell, but they might need to be censored. Dr. Billy Thames served as President for over twenty-nine years. He loved to tease people. He could dish out the teasing but sometimes it would come back to get him. I've told my story earlier here are a few more Billy Thames' classics. These are told with love and respect.

For years the faculty dining room was the place to go for good food, fellowship, and a little fun. Back in the early and mid 1970's, Co-Lin had a number of single instructors...Donald Cotten, Forest Case, Phyllis Hayes, Danny Harrell, Roy Daughdrill, and Joan Harris...just to name a few. They all gathered for lunch at the same time each day. The entertainment was usually who was going to be the first to get Phyllis started on one of her many "soap-boxes." This day, it would be Roy Daughdrill who provided the entertainment. Roy was a mathematics instructor and on the side was also a church organists. Dr. Thames for a number of weeks had been teasing Roy about being single. This day Dr. Thames came into the dining room making comments that all these unmarried instructors needed to find a spouse. The comment seemed to be more directed at Roy. After some harassing put an end to the conversation. Dr. Thames to Roy, "You need to take time from playing that organ and take out one of these eligible ladies..." Roy's reply, "But Dr. Thames, are you suggesting that I am playing the wrong organ?" The dining room cleared out! According to Mike McIntyre, Dr. Thames turned purple remained that color for several days.

Danny Harrell tells another tale on Dr. Thames, actually this one is more on Mrs. Thames. The job of President was very demanding but at home Mrs. Thames was trying to raise three children. Probably on more than this occasion Mrs. Thames needed Dr. Thames to be home. A little note on the setting of this story. First, it has been a common grammatical mistake that the homes of the President has been referred to as the Old President's Home and the New President's Home. In grammar that is called a misplaced modifier. This one takes place in the Old President's Home. Danny Harrell was living in the nearby dormitory at the time of this story. One night, Mrs. Thames found a snake in the kitchen pantry and called Danny and the campus security officer to come over and get rid of the snake. Though it was a small garden snake, to Mrs. Thames it was like any snake and did not belong in her house. The snake was found and killed. The tension and drama had brought Mrs. Thames to a point of frustration and she was heard to say, "Damn! Billy is never home when I need him." To know Mrs. Thames, this was not her usual character.

One day prior to the 1996 renovation of Smith Hall, Mike McIntyre was called to Dr. Thames' office. Mike was given a report by the State Building Commission that pointed out that the Smith Hall Annex, built in 1928, could at any moment partially or totally collapse. However, in the meantime, Mike took drastic steps. Attached to his telephone was an answering machine. "You have reached the office of Mike McIntyre at Copiah-Lincoln Community College. I am out of my office due to the fact that this structure is deemed unsafe." The voice part of the

recording was bad enough, but Mike did not stop there. In the background were sounds of buildings crumbling during an earthquake and other related noises. After a day or so, when many people had called just to hear what was on the machine, Mike was called in and strongly requested to change his answering machine. The 1996 renovation took care of that situation with the steel skeleton placed on the outside of the building.

These stories are much funnier when you get Roy, Danny, and Mike to actually tell them.

When you ask for Co-Lin stories you can get at least one good story from every long-term employee. The next story concerns Dr. Phyllis Hayes-Lanier and her parking spot. It is not that parking is limited, it's that the students don't want to walk very far from their car to the classroom. Quite often you will find students parked in the faculty parking area on the west side of Smith Hall. With a few exceptions, everyone knew to save Phyllis a parking spot. Back in the spring of 1991 the problem came to a head. Controversy over Phyllis' parking spot had been going on for weeks. Finally, an unidentified (no one wanted Phyllis to know who did it – though the sign was constructed at the Maintenance Department) co-worker put up a sign: RESERVED PARKING FOR DR. LANIER, ONLY. To that Phyllis responded, "If I had some cement I'd make it permanent."⁸⁵



⁸⁵ "The Joke's On Me," *Wolf Tales*, March 7, 1991, p. 3.

The Farm

Besides the practical work required about the farm by the State, the school gives opportunity for the students to do a great deal of work for which they receive pay based upon the amount and character of work done. It is easily possible for some students to make half or more of his expenses by putting in odd times at work about the school or on the farm.⁸⁶



The State law providing for the agricultural high schools required students to work either on the farm or in other campus facilities. In order to keep the room and board rates low, it was necessary for the boys to work on the farm one day each month and the girls to serve for a six weeks term in the dining hall.⁸⁷

“Students were required to do practical work assigned by the agriculturist during the entire course of agriculture. All required work will be graded and must be done promptly and cheerfully. The FARM...consists of 62 acres of the upland sandy loam type soil. The soil being poor in the beginning, small crops are to be expected until we have time to improve it. Our intentions are to improve the soil by growing legumes, by proper terracing and plowing and by use of barnyard manure. We expect to reduce the expenses of pupils materially by growing peas, beans, potatoes, cane and such other crops as can be used in the boarding department. In addition to these crops, we expect to grow feed stuff for our live stock.”⁸⁸

One of the surviving early records is the ledger from the farm and work program. From this ledger the school made a regular report to the supervisor of vocational education at the State of Mississippi Department of Education. The report submitted for 1924 indicated that 55 boys were enrolled having 59 enterprises which included being responsible for 51 acres of corn, 48 acres of cotton, varying acres of tomatoes, carrots, cabbage, sugar cane, beans and English peas; 10 head of dairy cattle, 635 head of poultry, 8 hogs, and 33 beef cattle.

⁸⁶ *Copiah-Lincoln Catalogue, 1922-23, p.11.*

⁸⁷ *Frazier, p.14.*

⁸⁸ *1917-1918 Catalogue, p. 36.*

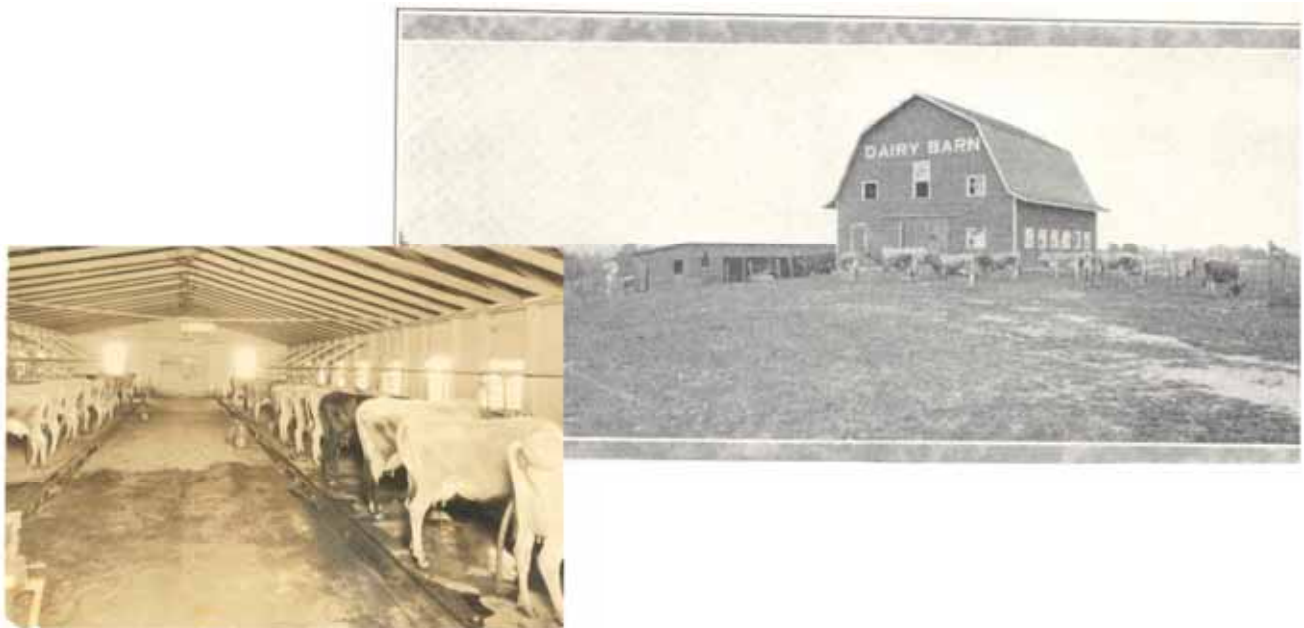
Fred Taylor and Venerable Clark were among the students listed with enterprises in the journal. Mr. Taylor would graduate from Co-Lin and become a successful cattle rancher in north Mississippi and Mr. Clark would return home to Lincoln County where he and his brother, C. C. Clark (a former Co-Lin Trustee), would start Brookhaven Equipment Company, a farm implement dealership.

Not everyone appreciated the hard work that accompanied the farm. Not every one left Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School to work in the farming industry. Graham Hodges would both move away and change professions. Reverend Hodges in his book, *Old Wesson*, would compile a lot of interesting stories about the early years. This one seems fitting to close out the section on the Farm.

In the four years I attended Co-Lin, two in high school and two in college, I worked one day a month, as required by state and federal regulations, doing the practical side of the theory I learned in Hook Stone's ag classes. I never recall that Captain Noah Wallace, Wessonite supervisor of such work, attempted to connect practice and theory, or was he expected to. But it fulfilled legal requirements for Co-Lin getting its money.

I can recall only one "work day" on which I did not haul manure from the dairy barn to the fields, with two large mules doing the pulling. On Mondays the three day accumulation of dung was considerable. Most boys shoveling it needed no instruction. Certainly I did not. But it surely must have given some of the boys coming from the larger towns some idea that our food comes by the sweat of somebody's brow.

Since I was a day student, not boarding, I protested to Mr. Jimmy Ewing that I should be excused from the monthly work day. He explained the state reimbursement system that applied to me as well as others, but to console me told me to go to the Wesson Drugstore and have a large banana split at his expense, which I did. My parents also backed Mr. Jimmy up.⁸⁹



⁸⁹ Hodges, *Old Wesson*.

What's In the Name

Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School (1915-1927), Copiah-Lincoln Junior College and Agricultural High School (1928-1979), Copiah-Lincoln Junior College (1979-1988), Copiah-Lincoln Community College (1988-present) or simply Co-Lin (forever). It's all the same. The two original counties have grown into a district serving seven counties, Copiah, Lincoln, Simpson (1933), Franklin (1949), Lawrence (1966), Jefferson (1968), Adams (1971). The junior college was formed in 1928. The high school left for Wesson Attendance Center at the end of the 1978-79 term. The newest name, Community College, came about July 1, 1988, in an effort to enhance the expanding role in the communities served by Co-Lin.

In 1972 the Natchez campus was opened and a move began to change the name. A bill was filed in the State House of Representatives by Adams County Representatives Walter Brown and Tommy O'Beirne seeking to change the name of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College to Mississippi River Junior College District. Previously Representative Brown had tried to establish a separate junior college district for Adams County. Politics have always played a part in the role of Adams County in the district. From the Mississippi Code:

There shall be two (2) campuses in the Copiah-Lincoln Junior College District: one (1) located in or near Natchez to be known as the Natchez Campus, and the other in or near Wesson to be known as the Copiah-Lincoln Campus. ⁹⁰

An act of the Legislature had created two campuses for Copiah-Lincoln. The name issue was hotly contested in 1975 and 1976.⁹¹

The college would open a third center in Simpson County in 2005.



⁹⁰ *Mississippi Code, Annotated*, 37-29-461. Campuses.

⁹¹ *The Colinian*, V. 3, No. 2, Winter 1976, p. 1.



LISTINGS

Copiah-Lincoln has been fortunate to have been the home for a number of outstanding people over the years. The following pages list some of those people.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Members serving in 2010 are highlighted in red.

Annual Dedications

Hall of Fame Honorees

Homecoming Queens

Mr. Copiah-Lincoln and Miss Copiah-Lincoln

Literary Hall of Fame

Alumni Association Officers

Alumni of the Year

Outstanding Faculty and Staff

Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame

Foundation Hall of Fame

Memorial

**Those Who Lost Their Lives
World War II, Korea, Vietnam**

Contributors to the Preservation of the History of Copiah-Lincoln



It is for the wonderful spirit of democratic cooperation, sportsmanship, and fair play that Copiah-Lincoln is first remembered. Much credit for the worth of this school must be given to the influence of a faculty with Christian ideals, to the far-sighted and generous Boards of Supervisors, to the capable and interested Board of Trustees, and to the devotion of our Presidents to the school they serve.

(Trillium, 1938, p.40)

Copiah-Lincoln Trustees

Year	Name	Position	County
1/1/02 -	Ammann, Steven	Member - At Large	Simpson
2009-	Amos, Steve	Member	Copiah
1952-59	Anderson, E. Ferris	Member	Copiah
1955-60	Anderson, Fred W.	Member	Copiah
1972-83	Armstrong, P. D.	Member	Copiah
1971-75	Armstrong, R. S. "Polly"	Member	Adams
1925-36	Baggett, L. H.	Member AHS & College	Lincoln
1990-03	Bailey, Kenneth	Member	Lawrence
1957-72	Bass, I. S.	Member	Simpson
1968-83	Bates, P. E.	Member	Jefferson
1983-	Bates, P. Eugene	Member - Chairman	Jefferson
1924-28	Beavers, Dr. J. H.	AHS Member - Physician	Not Listed
1960-63	Berry, Bernell	Member	Simpson
1948-52	Berry, R. S.	Member	Simpson
1949-54	Boggan, W. E	Member	Franklin
1964-71	Boggan, W. E	Member	Franklin
1952-67	Bolin, Robert	Member	Lincoln
2004 -	Brister, Terry	Member - School Superintendent	Lincoln
1995-96	Britt, Billy	Member - School Superintendent	Lincoln
1977-89	Britt, Calvin	Member - Secretary	Copiah
1992-04	Britt, Calvin	Member	Copiah
1975-85	Brown, Larry Butch	Member	Adams
1944-60	Brown, Mrs. G. P.	Member	Simpson
1948-74	Brown, Pence	Member	Lincoln
1985-86	Brumfield, Dr. George	Member	Lincoln
1992-01	Brumfield, Dr. George	Member	Lincoln
1996	Bryant, Wilbert	Member	Copiah
1988-93	Buckley, Dr. Melvin	Member - School Superintendent	Adams
2001	Buchanan, Jimmy	Member	Copiah
1934-36	Buckley, E. C.	Member	Simpson
1939-43	Bufkin, R. C.	Member	
1992-03	Bull, John	Member - School Superintendent	Lawrence
1975-80	Burkhardt, Wes	Member	Adams
1988-06	Burt, Jack	Member	Copiah

Copiah-Lincoln Trustees

1914-25	Burt, P. S.	AHS Member - Acting Secretary	Copiah
1948-57	Bush, Charles	Member	Simpson
1946-53	Cagle, B. W.	Member	Copiah
1988-08	Cagle, Don	Member	Copiah
1952-59	Calcote, Bart	Member	Lincoln
1987-88	Calcote, Dale	Member	Lincoln
1943-69	Callender, Grady	Member	Lincoln
1940-43	Callender, J. C.	Member	Lincoln
2012-	Carlock, Ray	Member – School Superintendent	Franklin
2001-	Case, Jack	Member	Lincoln
1919-21	Cathey, T. J.	AHS Member	
2004-07	Caudill, Russell	Member - School Superintendent	Lawrence
1960-84	Clark, C. C.	Member	Lincoln
1996-	Cleveland, Mary	Member	Copiah
2001-	Clopton, Rickey	Member - School Superintendent	Copiah
2012-	Cook, Tracy M.	Member - School Superintendent	Jefferson
1986-96	Collier, Mrs. Bobbie	Member	Copiah
1948-53	Crecinck, W. J., Sr.	Member	Franklin
1914-24	Davis, B. K.	Member AHS	Lincoln
2008-11	Davis, David A. "Tony"	Member - School Superintendent	Lawrence
1999-02	Davis, Dr. Carl	Member - School Superintendent	Adams
1984-88	Davis, Herbert	Member	Lincoln
1984-89	Dawes, Mrs. Leona	Member	Adams
1936-40	Day, Clyde E.	Member	Lincoln
1980-86	Deavers, Denson	Member - School Superintendent	Lawrence
1921-29	Decell, J. S.	AHS & College Board	Copiah
1968-72	Denison, Harold	Member	Lawrence
1996-11	Dickey, John	Member - School Superintendent	Jefferson
1988-90	Dickey, Penny	Member	Adams
2001-03	Dillary, Barry	Member	Franklin
1957-77	Dodds, Sturge	Member	Copiah
1954-55	Donahue, Earl	Member	Copiah
1990-98	Doss, Frances	Member	Adams
1974-85	Dow, John	Member	Lincoln
1988-97	Dow, John	Member	Lincoln

Copiah-Lincoln Trustees

1988-89	Durr, Louis	Member	Lincoln
2009-	Dunn, Chris	Member	Simpson
2004-	Easterlin, Lynwood	Member	Adams
1936-40	Edwards, F. E.	Member	Simpson
1919-22	Ellzey, Russell	Member - Secretary & Treasurer - Later President of the College	
1917-18	Erwin, H. O.	Member AHS	Crystal Springs
1952-55	Everett, Mack E.	Member	Simpson
2012-	Fairburn, Tammy Givens	Member - School Superintendent	Lawrence
1976-84	Ferguson, Rose	Member	Adams
2008-11	Fleming, Dr. Grady	Member - School Superintendent	Franklin
1932-39	Funchess, H. T.	Member	Copiah
1914-18	Furlow, J. E.	AHS Board	
1934-36	Furlow, S. M	Member	Copiah
1960-83	Furr, Lester	Member, Secretary	Copiah
1926-40	Furr, W. Prentiss	Member AHS & College	Lincoln
1914-25	Furr, R. E.	President - First Term of the Board of Trustees	Lincoln
2002-03	Garvin, Mary Kate	Member - School Superintendent	Adams
1968-75	Gavin, R. E.	Member - School Superintendent	Jefferson
2002 -	Gilbert, Charles "Chuck"	Member	Adams
1974-87	Givens, Berry	Member - Vice-Chairman	Lincoln
1956-64	Godbold, Horace	Member	Franklin
1961-88	Graves, C. C., Jr.	Member	Copiah
1915-24	Green, Dr. E. L.	Member AHS	Copiah
1914-32	Greer, Andy	Member AHS & College	Lincoln
1976-79	Greer, Troy Carroll	Member - School Superintendent	Simpson
1992-95	Greer, Troy Carroll	Member - School Superintendent	Simpson
1915-19	Grice, B. L.	Member A.H.S. Supt Education	Brookhaven
1975-76	Handjis, James	Member	Adams
2012-	Harris, Glenn	Member - School Superintendent	Simpson
1998-	Harrison, Willie	Member	Lincoln
1972-77	Hart, Gerald	Member	Lincoln

Copiah-Lincoln Trustees

1975-87	Hayes, Marion	Member - School Superintendent	Jefferson
1974-86	Henley, Harris B.	Member	Copiah
1924-74	Henley, W. S.	AHS & College Board - President	Copiah
1972-83	Herring, James T.	Member - School Superintendent	Franklin
2012-	Hill, Dr. Frederick	Member - School Superintendent	Adams
1914-15	Hodges, Z. C.	Member	Lincoln
1933-48	Holloway, C. J.	Member	Lincoln
1985-02	Horn, Gerald	Member	Adams
1993-98	Hoskins, Dr. Willie	Member - School Superintendent	Adams
1916-17	Irwin, H. O.	Member A.H.S.	
1943-70	Izard, E. Ray	Member	Copiah
1994-95	Jenkins, Tonya	Member	Adams
1987-88	Jolly, Mrs. Joan	Member	Lawrence
1965-87	Jolly, T. E.	Member - Vice-Chairman	Lawrence
2003-	Jolly, Thomas, Jr.	Member	Lawrence
2011-2012	Johnson, Joyce J.	Member – Interim School Superintendent	Adams
1983-98	Jones, Larry	Member - School Superintendent	Franklin
1970-77	Jordan, Milton N.	Member	Franklin
1914-16	Kethly, W. L.	AHS Member	Copiah
1929-33	King, Edgar	Member	Lincoln
1953-56	King, John J.	Member	Copiah
1989-	King, Melton	Member	Adams
1990-92	Lambert, James	Member	Copiah
1960-64	Larkin, Mrs. Ruby B.	Member	Lincoln
2002-	Lofton, Randall	Member	Lincoln
1971-72	Lofton, W. D.	Member	Lincoln
1955-82	Lowery, Frank	Member	Lincoln
1926-39	Magee, Dr. David	Member AHS & College	Lincoln
1939-40	Magee, Mrs. David	Member	Lincoln
1940-52	Magee, Luther	Member	Lincoln
1918-22	Martin, J. Q. (I. in some minutes)	Supt Education - Copiah Co.	
1921-32	May, L. P.	Supt Education - Lincoln Co.	Lincoln
1940-43	May, Vernon	Member AHS & College Member	Simpson

Copiah-Lincoln Trustees

1996-07	McAlpin, Jack	Member - School Superintendent	Simpson
2001-08	McAlpin, Penny	Member	Simpson
1914-15	McAlpin, A. A.	Chairman Protem - Superintendent of Education	Lincoln
1940-51	McCormick, W. W.	Member	Lincoln
1925-26	McGee, Mr.	AHS Member	
1971-77	McLaurin, D. G.	Member - School Superintendent	Adams
1968	McLaurin, G. A.	Member	Jefferson
1939-72	Messer, Dr. Otho	Member - Vice-Chairman	Copiah
1948-52	Middleton, R. E.	Member	Copiah
2000-03	Miller, Perry	Member - School Superintendent	Lincoln
1942-47	Minton, A. Sidney	Member	Lincoln
1919-29	Moak, George	Member AHS & College	Lincoln
2003-11	Morris, Dr. Anthony	Member - School Superintendent	Adams
1967-72	Myers, George	Member	Copiah
1986-87	Nelson, Mrs. Charlotte	Member	Copiah
1977-94	Nelson, Walter	Member	Adams
1990-	Newsome, Thelma Taylor	Member	Adams
1936-47	Oswalt, Frank	Member	Copiah
1972-01	Parker, R. S.	Member - Secretary & Vice-Chairman	Simpson
1952-60	Parkinson, A. F.	Member	Lincoln
1966-67	Patterson, G. L., Jr.		
1982-83	Patterson, Harold J.	Member	Lincoln
1989-92	Poole, Melwin Jackie	Member	Lincoln
1977-88	Porter, Claude	Member - School Superintendent	Adams
1972-73	Price, James M.	Member - School Superintendent	Lawrence
1933-37	Price, Thomas	Member	Lincoln
2007 -	Pyles, Johnny	Member	Copiah
1914-15	Ratcliff, Dr. M. D.	Member	Lincoln
1922-62	Rea, R. E.	AHS & College Board - Secretary	Copiah
1983-88	Redd, Elmore A.	Member	Adams

Copiah-Lincoln Trustees

1988-91	Reed, Clifton	Member - School Superintendent	Simpson
1998-01	Reed, Edward	Member	Adams
1998-99	Reed, Oscar	Member - School Superintendent	Adams
1975-89	Reed, Tom	Member	Adams
1937-40	Reeves, J. H.	Member	Lincoln
1939-43	Reynolds, J. C.	Member	Copiah
1975-77	Robinson, Miss Malinda	Member	Adams
2014-	Ross, Roland	Member	Lincoln
1943-53	Rush, T.V.	Member	Copiah
1996-00	Rushing, Johnny	Member	Lincoln
1972-84	Rushing, Versie	Member - School Superintendent	Lincoln
1986-91	Russell, Henry L.	Member - School Superintendent	Lawrence
1985-95	Sasser, Thomas S.	Member	Lincoln
2000-	Sasser, Thomas S.	Member	Lincoln
1984-99	Sinclair, Martha Clark Manuel	Member	Lincoln
1980-87	Smith, Bill	Member - School Superintendent	Simpson
1940-55	Smith, Carlos	Member	Lincoln
1964-72	Smith, Carnie E.	Member	Lincoln
1988-95	Smith, Daniel	Member - School Superintendent	Jefferson
1977-81	Smith, Dr. G. Dale	Member	Lincoln
1984-95	Smith, Harold Luther	Member - School Superintendent	Lincoln
1969-72	Smith, Loyd	Member	Lincoln
2005-	Smith, Ricky	Member	Copiah
1983-86	Sojourner, John	Member	Copiah
2009-2013	Spiller, Andrew	Member	Lincoln
1931-32	Starnes, M. Bart	Member	Copiah
1967-01	Stribling, Dr. J. H.	Chairman & Vice-Chairman	Lincoln
1973-01	Sullivan, Dale	Member - School Superintendent	Copiah
1943-44	Sullivan, Gordon	Member	Copiah
1924-35	Sullivan, Jack	AHS & College Board	Copiah
	Taylor, Thelma	See Thelma Taylor Newsome	Adams
1945-46	Templeton, Spence	Member	Copiah

Copiah-Lincoln Trustees

1920-24	Thomas, A. B.	Member	
1920-40	Thomas, A. S.	AHS & College Board	
1998-07	Thomas, Mrs. Lona	Member - School Superintendent	Franklin
1954-55	Torrey, S. P.	Member	Franklin
1964-75	Tutor, G. L.	Member - School Superintendent	Simpson
2003-	Tyson, Barry	Member	Franklin
2001-02	Washington, Michael	Member	Adams
2002-03	Watkins, Troy	Member	Adams
2007-11	Welch, Joe	Member - School Superintendent	Simpson
1989-08	Wells, Dr. Steve	Member	Lincoln
1980-83	West, Jesse	Member	Adams
1948-52	White, W. Lee	Member	Lincoln
1914-23	Williams, I. J	AHS Member - Secretary	11th Member
1987-07	Williams, Mrs. Mildred Maxine	Member	Copiah
2007 -	Wilson, Johnny	Member	Copiah
1995 -	Winkworth, Roy	Member - Vice-Chairman	Adams
1984-87	Wooten, Mrs. Millie Jane	Member	Copiah
1933-41	Young, Eddie	Member	Lincoln
1977-01	Young, L. G.	Member	Franklin
1928-40	Youngblood, J. S.	AHS & College Board - President	Copiah



2010 Board of Trustees Members

Thelma Newsome, Natchez; Mary Cleveland, Hazlehurst; Dr. Ronnie Nettles, President; Roy Winkworth, Natchez – Vice-Chairman; Gene Bates, Church Hill – Chairman; Tommy Sasser, Bogue Chitto, Secretary; Melton King, Natchez; Chris Dunn, Magee; Steve Ammann, Mendenhall; Barry Tyson, Meadville; Ricky Clopton, Wesson; Johnny Wilson, Crystal Springs; Steve Amos, Hazlehurst; Lynwood Easterling, Natchez; Chuck Gilbert, Natchez; Tommy Jolly, Monticello; Andrew Spiller, Brookhaven; Willie Harrison, Brookhaven; Dr. Anthony Morris, Natchez; Jack Case, Bogue Chitto; Rickey Smith, Wesson; Randall Lofton, Brookhaven; Dr. Grady Fleming, Meadville; Joe Welch, Mendenhall; John Henley, Board Attorney
 Not pictured: Terry Brister, Tony Davis, John Dickey, Johnny Pyle

Copiah-Lincoln Trustees



1969



1978



1981



1996



1989



2001



Mr. L. G. Young
Dr. James Stribling
Mr. R. S. Parker

Annual Dedications

1925

Mothers and Fathers

1926

Lula Stevens*

1927

Russell Ellzey*

1928

Board of Trustees

1929

Voters of Copiah & Lincoln
Counties

1930-1936

No Annuals Published

1937

Jimmy Ewing*

1938

Henry LaFayette "Hook"
Stone*

1939

Lula Stevens*

1940

Parents

1941

Fannie Callender*

1942-1946

No Annuals Published

1947

Frances Skulley*

1948

Bell Lindsey*

1949

Ralph Franklin*

1950

H. T. Huddleston*

1951

Mary Jane Koelz*

1952

Maggie Flowers Ewing*

1953

Mrs. Frank Oswalt*
Miss Fannie Callender*
Miss Lula Stevens*
Mr. Jimmy Ewing*
Mrs. Maggie Ewing*
Miss Mary Thompson*



1954

Grace Huff*

1955

F. M. Fortenberry*

1956

Mary Thompson*

1957

A. J. Mangum*

1958

Ray Busby*

1959

Delores Brumfield

1960

Lula Stevens*

1961

Zelle Weems*

1962

Mrs. E. T. Harvey*

1963

Mrs. Carl Thompson

1964

Charles J. King

1965

Graydon Mullen*

1966

E. Forest Case*

1967

Clyde Wilson*

1968

Vivian Byrd*

1969

Alma Louise Smith

1970

Dwight A. Harris*

1971

None

1972

John E. Russell*

1973

Willie Mae Hamill*

1974

Fred* and Lena* Thompson

1975

James M. Lewis*

Annual Dedications



Mrs. Lena
Thompson and
Mr. Fred Thompson
(1974)
Miss Zelle Weems
(1961)
Mrs. Willie Smith
Mrs. Maude Lewis
Mrs. James Lewis
(1975)
Mr. Grover Smith
Mr. B. Frank Hunter
(1978)
Mrs. Lenora Hunter

1976

Burlian Walker*

1977

Donald* and Sara Johnson

1978

B. F. Hunter*

1979

Class of 1928

1980

Alton Greenlee

1981

John R. Landress

1982

Phyllis Hayes-Lanier*

1983

Julia Guess*

1984

Keith McDaniel

1985

Helen Mullen*

1986

Edna Earle Crews

1987

Alton Ricks

1988

Stanley W. Stewart

1989

Wade* and Sharon
Alexander

1990

Herman Cavin*

1991

Bob Huckaby

1992

Ann Bradbury*



Burlian Walker and
Pat Young

1993

Jean Ricks

1994

Durr Walker

1995

Katherine Huckaby

1996

Juanita Thomas



Juanita Thomas

1997

Dr. Billy B. Thames

1998

Michael D. McIntyre

1999

Dr. Roy Daughdrill

2000

Pat Young

2001

Stanley W. Stewart

2002

Russell Ray

2003

Danny Harrell

2004

Darryl Jordan

2005

Danny Dykes

2006

Dr. Donnie Lawson

Annual Dedications

2007

Louis Dugas

2008

Dr. Howell Garner

2009

Michael Tanner

2010

Donna Cunningham

2011

Ken Chapman

2012

Gwyn Young

2013

Pauline Byther



Michael Tanner



Ken Chapman



Pauline Byther



Donna
Cunningham



Gwyn Young

Hall of Fame

Realizing that the truest merit does not always receive public acclaim, and desiring to acknowledge character and service of the highest quality, the Trillium presents for the first time members of a Hall of fame for Copiah-Lincoln.

To become a member, one must first be nominated by a student or faculty member; one must be passed upon by a secret screening committee of his fellow students; and finally one must be unanimously recommended by a faculty committee.

Only college sophomores are eligible for this honor. The bases for selection are fineness of character, superior scholarship, worthy leadership, and contribution to the betterment of Copiah-Lincoln. *1954 Trillium*

1954

James Ewing, Jr.
Billy Bass Thames+
Connie Walker

1955

Lady Nelson Gill
John Williams
Quay Barry Hardy

1956

Margaret Ewing
James Elton Kyzar+
Catherine Steen

1957

Robert Wilkinson
Carroll Mullins
Bobby Kepper

1958

Relda Ann Burris
Willie James Sisco
Jane Ellen Crabtree

1959

Rebecca Barlow+
Charles Nelson
Yvonne Calhoun

1960

Mary Ethel Dykes
Johnny Ray Rice
Katie Grace Crawford

1961

James Daniel Miller
Rachail Loraine Farrar
Albert Ray Brock

1962

Patricia Ann Calhoun
Zoula Mae Hennington+
Fred Frizzell

1963

Donald H. Butler
Joe Wayne Jolly
Thomas H. Lowery*

1964

Hilda Marie Johnson
Percy Lee Parker
Audrey Paye Smith

1965

Jeanie Myers
Sonya White+
Laverne Thames

1966

Dennis Granbery
Carolyn Calcote

1967

Gloria Jane Ainsworth+
Robert Alan Freeman
Karen Denise Smith

1968

Martha Carol Hunter
Paul Henry Ponder
Elgin Kenneth Walley

1969

Rosemary Prather
John Ted Russell
Rhonda Wilson+

1970

Judy Jones
Charlene Walker
Glenn Wallace

1971

Rickey Thomas Clopton++
Jane Elizabeth Sanders
Joseph William Yates, Jr.

1972

Peggy Jean Arnold
Robert A. Geoghegan
Patricia Walker

1973

Vicky Godbold
Mike Jones+
Daphne Landress

1974

William Robert Smith
Mary Belinda Waller
Louise Jacquelyn Weeks

Hall of Fame

1975

Randall Keith Bradshaw
Wayne Calvin Oglesby
Roger Glyn Walker

1976

John Timothy Boyd
Douglas Matthews Buckles
Amanda Lynn Davis

1977

Clara Lazette Adams
Wanda Faye Cone
Ann Ellen Heaton+

1978

Joyce Ann Ballard
Charles Dennis Berch
Michael A. Henderson

1979

Charlotte Nell Creely
Randy Lamar Emfinger
Kenneth Wayne Peavey

1980

Sharon Patricia Douglas
Mark Keith Lee
Margaret C. Newell

1981

Leah Ann Holtslander
Chet Mercier
Pattie Jean Page

1982

Jennifer Gatlin
James Larry Grantham II
Francis K. Horton III

1983

Russell Eugene Berry
Ronald Haynes
Jennifer Redd
Claude Scott Smith
Samuel Eric Storm
Rachel Lynn Thames

1984

Melody Delaney Bryant
Elizabeth Ann Dykes
Julie Ruth Huckaby
Beverly Kay Jones
Mary Kelli Smith
Anna Lisa Ward

1985

Donald Brown
Van Creely
Tom Martin
Michelle Smith
Ken Vincent
Heather Webb

1986

Kathy Sue Amos
Richard Thomas Baker III+
Michael S. Farmer
Melissa Dianne Lewis
Gwen Ray
Keith Reeves
Terri Stacey Reid

1987

Pam Cagle
Jason Gunnell
Chris Nesmith
Marty Puckett
Rhonda Rayborn
Rebecca Thames

1988

Edward O'Neal Benson
Chantell Caughman
Beth Hawkins
James Paul McInnis+
Michael Osborne
Lynn Whittington

1989

Janie Brewer
Ren Brown
Greg Dykes
Jody Martin
Ann McLean
Dianne Smith
Rob Troxler

1990

Chris Archie
Reagan Brown
Cindy Carr
Tim Lott
Jeff Posey+
Rhonda Sanders

1991

Ivan Burghard
Chaucer Funchess
Charles Jackson
Scott Marler
Kathy Odom
Chan Willis

1992

Karla Adams
Brad Ishee
Lyn Johnson
Wini Martindale
Susanne Reynolds
Christy Smith
Jenny Ware

Hall of Fame

1993

Alise Blackwell
Mendez Goldman
Melanie Hammill
Staci Pate
Fred L. Smith
William Chad Wigington

1994

Tim Bracey
Carole Dykes
Kristy Earls
Brad Garner
Angela Smith
Reginald Ware

1995

Roshanda Atterberry
Lekeycha Barnes
Karon Berry
Damon Mackey
Lori McCreary
David Patterson III
Laura Smith

1996

Doug Boyles
Jessica Graham
Jessica Lightsey
Suzannah Russell
Shelley Smith+
Pam Tullis

1997

Ben Adams
Eddie Britt+
Dara Callender
Tim Cunningham
Dana Dykes
Marcus Harris

1998

Clark Beasley
Janna Bonds
Duane Burt+
James Conley Chapman
Megan Kyzar
Candice Magee
Angie Mullins

1999

Jared D. Amos
Ryan Berry
Gabe Goza
Amy Smith
Catherine E. Sutton
Denise Warren

2000

Gene Kyle Britt
Allison Michelle Dugas
Michael Clay Posey
Christopher L. Robinson
Bonita Rogers
Jennie Rebecca Turner

2001

Dana Brooks
John Kelly
Stephen King
Cerise Marshall
Katrina Sandifer
Bill Shivers

2002

Holli Adams
Nina Fischer
Misti Fortenberry
Matt Mooney
Sarah Odgen
Jana Wright
Michael McIntyre, Jr.

2003

Chavis Bradford
Curtney Gayten*
Ben Lambert
Jessica Phillips
David Russell

2004

Martha Elizabeth
Chapman
Leah Frances Davis
Britanny Danielle Greer
Darnisha M. Johnson
Todd Stephen Thompson

2005

Craig Donald Case
Chris Romale Collins
Karen Wallace Freeman
Brandi Michelle Irvin
John Bernard Perkins III
Todd Stephen Sullivan

2006

Katherine Elizabeth
Diamond
Kristian Tiana Shannon
Rebecca Leigh Smith
Emily Diane Oberschmidt
Mamie Laura Smith
Jacquelyn Ann Stowe

Hall of Fame

2007

Dusty Bratton
Andrea Selman
Kelly Stelzriede
Eugenia Ustinova
John Windham

1990 Hall of Fame
Dr. Thames
Jeff Posey
Cindi Carr
Chris Archie
Rhonda Sanders
Tim Lott
Reagan Brown



2008

Rachel Annette Blair
Amber Alaine Bowman
Meleah Dawn Brown
Jake Scott Godard
Margaret C. Howard
Joseph Daniel Summers
Michelle Nicole Trest



1993 Hall of Fame
Stacie Pate
Melanie Hammill
Alise Blackwell
Mendez Goldman
Chad Wigington
Fred L. Smith

2009

Jessica Elizabeth Best
Amanda Nicole Blair
Adrienne Nicole Brown
Crystal Gail Freeman
Caitlin Paige Johnson
Ashlee Nicole Richardson
Ronald Byron Sims

2000 Hall of Fame
Dr. Garner
Jennie Turner
Chris Robinson
Bonita Rogers
Kyle Britt
Allison Dugas
Clay Posey



2010

Jessie Marie Armstrong
Amanda Day Burke
Rebecca Anne Byrd
Joseph William Collins
Jefferson Davis DeBlieux
Mary Catherine
McDonnieal
Chasity Sims

2011

Katie Elisabeth Case
Sabrina Anna Michelle
DeLaughter
Jason Giangrosso
Nicole Elizabeth Magee
Lindsey Helana McQuage
Heather Noelle Phillips



2004 Hall of Fame
Todd Thompson
Darnisha Johnson
Beth Chapman
Brittany Greer
Leah Davis

Hall of Fame

2012

Zackary Fetcko
Brooke King
Kimberly Kolpek
Jasmine Williams
Michael Williams
Michael Wise
Christy Wright



2013

Chelsey Buie
Will Gatlin
Jed Moak
Nathan Runnels
Brooke Ryan
Erica Smith
Shelby Wallace

Homecoming Queens

1938

Vera Callon

No Homecoming in
1943, 1944, 1945

1947

Betty Jo Hedgepeth

1948

Geraldene Jones

1949

Mary Little
(Peevy)

1950

Sara Pearl Higginbotham
(Halford)

1951

Aimee Simon

1952

Nancy Cagle

1953

Edna Earl Magee

1954

Marilyn Brown
(Slay)

1955

Betty Jo Flowers
(Treppendahl)

1956

Relda Ann Burris
(Cagle)

1957

Relda Ann Burris
(Cagle)

1958

Yvonne Calhoun
(Parker)

1959

Beverly King
(Hill)

1960

Barbara Prestridge

1961

Vivian Calcote
(Hunter)

1962

Jackie O'Neal
(Kent)

1963

Sondra Beeler

1964

Janet Smith
(Brister)

1965

Patsy Higdon
(Simonson)

1966

Diane Payne
(McIntyre)

1967

Jenny Kay Davis

1968

Rosemary Prather
(Parker)

1969

Brenda Wilson
(Tyson)

1970

Lynette Hughes

1971

Theja Jones
(Wilson)

1972

Mary Dees
(Primos)

1973

Kathy Jackson

1974

Diana Cavazon

1975

Diane Dees

1976

Laureen Furey

1977

Ann McNulty

1978

Nena Brister
(Carmody)

1979

Renae Berch
(Pettigrew)

1980

Pattie Jean Page
(Wade)

1981

Gail Freeman

1982

Pam Coleman

Homecoming Queens

1983

Lisa Ward
(Purdie)

1984

Jackie Ard
(Barclay)

1985

Melissa Lewis

1986

Dana May
(Monk)

1987

Chantell Caughman
(Miles)

1988

Christy Watkins
(Walker)

1989

Terri Dunaway

1990

Chan Willis

1991

Karla Adams
(Gerald)

1992

Amy Foster

1993

Tregunda Ellis
(Robertson)

1994

Lekeycha Barnes

1995

Tara Smith

1996

Kristen Horton

1997

Candice Magee
(Wolken)

1998

Sharrieffah Sharrieff

1999

DeShea Welch
(Walker)

2000

Cassie Smith
(Simpson)

2001

Nina Fischer
(Strother)

2002

LaNissa Wilson
(Byrd)

2003

Grecian Barnett

2004

Brandi Irvin

2005

Amber Ross
(Hartfield)

2006

Lacey Williams

2007

Meleah Brown

2008

Destiny Brown

2009

Mary Catherine
McDonnieal

2010

Whitney Clark

2011

Macie Case

2012

Chynna Coghlan

2013

Dana Sartin



Reunion of the Homecoming Queens, October 2009
L to R: Dana May Monk (1986), Nina Fischer Strother (2001),
?, Yvonne Calhoun Parker (1958), Mary Catherine
McDonnieal (2009), Marilyn Brown Slay (1954), Vera Callon
(1938), Brandi Irvin (2004), Relda Ann Burris Cagle (1956 &
1957)

Others attending: Sara Pearl Higginbotham Halford (1950),
Betty Jo Flowers Treppendahl (1955), Beverly King Hill
(1959),
Janet Smith Brister (1964), Diane Payne McIntyre (1966),
Mary Dees Primos (1972), Nena Brister Carmody (1978),
Renae Berch Pettigrew (1979), Christy Watkins Walker
(1988), Candice Magee Wolken (1997), Lacey Williams
(2006)

Mr. Co-Lin Miss Co-Lin



1928 – Elizabeth Rea*
(Left)

1929 – Doris Ball (Green)*

1930-1936 – Unavailable

1937

King of Co-Lin
Fortner Babbs
Queen of Co-Lin
Mary Augusta

1938

King of Co-Lin
Kit Luse
Queen of Co-Lin
Bernice Coker

1939

King of Co-Lin
Phillip Ship
Queen of Co-Lin
Doris Nichols

1940

The King
Elmer Tuggle Brumfield
The Queen
Martha Hart

1941

Mr. Copiah-Lincoln
Thomas East
Miss Copiah-Lincoln
Evelyn Clark

1942

Roland Stevens
Merle Carr

1943

Robert Guess
Kathryn Dale¹

1944-1945

Unavailable

1946

Russell Burns
Mary Warren Sharp

1947

Roland Curtis
Ann Jones

1948

Alton Ricks+
Catherine McManus

1949

Gene Felder
Judy Kennedy

1950

W. B. Thompson
Evelyn Wadsworth

1951

Billy Magee
Pearl Higginbotham

1952

Buster Schilling
Diane Weaver

1953

Max Edwards
Janice Sanderson

1954

Mike Lusk
Betty Ruth Wilson

1955

Jimmy Kimble
Shirley Allen (Ricketts)+*

1956

Jimmy Ashley
Catherine Steen

1957

Kenneth Mooney
Jennie Swanson

¹ *Wesson Enterprise*, April 23, 1943

Mr. Co-Lin Miss Co-Lin

1958

John Rockett
Relda Burris

1959

Charlie Nelson
Yvonne Calhoun

1960

Pat Hennington
Glenda Smith

1961

Cliff Smith
Rachel Farrar

1962

Fred Frizzell
Pat Calhoun

1963

Bobby Britt
Jane White

1964

Percy Parker
Hilda Johnson

1965 (Below)

Hardy Smith
Sonya White (Cowen)+

1966

Ronny Smith
Carolyn Calcote

1967

Terry Assink+
Jane Ainsworth (Smith)+

1968

Kenny Walley
Sherry Swenney

1969

Mark Whittington
Rosemary Prather (Parker)

1970

Scott Ratcliff
Becky Harris

1971

Joe Yates
Linda McCaffrey

1972

Tommy Owens
Patricia Walker

1973

Mike Jones+
Sandra Grayson

1974

Danny Moseley
Becky Lynn Thompson

1975

Alvin Lyons
Angela Northup

1976

Tim Boyd
Linda Jean Hill

1977

Ronnie Wyatt
Wanda Cone

1978

Richard Furr
Ester Schmidt

1979

Randy Emfinger
Doris Finley

1980

Teddy Jack Mullins
Myrna Saxon

1981

Patricia Nelson
Earlean Green

1982

Jamie Grantham
Jennifer Gatlin

1983

Charlie Ackerman
Nish Ackerman

1984

Eric Dear
Lisa Ward (Purdie)

1985 (Below)

Mike Moreman
Jackie Ard



Mr. Co-Lin Miss Co-Lin

1986

Keith Reeves
Bonnie Vance

1987

Marty Puckett
Rhonda Rayborn

1988

Edward Benson
Chantell Caughman

1989

Ren Brown
Ann McLean

1990

Tim Lott
Angela Lee

1991

Charles Jackson
Chan Willis

1992

Brad Ishee
Karla Adams

1993

Chad Wigington
Amy Foster

1994

Chad Ashmore
Kristy Earles

1995

Clay Smith
Kami Burns

1996

Ashley Shane Wallis*
Jessica Laura Lightsey

1997

Brian Williamson
Jenny Mangum

1998

Leon Gregory Williams
Lenora Ann Lee

1999

Ryan Berry
Haley Long

2000

Christopher Robinson
Jennie Turner

2001

John Kelly
Dana Brooks

2002

Matt Mooney
Jessica Bueto

2003

Curtney Gayton*
Tiffani Coquat

2004

Dusty Shack
Elise Dixon

2005

Chris Collins
Brandi Irvin

2006

Earnest Carter, Jr.
Lauren Teasley

2007

John Matthew Windham
Andrea Selman

2008

Jake Scott Goddard
Amber Alaine Bowman

2009

Andrew McGee
Kayla Chase

2010

Bradley Boykin
Mary Catherine
McDonnieal

2011

Jordan Dantrell Hunt
Britney Latrece Clark



2000
Jennie Turner
Chris Robinson



1996
Jessica Lightsey
Shane Wallis*

Mr. Co-Lin Miss Co-Lin

2012

Michael Williams
Christy Wright

2013

Jedd Moak
Brooke Ryan



1946 – Dr. Russell Burns
and Mary Warren Sharp

Literary Hall of Fame

The Literary Hall of Fame, a project of the English Club, began in 1983 with the induction of J. Edgar Simmons. Each year a former student or faculty member who has distinguished himself or herself through writing in his or her chosen field of study will be selected by A Literary Hall of Fame committee of the English Club as the recipient of the award. Mr. Jim Bateman of Hazlehurst, a special student at Co-Lin in 1983, initiated the idea of the Literary Hall of Fame.¹



Top Left: Edna Earle Crews (2010),
 Top: Jim Bateman (1985), Mrs. Bateman,
 Nancy Dykes, Edna Crews
 Right: Mr. Bateman's Book Cover
 Right Center: Burlian Walker (2002)
 Bottom Right: Mrs. McGhee
 Bottom: J. Edgar Simmons (1983)
 Bottom: Phyllis Hayes-Lanier (1997)
 Bottom Left: Carole Dykes and
 Ann Heaton Hawkins (1994)
 Left: Reverend Graham Hodges (1991)



¹ "J. Edgar Simmons honored posthumously," *Colinian*, Summer, 1983, p. 13.

Literary Hall of Fame

1983

J. Edgar Simmons*

1984

Paul Howard Pittman*

1985

James A. (Jim) Bateman*

1986

Dr. Ben Harold Douglas

1987

Dr. J. Roland Hamilton*

1988

Dr. H. Hardy Perritt*

1989

Dr. Ray O. Hammons*

1990

Dr. Charles D. Cannon*

1991

Reverend Graham R. Hodges*

1992

Dr. Doug Davis*

1993

Charles H. Thornton*

1994

Ann Heaton Hawkins+

1995

Molly Carruth Mandel

1996

Gayle M. Ross+

1997

Dr. Phyllis Hayes-Lanier+*

1998

David Elbert Guynes*

1999

Dr. Carl W. Cobb*

2000

Dr. Catherine Perry Cotten+

2001

Nancy A. Dykes+

2002

Burlian O'Neal Walker+*

2003

Tricia Walker

2004

Dr. Durr Walker+

2006

David E. Campbell+

2010

Edna Earle Crews+

2012

Elizabeth Derek Clayton+

2013

Kendall Chapman+

Alumni Association Officers

1924-1925

W. B. Holcomb*, President
J. H. Kyzar*, VP
J. P. Youngblood*, Secretary

1925-1926

Larkin Baggett*, President

1926-1927

Eunice Hodges*, President
Miller Conn*, VP
Otis Beasley*, Secretary

1927-1928¹

J. K. Patterson*, President
Alton Boyd*, VP
Dora Ford Bryant*, Secretary

1928-1929

Paul Little*, President
Jewell Kyzar*, VP
Agness Youngblood*, Secr.

1930-1941

Not Available

1942-1946

Scheuman Day, President
Lorraine Magee, Vice-Pres.
Joe Joe Brueck, Secretary

No Homecoming from
November 6, 1942 until
November 16, 1946²

1946-1947

Lorraine Magee Taylor, Pres.
Joe Joe Brueck, Vice-Pres.
Dorothy Tanner – Secretary

1947-1948

Early Leggett³

1948-1949⁴

E. G. Graham*, President
Lester Furr*, Vice-President
Mrs. Rhonda Ward Patterson
Secr./Treas.

1949-1950⁵

Lester Furr*, President
Johnny Turnipseed, VP
Mrs. Albert Ray Peets, Jr.,
Secretary-Treasurer

1950-1951⁶

Ray Coker
W. D. Ellis
Mrs. Rene Curtis

1951-1952⁷

J. C. Redd*, President
Buford Ashley*, VP
Mrs. Graydon Mullen*+,
Secr./Treas.

1952-1953#

1953-1954⁸

Carl Izard*, President
Willie Douglas*, VP
Mary Agnes Ginn*,
Secr./Treas.

1954-1955⁹

Willie Douglas, President
Charles McCormick, VP
Mrs. Doris Ball Green,
Secr./Treas.

1955-1956¹⁰

Tobe Ivy*, President
Mrs. Doris Ball Green*, VP
Mrs. Nell Swinney Massey*,
Secr./Treas.

1956-1957¹¹

Doris Ball Green*

1957-1958

Dr. David Gruchy*, President
Mrs. Ruby Larkin*, Vice-Pres.
Paul Spikes+*, Secretary

1958-1959#

1959-1960#

Ruby Larkin Corley*

1960-1961

James M. Lewis+*

1961-1962

Alice Stringer Templet

1962-1963

N. B. White*, President
Mrs. Nell Swilley Massey*,
VP
Alma Smith, Secretary

1963-1964

Nell Swilley Massey*

1964-1965

Ray Albritton

1965-1966

Maude Elsie Smith

#Unable to locate sufficient
information

¹ Annuals, 1925, 1927, 1928.

² Wesson Enterprise,
November 16, 1946

³ Annual, 1949

⁴ Wesson Enterprise,
November 18, 1948

⁵ Wesson Enterprise,
November 5, 1949

⁶ Wesson Enterprise,
November 9, 1951

⁷ Ibid

⁸ Wesson Enterprise
November 5, 1954

⁹ Wesson Enterprise
November 12, 1954

¹⁰ Wesson Enterprise,
November 18, 1955

¹¹ Wesson Enterprise,
November 1, 1957

Alumni Association Officers

1966-1967

Joe Patterson

1967-1968

Kathleen Reed Hedgepath

1968-1969

R. E. "Bob" Anderson,* Pres.
Truitt Grubbs, VP
Alma Smith, Secretary-Treas.

1969-1970

Truitt Grubbs, President
Burlian Walker,+* VP
Alma Smith, Secretary-Treas.

1970-1971

Burlian Walker,+* President
Katie Crawford Farnham, VP
Alma Smith, Secretary-Treas.

1971-1972

Katie Crawford Farnham,
President
Thomas Lowery,* VP
Alma Smith, Secretary-Treas.

1972-1973

Thomas Lowery,* President
Rebecca Barlow Jackson,+ VP
Alma Smith, Secretary-Treas.

1973-1974

Rebecca Barlow Jackson,+
President
T. W. Hickman,* VP
Alma Smith, Secretary-Treas.

1974-1975

T. W. "Billy" Hickman*

1975-1976

Helen E. Mullen+*

1976-1977

Thomas Kelly*

1977-1978

Evelyn Redd*, President
W. C. "Pop" Allen*, VP
Merle S. Furlow, Secretary

1978-1979

W. C. "Pop" Allen*, President
Vance Brown, VP
Merle Furlow, Secretary

1979-1980

Vance Brown, President
Robert "Bobby" Thames*, VP
Johnnie Ruth Carlisle, Secr.

1980-1981

Robert Thames*, President
Dr. Kenneth Walley, VP
Zoula H. Huffman, Secretary

1981-1982

Dr. Kenneth Walley, Pres.
H. F. McCarty*, VP
Zoula H. Huffman, Secretary

1982-1983

H. F. McCarty*, President
Zoula H. Huffman, Vice-Pr.
Johnnie Ruth Carlisle, Secr.

1983-1984

Zoula H. Huffman, President
Johnnie Ruth Carlisle, VP
Randy Bradshaw, Secretary

1984-1985

Johnnie Ruth Carlisle, Pres.
Randy Bradshaw, VP
Ester Martin, Secretary

1985-1986

Randy Bradshaw, President
Mrs. Marilyn Murray, VP
Mrs. Nora Berch, Sec/Treas.

1986-1987

Nora Berch, President
Mike Pace, VP
Susan B. Berry, Secretary

1987-1988

Mike Pace, President
Pat Hennington, VP
Susan Berry, Secretary

1988-1989

Pat Hennington, President
Rosemary Parker, VP
Susan Berry, Secretary

1989-1990

Rosemary Parker, President
Dr. Kay Rayborn Owen,+ VP
Susan Berry, Secretary

1990-1991

Dr. Kay Rayborn Owen,+ Pres
Bobby Britt, VP
Susan Berry, Secretary

1991-1992

Bobby Britt, President
Tillmon Bishop, VP
Susan Berry, Secretary

1992-1993

Tillmon Bishop, President
Jodie Kyzar George,* VP
Susan Berry, Secretary

1993-1994

Jodie Kyzar George,* Pres.
Richard Furr, VP
Susan Berry, Secretary

1994-1995

Richard Furr, President
Barry Tyson, VP++
Susan Berry, Secretary

Alumni Association Officers

1995-1996

Barry Tyson, President++
Bradley Smith,+ VP
Susan Berry, Secretary

1996-1997

Bradley Smith,+ President
Danny Mosley, VP
Susan Berry, Secretary

1997-1998

Danny Mosley, President
Susan Berry, VP
Richard Baker, Secretary+

1998-1999

Susan Berry, President
Richard Baker, VP +
Stacey Reid Duke, Secretary

1999-2000

Richard Baker, President+
Stacey Reid Duke, VP
Steve McBride, Secretary

2000-2001

Stacey Reid Duke, President
Steve McBride, VP
Pam Roberts, Secretary

2001-2002

Steve McBride, President
Pam Roberts, VP
Albert Hennington, Secretary

2002-2003

Pam Roberts, President
Albert Hennington, VP
Larry Hill, Secretary

2003-2004

Albert Hennington, President
Larry Hill, VP
Pattie Page Wade, Secretary

2004-2005

Larry Hill, President
Pattie Page Wade, VP
Rachel Thames Peeples, Secr.

2005-2006

Pattie Page Wade, Pres
Rachel Thames Peeples, VP
Lisa Ward Purdie, Secretary

2006-2007

Rachel Thames Peeples, Pres
Lisa Ward Purdie, VP
Steve Moreman, Secretary

2007-2008

Lisa Ward Purdie, President
Steve Moreman, VP
Celeste Williamson+, Secr.

2008-2009

Steve Moreman, President
Celeste Williamson, VP +
Angela Berch, Secretary+

2009-2010

Celeste Williamson, Pres+
Angela Berch, VP +
Kelly Stelzriede, Secretary

2010-2011

Angela Berch, President+
Kelly Stelzriede Perkins, VP
Patrick Brown, Secretary

2011-2012

Kelly Stelzriede Perkins,
President
Patrick Brown, VP
Dee Dee Case, Secretary

2012-2013

Patrick Brown, President
Dee Dee Case, Vice-Pres.
Lindsey Hatten, Secretary

First Year = Year Elected

*Deceased

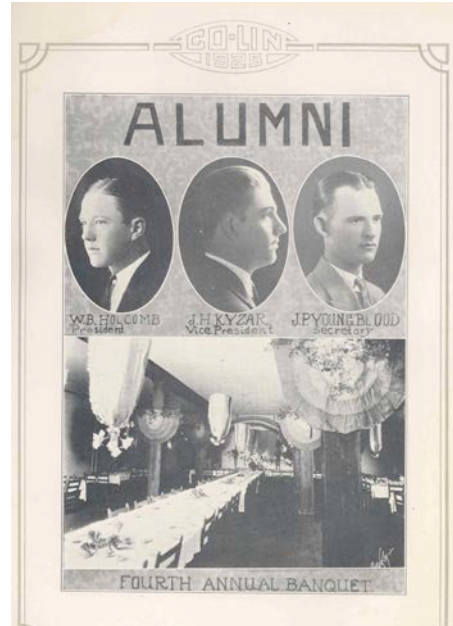
+Employed at Co-Lin

++ Member Board of Trustees

2013-2014

Dee Dee Case, President
Lindsey Hatten, VP

Alumni Association Officers



Top Left: 1990 Alumni Association Officers - Susan Berry, Dr. Kay Rayborn Owen, Bobby Britt, Dr. Billy Thames
 Top Right: 1925 Annual – Fourth Annual Banquet
 Left: 1995 Officers – Bradley Smith, Susan Berry, Barry Tyson
 Bottom: Dr. Thames, Alma Louise Smith, Rebecca Barlow Jackson (1974), Thomas Lowery (1973), Burlian Walker (1971)



Roster

First Annual Banquet - Copiah Lincoln A. H. S.
 Nesson, Miss - TEACHERS - May 18, 1922.

J. J. Cantrey	Forest, Miss
Mrs. D. J. Cantrey	Jackson " (Toast master)
R. L. Jones	Decatur "
Bernice P. Mc Mullau	Coffeewille "
Bob Pittman	Brownsville Sessie
Lucille Louise Wright	Belzoni Mill
Siene G. Redgore	Nelson "
Mrs. W. D. Reed	Little Spruce "
W. R. Cain	Deaton "
Mattie Furr	Bogue Chitto "
Arva N. Byrd	Moselle Miss
Wernie J. Hood	

For Students, see page 2.

Alumni of the Year



Top Left: 1983 Alumni of the Year
Mr. McCarty, President; Alumni Assn.
Martha Hunter Morrow
Alton Ricks

Top Right: 1984
Virginia Howell Hammons
Annie Ray Smith
Fannie Mae Howell
Charlie King

Left Center: 1995 Alumni of the Year
Earl Stringer
Nina Kyzar Wallace

Right Center: 1991
Dr. Ben H. Douglas
Dr. Linda Ferris-Smith
With Dr. Kay Owen

Alumni of the Year

1970

Dr. Billy B. Thames+

1971

R. E. Bob Anderson*
Alma Gordon Smith+

1972

E. A. Beby Turnage*
Helen Ellzey Mullen+*

1973

Frank Pitts*
Ruby Larkin Corley*

1974

Lester Furr++*
Jean Lowery Ricks+
Doris Ball Green*

1975

J. C. Redd*
Tom Kelly*
Alice Stringer Templett

1976

Dr. Lucien Hodges*
Zoula Hennington
Huffman+

1977

Shelby Pitts*
Ann Burris Cagle

1978

H. F. McCarty*
Dr. Gene Ramsey Miller*

1979

T. W. Bill Hickman*
Evelyn Redd*

1980

Royce Hart*
Kathleen Reed Hedgepeth

1981

M. K. Turk+
Elizabeth Smith McCurley

1982

Dr. Ray O. Hammons*
Dr. Frances Ruth Tabb Allen

1983

Alton Ricks+
Martha Hunter Morrow

1984

Charlie King
Annie Howell Hammons
Frances Howell Smith
Dr. Hilda Howell
Virginia Howell Anderson

1985

Mike Jones+
Christine McLendon*

1986

W. C. "Pop" Allen*
Willie Ainsworth*

1987

Charlie L. Ward*
Thelma H. Jones*

1988

Dr. Kenneth Walley
Jodie Kyzar Greer George*

1989

Dr. F. E. "Eddie"
Thompson*
Ann Heaton Hawkins+

1990

Kathy Berry Dugas
James Larry Greer

1991

Dr. Ben H. Douglas
Dr. Linda Farris-Smith

1992

Dr. Robert A. "Bobby"
Freeman
Jean Street*

1993

Beth Jo Smith Barham
Ben M. Durr*

1994

Dr. Katherine Rea*
Bobby Britt

1995

Earl Stringer*
Nina Kyzar Wallace*

1996

Michael D. McIntyre+
Lynn Scott LeBeau

1997

Johnnie Ruth Carlisle
Dr. Dewey Metts, Jr.*

1998

Dr. Kay B. Owen+
Richard K. Furr

1999

Dr. Dianne Smith Watson
Burlian O. Walker+*

Alumni of the Year

2000

Cindy Hyde-Smith
Fred Taylor*

2001

Dr. Tessie Shaw Harper
Bradley Smith+

2002

Steve McBride
Wilma Walker Cole+

2003

Frank Ainsworth
Terence Assink
Guy Barr
Ben Durr*
Fred Taylor*
Dr. Billy B. Thames+
Dr. Ed Thompson*
Dr. Kenneth Walley
Frank Pitts*

2004

Emogene Sones Tracey
Rickey Clopton++

2005

Marguerite Newsome
Rutledge
James M. Lewis+*

2006

Lura Greer
Michael G. Lusk, Sr.

2007

Tricia Walker
Bill Salters

2008

Pattie Page Wade
Dr. Douglas Davis

2009

Dr. John McAlpin
Miriam Moyer

2010

Dr. Donald Cotten+
Sonya White Cowen+

2011

Charlotte Crocker Brown
Delton Butler

2012

Margaret Ewing Thomas
Lynn Posey

2013

Mary Dees Primos
Dr. James F. Nations

Outstanding Faculty and Staff



Left:

Melnee Frazier and
Roy Daughdrill 1985

Left Center:

Dr. Phyllis Hayes-Lanier*, 1980
Dr. Donnie Lawson, 1992

Bottom Left:

Dr. Jerry Dykes and Laura Douglas, 1988
Presented by Dr. Howell Garner

Below:

Mrs. Nancy Dykes, 1997
Mrs. Edna Earle Crews, 1994
Dr. Durr Walker, 1981

Bottom Right:

Laura Coghlan* and Burlian Walker*, 1984
Presented by Dr. Eddie Smith



Through 2010 given by the Alumni
Association at Homecoming each year.



Outstanding Faculty and Staff

1980

Dr. Phyllis Hayes-Lanier *(A)
Lucile Horton (C)

1981

Dr. Durr Walker, Jr. (A)
Jean L. Ricks (C)

1982

Michael McIntyre (A)
Zoula Hennington Huffman (C)

1983

Jane Ainsworth Smith (A)
Glenn McGee (C)

1984

Burlian O. Walker (A)*
Laura Coghlan Williams *(C)

1985

Dr. Roy Daughdrill (A)
Faye Hill (C)
Melnee J. Frazier (C)

1986

Danny R. Harrell (A)
Dr. Kay Rayborn Owen (C)

1987

Thomas A. Ross (A)
Edwin L. Smith (C)

1988

Dr. Jerry Dykes (A)
Laura W. Douglas (C)

1989

Sharon Alexander Langley (A)
Evins Henderson (C)

1990

Katherine Huckaby (A)
Jack Amacker (C)

1991

Stanley Stewart (A)
James Harris (C)

1992

Dr. Donald Lawson (A)
Verna W. McFadden (C)

1993

Maurice Cammack (A)
Donald Ray Smith (C)

1994

Edna Earl Crews (A)
Wanda Britt Smith (C)

1995

Ronald Williamson (A)
Kay L. Woodrick (C)*

1996

Alita Myers (A)
Ellen Martin (C)

1997

Nancy A. Dykes (A)
Bruce Irvin (C)
Kendall Chapman (S)

1998

Evelyn P. Sutton (A)
Rhonda Posey (C)
Marilyn Brown (S)

1999

Alicia Reynolds (A)
Buddy Blailock (C)
Shirley A. Knapp (S)

2000

Tom Ross (A)
Margaret Britt (C)
Frances Mullins (S)

2001

Johnny Williams (A)
Adonna Lynn Boykin (C)
Dan Dykes (S)

2002

Janet C. Smith (A)
Amy P. Lewis (C)
Sheila Douglas (S)*

2003

None Awarded

2004

Deborah Bush (A)
Suzanne Johnson (C)
Louis Dugas (S)

2005

Pam Reid (A)
Billie Faye Sartin (C)
Barbara Moak (S)

2006

Dr. Kevin McKone (A)
Mary Shivers (C)
Melissa Kyzar (S)

2007

Brad Johnson (A)
Lisa Bodin (C)
Jeff Posey (S)

2008

Chris Warren (A)
Cindy Higgs (C)
Lillie Shannon (S)

2009

Mary Warren (A)
Jody Hoff (C)
Calvin Green (S)

2010

Anita Cliburn (A)
Leigh Easterling (C)
Lea Ann Knight (S)

Outstanding Faculty and Staff

2011#

Nesha Leggett (A)
Angela Garrett (C)
Sheryl Montgomery (S)

2012

Brett Shufelt (A)
Bo Johnson (C)
Beverly Barnes (S)

2013

Margaret Britt (A)
Michael Falvey (C)
Erin Smith (S)

A Academic Instructor
C Career-Tech Instructor
S Staff

Beginning in 2011 given at
opening faculty meeting not at
Homecoming.

Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame



1985
Joe Gardner,
Dick Jordan,
Eva Allen Walley,
Elmer T. Brumfield

1994
Troy Arlis Ricks
Margarette Allred Berry
Vance Brown
J. P. "Hezzie" Dunaway



Charter Members: Hook Stone*, (Mrs. Hook Stone seated representing her husband)
Mattie Wallace Barton,
Polie Sullivan, Bill Steadman, Charlie Ward,
Henry Mullins, Bobby Thames



1991
Alton Greenlee
John Hamby, representing his
father Granvil P. Hamby
Mrs. Jamie Harris Bowering
Mrs. Annie Maude Taylor
McGrillis
Alton Ricks

Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame

1978 (Charter Members)

Mattie Wallace Barton*
Harry R. "Moon" Mullins*
Charlie W. "Bill"
 Steadman*
H. L. "Hook" Stone*
Robert W. "Bobby"
 Thames*
Walter R. "Polie" Sullivan*
"Chunkin" Charlie Ward*

1979

Anslum N. Blackwell*
Pauline Case Britt*
L. W. "Tap" Godbold*
Bracie C. Smith*
Robert "Bernie" Ward*

1980

Susie Bridges Ainsworth*
William Curtis "Pop"
 Allen*
Richard A. "Bill" Cooper*
John B. "Johnnie" Moak*
Wm. Jefferson "Jay"
 Smith*

1981

Lucille Blackwell
 Hammons*
C. Burnell "Bit" Egger*
Horace G. "Little Bud"
Godbold*
John M. "Tite" Goodwin*

1982

Bucky Waters*
Glyn Abel
Carl Medley
Gladys Bell Carney*

1983

Otis Bufkin*
G. F. "Sporty" Dabbs*
Dr. J. Loyd Milam*
Juanita Walker Warren*

1984

Joe Brueck*
Tillman Herring Godbold*
Bob Huckaby+
Jennie Lucille Berry
 Shows*
James A. Sinclair

1985

Elmer T. Brumfield*
Joe Eugene Gardner*
Dick Jordan
Eva Allen Walley

1986

Guy Barr
Ruth Lewis Hancock*
A. J. Mangum, Jr.+*
Dr. Dewey J. Metts, Jr.*

1987

J. W. Patrick*
Lavada Smith*
Nell Bass Summer*
M. K. Turk+

1988

Chesley Boggan
James E. "Ed" Brazelton*
Lynn Scott LeBeau
George P. Norton

1989

Frank Ray Garner*
Marvin Lee Hutson*
Dewitt Shivers*
M. T. "Tick" Tatum*
Fred "Rip" Taylor*

1990

Charles Harold Dickerson*
Granville P. Harrison*
Theo Jones*
Bernard Riley
John Williams

1991

Jamie Harris Bowering*
Alton Bruce Greenlee+
Granvil P. "Pap" Hamby*
Annie M. Taylor McGrillis*
Alton Ricks+

1992

Wade Alexander+*
Henry Rene "Frenchie"
 Bolis*
Leroy "Roy" Bullock*
Aline Peacock Carter
Mayo A. Pittman

1993

Daniel Ethelbert Albritton
Jim Carmody
Earl Kermit Hutson*
Tim Mills
Verdie Mae Smith Posey*

1994

Margarette Allred Berry
Vance Waldon Brown
J. P. "Hezzie" Dunaway*
Troy Arliss Ricks+*
Felix N. Turnbough*

Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame

1995

Coney C. Burgess
Max Edwards*
Milton J. Robichaux*
Homer Earl Smith*
Robert E. "Bob" Stevens*

1996

Garland Brown*
Frederic James "F.J."
Dickey*
George Gullledge*
Michael D. Jones+
Bernie Kimble

1997

F. M. Fortenberry+*
George Allen Pell
Randy Shivers
Pauline Taylor Stokes
Gwyn H. Young+

1998

Harry S. Dickerson
Robert Newsome
James Robt. "Bobby"
Thames*
Samuel C. West
Cynthia "Cindy" Hodges
Williams

1999

Iris Poole Eddy
Leslie Paul Henning
Claude Edward Porter++*
Rudolph Alexander Sandel

2000

Dr. James Milton Ewing+*
Tammie Gayten*
Pat Hennington
Michael D. McIntyre+
W. L. Stampley

2001

Keith Daniels*
Charlie J. King+
Walter W. Mann, Jr.
James Ronny Smith
Sue Echols Vanderford

2002

Henry Harrison Brumfield*
Robert "Bob" Barrett
Mary Willie Marler
Douglas
Willie E. McGee*

2004

Dennis Keith Case+
Albert "Sonny" Hill
Megan Riebock Jones
Bob Ricketts+*
Cleston C. Savoie, Sr.

2005

Lee Dixon
Stanley "Bull" Day*
James "Jim" Robbins
Eddie Beach*

2006

Ralph Newell*
Robert Parsons
J. Michael Smith+
Shelby Watts
Joe Frank Robbins

2007

Chris Calcote
Tara Curtis
Troy C. Greer
Grady Jones*
Curtis McMillan

2008

Sammy Blackmon
Oscar Lee "Honey" Britt*
Demetrics D. Cain
Chet Mercier
Richard N. Shoemaker

2009

Leon Boone
Gerald Globetti
Ray Ishee+
Daron Jenkins

2010

Brandon Belanger
Colby Calcote
Katrina Dotson-James
John Laird*
Randy Thomas



2010 Honorees
Randy Thomas, Mrs. John Laird, Katrina
Dotson-James, Colby Calcote, Brandon
Belanger

2011

Gene "Moochie" Britt
Jack Case++
Tangela Jones Hawthorne
John R. Ward

Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame

2012

Ira E. Coates
Joel Lessley
Chris Dunn++
Victoria Mason

2013

Tiania Burns
Tommy Del Dykes*
Ken Fortenberry
Lance Newman
P. B. Walker

Foundation Hall of Fame

Major Donors



Left: Mrs. Nona Fortenberry* (1995)
Left Center: Magic Johnson (2001)
Center: Ebb Allen* (1999) and Burlan Walker* (2004)
Center Right: Dr. Melody Bruce Musgrove (2010)
Bottom Center: Dr. and Mrs. Billy Thames (2000)
Corporate Donors: Herring Gas (2007), Coca-Cola (2001)



Foundation Hall of Fame

1994

Mr.* and Mrs. T. Waring Bennett, Jr.
Kathy Berry Dugas
Ben M. Durr*
Mr. ++and Mrs.+ Lester Furr*
Jodie Kyzar Greer George*
Georgia-Pacific Monticello Mill
Thelma Hemphill Jones*
Mike Lusk, Sr.
H. F. McCarty, Jr.*
Ken and Ruth Patterson*
L. Frank Pitts*
Mr. and Mrs. Shelby Pitts*
Mr. and Mrs. Troy Pitts*
Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Redd*
Mr.* and Mrs. Wayne Williams

1995

Nona Fortenberry+*
Rex Popplewell*

1996

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Bates++
Fred E. Thompson+*
State Bank & Trust Company
Trustmark National Bank

1997

Charles McGehee*
Milton J. Robichaux*

1998

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Taylor*
Dr. Dwight Douglas Davis*
Modena Hodges Peterson*

1999

Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Allen+*

2000

Dr. Ray O. Hammons*
Harris Brand Henley*
Martha Sinclair++
Dr. and Mrs. Billy Thames+

2001

Terrance Assink
Earvin "Magic" Johnson
Jackson Coca-Cola
Jeff Gatlin – Gatlin Corporation

2002

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Causey
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Harris
Valley Corporation

2003

BellSouth
Copiah Bank
Georgia-Pacific Foundation
Willie Ainsworth*
Dr. and Mrs. Howell Garner+
Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Hood
Mary Lou King and Hansel King*
Gwen McCalip+
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Reynolds
Zelle Weems+*

2004

Dr. Bennie Channell*
James+* and Maude Lewis*
Burlian Walker+*

2005

Guy and Laura Barr
Mary Anna Beall-Grammer &
Sam E. Beall*
Mazary Eugene Brewer*

2006

Bonnie D. Anderson*
Bobby and Gloria Britt
Johnnie Ruth Carlisle
Fifty-Plus Club

Foundation Hall of Fame

2007

Brookhaven Noon Lions Club
C. Coney Burgess
Dr. James M. Ewing, Jr.
Lura Greer
Herring Gas Company, Inc.
Margaret Ewing Thomas



2008

John Boyd*
Peoples Bank of the South



Georgia-Pacific (1994, 2003)
Johnnie Ruth Carlisle (2006)
Entergy (2010)
Dr. and Mrs. Howell Garner
(2003)
H. F. McCarty* (1994)
Zelle Weems* (2003)



2009

Boyne Foundation
Hadskey Family
W. H. "Billy" Ledbetter
Marvin "Joe" Wallace

2010

Entergy Mississippi, Inc.
Dr. Melody Musgrove
PriorityOne Bank
United Mississippi Bank
Southeast Supply Header, LLC



2011

Thomas* and Doris Kelly
Joe F. Middleton
Hal and Joann Wentworth



2012 (Right)

Ralph Anderson
Co-Lin Trailblazers
Jim and Martha Lightsey+

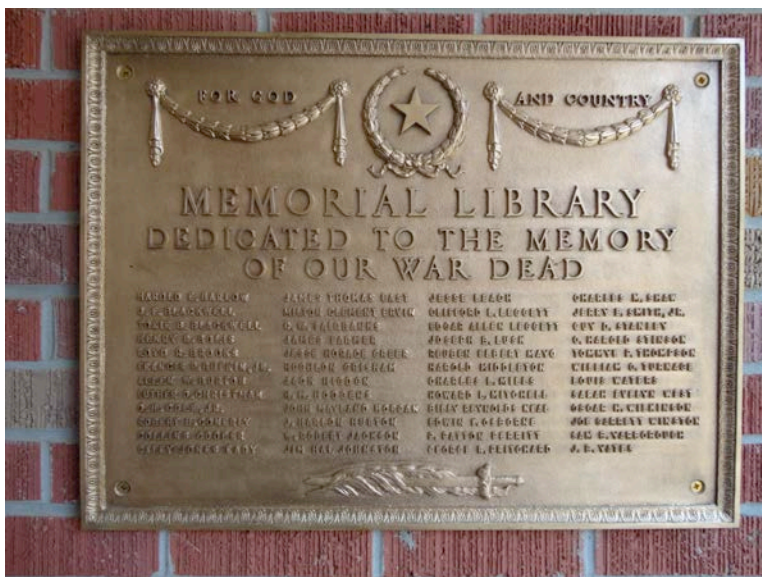


2013

Drs. Donald and Catherine
Perry Cotten
Raiford and Edna Earle Crews
Lynn and Margaret Howington
Patrick and Celeste Lowery
The Killingsworth Family
Dr. and Mrs. James F. Nations
Alton and Jean Ricks

Dr. E. Kenneth Walley
Dr. Steve Wells

Memorial



Name	World War II Dates Attended	Hometown
Harold E. Barlow	Unknown	
J. F. Blackwell	1933-34/38-39	Monticello
Toxie B. Blackwell	1933-35	Crystal Springs
Henry R. Bolis	1936-38	Crystal Springs
Loyd R. Brooks	1940-42	Magee
Francis P. Bufkin, Jr.	1940-41	Hazlehurst
Allen W. Burton	1933-35	Alligator
Luther O. Christman	1936-38	Texas City, TX
O. H. Cole, Jr.	1936-38	Hammond, LA
Robert H. Conerly	1942-43	Oakvale
Collins Cooper	1939-40	Tylertown
Caley Jones Eady	1938-39	Crystal Springs
James Thomas East	1939-41	Brookhaven
Milton Clement Ervin	1930-32	Crystal Springs
C. W. Fairbanks	1933-35	Ferriday, LA
James Morgan Farmer	1941-42	Mendenhall
Jessie Horace Greer	1929-31	Bogue Chitto
Hughlon Grisham	1938-40	West Point
Jack Higdon	1935-36	Tulsa, OK
H. M. Hodgens	1941-43	Townville, SC
John Mayland Horgan	1935-36	Meridian
J. Harlon Hurton	Unknown	
W. Robert Jackson	Unknown	
Jim Hal Johnston	1937-38	Wesson
Jesse Leach	1939-41	Crystal Springs
Clifford L. Leggett	1937-39	Allen

Memorial

Name	World War II Dates Attended	Hometown
Edgar Allen Leggett	1938-40	Brookhaven
Joseph B. Lusk	1929-31	Barlow
Reuben Elbert Mayo	1939-41	Plymouth, NC
Harold Middleton	1942-43	Hazlehurst
Billy Reynolds Neal	1943-44	Caledonia
Edwin F. Osborne	1939-40	Crystal Springs
P. Payton Perritt	Unknown	
George R. Pritchard	1935-37	Harrison
Charles M. Shaw	1937-39	Liberty
Jerry E. Smith, Jr.	1941-43	Allen
Guy D. Stanley	1936-38	Brookhaven
C. Harold Stinson	1942-43	Ruth
Tommye P. Thompson	Unknown	
William G. Turnage	Unknown	
Louis Waters	1941-42	Benton
Sarah Evelyn West	1941-43	Wesson
Oscar H. Wilkinson	1936-38	McCall Creek
Joe Garrett Winston	1941-42	Gainesville, FL
Sam B. Yarborough	1933-35	McComb
J. B. Yates	Unknown	
Korea		
Hugh S. Adcock	1936-38	St. Petersburg, FL
James Kelly Hennington	1944-50	Beauregard
Tilden Edward Tanksley	Unknown	
Vietnam		
Thomas Warring Bennett, Jr.	1962-64	Natchez
Danny Day Entrican	1965-66	Brookhaven
Andrew Jonah Short III	1964-65	Union Church
Creighton Wayne Sistrunk	1968-69	Monticello
Robert Logan Wickliffe	1963-65	Natchez



Memorial Monument dedicated in May 1986. Donated by Dave Pace - Designed by Janie West and Mary Clark.

854th Medical Collecting Company

Mississippi National Guard
Copiah-Lincoln Junior College
Wesson, Mississippi

The men of the 854th under Commanding Officer Lt. Colonel Grover Smith, was called to active duty on September 11, 1950

Andrews, Charles W., Jr.
Arnold, James F.
Beasley, John W.
Berry, Welton B.
Bishop, Wiley E.
Blair, George E.
Boutwell, George D. Jr.
Brent, Floyd V., Jr.
Brewer, M. E.
Brown, Pat S.
Bullock, Percy L.
Cagle, John E.
Crawford, Guy H., Jr.
Davis, Joseph W.
Douglas, Charles R.
Douglas, David W.
Dumas, Billy R.
Durr, Bennie M.
Estess, Kinney V., Jr.
Freeman, John R.

Gober, Gatis E.
Gober, Pat
Grubbs, Troy W.
Hall, Robert L.
Hansen, Floyd
Will R. Harrison
Hennington, James K.*
Jackson, Robert L.
Keen, James A., Jr.
Knight, Paul L.
Lambert, Lewis J.
Lowery, James C.
Lowery, Louie V.
Lowery, Robert A.
Magee, Warren M.
Mangum, Robert W.
Marr, Edward W.
Massengill, Henry L.
May, Grady
McCray, Francis L.

McKee, Howard L.
Meadows, Richard A.
Patterson, Joe A.
Raggio, Charles E.
Richardson, Charles E.
Riley, Bernard L.
Robbins, Daniel O.
Roberts, Kenneth
Runnels, Jessie J., Jr.
Saxon, Billy J.
Sills, Vernon D.
Smith, Bobby R.
Smith, Charles R.
Smith, John W.
Smith, Shirley H.
Tullos, Vernon
Walker, Rudolph C.
Watson, James A.
Williams, Jerald J.
Williamson, Edward
Wilson, Thomas J.

*James K. Hennington was killed during the Korean Conflict.

This page is dedicated to Mr. Bennie M. Durr (May 23, 1933 – September 22, 2012) who brought the group together at Homecoming each year. Picture on the left can be found in the Oswalt Library. Picture on the right is from the 2011 Homecoming reunion.

