

## Onarga Military School Alumni Association

# THE ONARGOSY

Volume 23 – Issue 4 - No. 84 – Winter 2020

*Happy New Year, 2021*

### Alumni Association Fall 2020 Activities

While we were all hunkered down to protect ourselves and others against the Coronavirus during the pandemic, your Association was busy with annual tasks.

- On 1 October, we presented a \$500.00 check to Dennis Wiley, Executive Director, Onarga Academy, to support the annual Special Appreciation Dinner for the Resident Students.
- In the absence of our Annual Reunion in Onarga, Mike Tilstra and Jim Kearney hoisted and flew the OMS flag over the holiday/reunion weekend, and created a YouTube video campus tour for us: <https://youtu.be/uSNbWduMMmQ> You can also find this link on our Association website.
- On 1 December, we sent each of the 85 Onarga Academy Resident Students a Christmas Gift of \$30 from our OMSAA Holiday Gift Fund.

### Memorial Proposal - Update

Onarga Academy and your Association have initiated discussions on how to establish and implement this program during 2021. Program specifics will be published when approved and finalized.

The purpose of this program is to allow alumni and family members to permanently recognize or honor on the campus, an individual or group of classmates, patron, family member or commemorate a special event.

The memorial bricks would form or align a new public access walkway from the East Seminary Street sidewalk to the existing memorial bench area. The price for each brick would cover a pre-determined tax-deductible donation amount for Onarga Academy plus the cost of the brick, the engraving, and installation. For reference, existing Memorial Brick Programs cost from \$200 to \$300 per brick with three lines of 20 characters each.

# Onarga Military School Alumni Association

From the Past...



*"Les"*

*Cadet Corporal*

LESTER T. DAVIS

Football 42

Scholarship pin 42

Merit pin 42

Minstrel show 42



Private Lester Davis, USAAF

9 Sep 1924 - 5 Nov 1943

Onarga Cemetery

RIP

One of a trio of 1942 Post-Graduates at OMS

A recent series of Facebook posts by the Onarga Historical Society displayed pages from the 1944 Christmas Greeting Booklet published by the Onarga American Legion Post 551. One item related to an OMS graduate caught my attention. Some of you may remember Major Edward Davis, who taught Chemistry, Physics and General Science at OMS for 45 years or so. He, wife, Mary, and daughter, Marilyn, were a Gold Star family, as they lost their only son/brother, Private Lester Tugwell Davis, in a 1943 training accident while an Aviation Cadet in the US Army Air Forces. He was 19 years old, and one of three OMS post-graduates in 1942. This highlight is to remember and honor just one of our many classmates and faculty in our school's history. Thanks to Cheryl Rabe, OHS President, and John Friebel, OMSAA Secretary, for their research and input.

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Maj Edward L. Davis  
B.S. Cumberland Univ  
Chemistry, Physics, & General Science  
OMS Instructor circa 1920-1965

## Business Items

**ANNUAL DUES:** A big THANKS to those members who mailed in their annual dues and contributed to the OMS Memorial and Holiday Funds. If you haven't renewed your annual membership, please resume or consider a one-time Lifetime Membership payment.

**OMS MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY:** The Annual Directory was mailed during November. Please review your information for accuracy and completeness, and notify our Secretary with changes or updates soonest. It is important that we keep your addresses (postal and email) and best phone information current so you can receive timely notifications and quarterly The Onargosy link.

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT:** The Annual Financial Report is available upon request from the Treasurer.

# Onarga Military School Alumni Association

## Happy Birthday . . .

To all the alumni listed below – *HAPPY BIRTHDAY* – if by chance your Birthday is in one of these three months and you are not listed – we do not have it on file – please send your birth date to the Secretary to complete your directory listing.

### JANUARY

3 James Beedy  
4 Robert Lewis  
5 Richard Suzuki  
10 William Akerly  
10 Steve Denney  
10 Gerald Enright  
10 Keith Harrison  
19 Ted Joslyn  
20 Michael Duncan  
20 Dennis Saffrin  
22 Eric Farber  
23 Mervin Stringer  
23 Raul Vega  
24 Bruce Ingham  
26 David Olmstead  
29 Kenneth Kauffman  
31 Donald Collins

### FEBRUARY

1 Ray Rinderer  
1 William Vickers  
6 Albert Kuhlman  
10 Tom Leasure  
12 Alan Welsch  
14 John Carlsten  
14 John Kenton  
18 Bernie Quick  
21 David Bennis  
22 James Kinne  
23 Frederick Zoes  
25 Gerald Byrd  
25 John Peart  
29 Gordon Hall

### MARCH

1 Stephen Sholty  
5 Frederick Koller  
6 Robert Rice  
8 Kenneth Butterly  
10 Gregg Dodson  
11 Vince Tamburrino  
12 Harry Seidman  
13 John Judd  
15 Rodney Wright  
19 Adam Kachler  
20 David Reichmann  
23 Charles Meyer  
24 Thomas Gillis  
29 Ronald Caruso  
29 Jimmy Phillips

# Onarga Military School Alumni Association

## Association Website

The Association's online presence is at [OnargaMilitarySchool.com](http://OnargaMilitarySchool.com). Check it out. Members are encouraged to submit appropriate stories, photos or class information to post. Please email or snail mail your item(s) to the President or Secretary for review and posting by our Webmaster.

## TAPS

I regret to inform the membership of the passing of our fellow alumni.

Name	Class	DOD	Place
<b>James C. Boyd</b>	<b>`60</b>	<b>21 June 2018</b>	<b>Houston, TX</b>
<b>Carl R. Landgren</b>	<b>`55</b>	<b>8 April 2019</b>	<b>Las Vegas, NV</b>
<b>Robert L. Nilsen</b>	<b>`47</b>	<b>19 February 2020</b>	<b>Hertford, NC</b>
<b>Andrew T. Puro</b>	<b>`63</b>	<b>21 December 2020</b>	<b>Brevard, FL</b>
<b>Eugene S. Shives</b>	<b>`48</b>	<b>11 March 2019</b>	<b>Sumner, WA</b>
<b>Jorge F. Willemsen</b>	<b>`62</b>	<b>8 September 2020</b>	<b>Miami, FL</b>

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The Onargosy is published on a quarterly basis for and about the happenings of the OMS Alumni Association. The Onargosy will contain both official and unofficial information. Officers of the OMS Alumni Association are:

President	<b>Mark Hayden</b>	<b>'67</b>
Vice President	<b>Robert Sheridan</b>	<b>'67</b>
Secretary	<b>John Friebe</b>	<b>'57</b>
Treasurer	<b>John Friebe</b>	<b>'57</b>
Director	<b>Steve Denney</b>	<b>'57</b>
Director	<b>Tom Leasure</b>	<b>'66</b>
Director	<b>John Egan</b>	<b>'68</b>
Onarga Academy Liaison	-	<b>Mike Tilstra</b>

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## Alumni Association

c/o Mark K Hayden  
52 Tavern Rd  
Stafford, VA 22554-8814

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**