

# Steve's Report

Back in 1994, the Army sent me off to Fort Huachuca, Arizona for 16 weeks to attend the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course, a school designed to prepare Staff Sergeants and Sergeants First Class for greater responsibility and higher levels of leadership.

Because it was a school, obviously much time was spent in the classroom. But because it was the Army, there were several performance evaluations and other requirements in order to successfully complete the course and graduate - such as passing the physical fitness test, qualifying with the M16 rifle, land navigation (compass course), and uniform inspections, as well as demonstrating, as a leader, the ability to train others how to, successfully complete the same requirements.

Another one of the graduation requirements was to attend a "dining in." The Dining In is a time-honored military social function rich with traditions. Those who attended the Military Ball in Millersburg this past weekend got a small sample of some of those traditions - including one that has become central to the Dining In: The Grog Bowl.



Steve's Report  
By Steve Scalf

"Grog" is a mixture of a number of "ingredients" that are combined in a large punch bowl, each ingredient representing events from military history. Some of the "ingredients" are things you would never think of adding to a punch, such as a small portion of sand to represent the storming of Omaha Beach on D-Day, or a piece of leather to represent the boots of those who were forced to walk for days during the Batuan Death March. And, of course, a majority of the ingredients are an assortment of hard liquors.

The Dining In also has certain rules to ensure those who attend behave properly. Those who witness violations of those rules bring them to the attention of "Mr. Vice" - the title of the individual responsible for enforcing the rules - who then assigns some form of punishment. This punishment might be reciting a well-known creed, singing a song, or some other form of mild, public humiliation, and always concludes with

a trip to the Grog Bowl, where the offender must drink a glass of Grog and then hold the empty glass upside-down over his head to show that it has been properly emptied.

Although it all involves much ceremony, everything is done in a very light-hearted manner, and every Dining In you will get a number of "repeat offenders" who will intentionally violate rules to see how many times they can get sent to the Grog Bowl.

Because the Dining In is so rich with military tradition, I understood why it was included as a graduation requirement - except for one thing: the alcohol.

I am a Mormon, and as such, do not drink alcohol. Still, I don't get all "high and mighty" if others choose to drink. I understand that alcohol can help a person to relax and have a good time. There is even evidence that a glass of wine every day can actually be beneficial to your health. My only problem with the Dining In was that it created a situation where I would have to face ridicule for

my decision NOT to drink. I didn't think it was fair that I should have to go through that in order to graduate from the course.

The Commandant of the NCO Academy tried to convince me that the event was not really centered on alcohol consumption. I said, "If that's true, then make the Grog alcohol-free." He thought about it for a second, then shook his head and replied, "No, you're right. You proved your point."

We find ourselves in situations nearly every day that force us to choose between following the crowd and following our conscience. Our youth are particularly vulnerable to this kind of pressure. With a little coaxing from their friends they will do things they would never consider doing on their own. It isn't easy to stand firm on your principles when it makes you stand out from the crowd.

But as a wise man once said, "If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

And that's my two cents, Stephen Scalf

## NICHOLAS NEWS TRIANGLE HEADQUARTERS-SALTWELL-BARTERVILLE

A good crowd attended the past week at the Barterville United Methodist Church with Rev. James Hickerson, evangelist and his dear wife Jackie. He is a cousin to Rev. James Hickerson. The county "Cluster Meeting" of the United Methodist Women was held on Tuesday night at the Carlisle U.M. Church. A potluck salad supper was served. After the songs, prayers and announcements etc. our Guest Speaker was Fran Denham from Mayville who spoke about one of her mission trips to Kenya. Their living conditions are so poor, especially the water. She also showed slides and told how she and others helped.

The Widewomen of the World hosted their annual Skating party at Charlie's Roller Rink in Harrison County on Sunday afternoon. They furnish food etc. There were around 40 children and youth and few adults.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Smith and family and Mr. and Mrs. James Gaunce attended a bridal shower in Lexington on Sunday afternoon for Adam Smith and Beth Boswell who are to be married soon. He is the son of Joyce and Keith. On Saturday April 18, Sha-

ron Peaback, Janet Vira, Barbara Talliver, Joyce Smith and Molly Smith attended the Spiritual Life Retreat of United Methodist Women held at Grace U.M. Church in Greenup County. Phyllis Brady spent Wednesday with her sister-in-law, Doris Doyle and also spent Sunday afternoon with a special cousin, Carroll Doyle, both of near Pointester. She also visited her sister, Marjorie Fryman last week. All 3 of these have lost their spouse.

A big crowd attended the funeral of Evelyn Hammonds on Saturday at the Carlisle U.M. church. Three ministers spoke so well of her. She was such a good wife, mother, grandmother, friend and a Christian Lady.

Rev. and Mrs. Vernon Adams and Phyllis Brady were among a large crowd who enjoyed a party on Saturday for the 8th birthday of Beth Adams Cameron at the home of Jawadna and Billy and Seth in Paris. Pizza was served and then an ice cream cake. He received so many gifts of toys, clothes and money.

Central KY Horse Club (CKYHC) will meet May 6, 2009, at 7 pm at the Harrison County Extension Office, Cynthiaana. If you own or love horses, enjoy donkeys and mules, we invite you to attend. The trail ride schedule from May through October will be available. For additional information, go to [www.ckyh.com](http://www.ckyh.com) or contact Paulette Klein 859-235-8950; Cell: 859-

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**May 1**  
Yard Sale  
Friday, May 1st 8:00 am-2:00 pm Johnson Mathers Health Care 2323 Concrete Road Sponsored by JMHC Special Activities Committee. All proceeds benefit special events for Nursing Home residents and staff

**May 2**  
Arts Guild will meet Monday, May 4 at 5:30 p.m. at the Corner Studio. Everyone welcome!

**May 2, 3 & 9**  
Saint Edward Altar Society Yard Sale The Saint Edward Altar Society of Cynthiaana, KY, will hold their 3rd Annual Yard Sale May 7, 8, & 9, at the Florence Tobacco Warehouse, Republican Rd. (Ky Hwy 392 & Odville Pike (US Hwy 62 E). Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and from 9 a.m. until noon on Saturday. We will have available baby and children items, toys, clothing, appliances and electrical items in working condition, clean bedding, household & glassware items. Some antiques may be available. For more information on St. Edward Church go to [www.stedwardky.org](http://www.stedwardky.org). We appreciate your support and look forward to another great year!!! One man's junk, is another man's treasure!

**May 3**  
EMS Class  
Emergency Medical Technician Class. Begins May 1st at the Nicholas County Health Department. Call 859-608-6617 or 859-473-1856 for registration.

**May 3**  
Saltwell United Methodist Church Saltwell United Methodist Church invites you to a appreciation luncheon for Rev. Howard Livingston on Sunday May 3, 10:30 am. Rev. Livingston will be taking a break from pastoral ministry after serving the Saltwell church for 13 years. If you have benefited from his ministry (united in marriage, comforted in times of sorrow, etc.) and have enjoyed his friendship, please come and extend your appreciation and best wishes to him. The church will be having usual Sunday services with Sunday School at 9:30 and worship at 10:30 a.m. Pot Luck lunch will be served between Noon and 1:00 p.m. Everyone welcome.

**May 3**  
Courthouse Square Arts Guild  
The Courthouse Square

**May 7**  
Dougherty Lodge #65 meets the second Friday at 7:30 p.m. above the Mathers Gaunce Funeral Home. All masters mason are welcomed to attend.

**May 7**  
Blue Lick Lodge #495 F.&A.M. to hold meeting

**May 9**  
Nicholas County Animal Welfare Adoption Day at EastEnd, May 9th from 10:00-2:00. Open to the public. If you have questions call: 473-2714

**May 9**  
Project Graduation to meet on Mondays  
Project Graduation Center News will be having a meeting every Monday at the High School Library at 6:00 p.m. For more information contact Paula Hunter at 859-289-3702.

**May 9**  
Old Jailers Home Luncheons  
Held the Second Thursday of each Month. Reservation necessary. Call Gladys Shroat 289-5174 or 749-7986 or Martha Taylor 289-5592 or 749-1948. Sponsored by Tourism Inc.

**May 9**  
Dogs available for adoption  
Nicholas County Animal Welfare Society has dogs available for adoption. 473-2714 or [www.news.org](http://www.news.org).

**May 9**  
Johnsons Mathers Health Care Auxiliary meets second Tuesday  
The Johnsons Mathers Health Care Auxiliary meets the second Tues-

**Obituaries**  
Corra Lee Todd, 66, of Carlisle passed away on Wednesday, Apr. 22, 2009 at her residence. She was born in Cincinnati, Ohio to the late Thomas C. Campbell and Mary Francis Garcia. She was a homemaker and a believer of The Protestant faith.

Survivors are her friends: Dale Ritchie, Jimmy and Debbie Crouch, all of Bourbon County; Cora Hutton, Jack Ritchie and Carlos Watkins, all of Nicholas County. She is also survived by three grandchildren: Christopher Buckler, Jessica Buckler and Alexander Williams; long-time companion, Tommy Bryner; and step-son Billy Roy Maybrier.

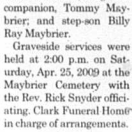
Gravestone services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, Apr. 25, 2009 at the Maybrier Cemetery with the Rev. Rick Spivey officiating. Clark Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

**Diabetes self-management classes**  
The WEDCO District Health Department will be hosting Diabetes Self-Management education classes, each month. They will be held at the Nicholas County Health Center, Dr. Robert Sparks Community Room. For more information and to register contact Crissy Culbertson, 866-75WEDCO, or 859-298-4899.

**Kiwans Club to meet**  
Kiwans Club will meet the third Thursday of every month at the Carnico Country Club. For more information call Mike Warner at 859-749-4880.

**AA meetings held**  
AA meetings are held every Tuesday at 8 p.m., except the third Tuesday of the month is at 7 p.m. in the Sparks Room of the Nicholas County Health Department.

**Turn Your Trash Into Treasure**  
Advertise Your Garage Sale in The Carlisle Mercury. Just drop off your ad at 218 N. Lewis St. Carlisle. \$2.00 weekly fee. \$25 each additional week.



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Advertise Your Garage Sale in The Carlisle Mercury. Just drop off your ad at 218 N. Lewis St. Carlisle. \$2.00 weekly fee. \$25 each additional week.

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**Happy 2nd Birthday on April 27**

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Love Da-Da, Momma, Bubba, and Brother

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**Important**

Waste Tire Amnesty Program  
Free tire Disposal

Get Rid of Your Waste Tires!

April 30<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup> & May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009  
8:00 A.M. To 4:30 P.M.  
at State Highway Department  
324 N. Walnut St.  
Carlisle, Ky 40311

All tires including those on rims will be accepted. Tires NOT accepted are foam filled tires, off road construction equipment tires and solid tires with pressed on rims. Eligible participants does not include tire retailers & agricultural tire retailers. If you have any questions please call The County Judge/Executive  
Office: 859-289-3725 or 859-289-3765.  
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Friday: Cat Fish Filet or Shrimp Dinner  
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