

## Classes of '69, '35, '62 lead in giving to Alumni Loyalty Fund

When the fiscal year closed on May 31, 1989, gifts to the Alumni Loyalty Fund from alumni totaled \$28,373.98. This represents gifts from 481 individuals who comprise 5 per cent of the total membership of the Alumni Association.

The Class of 1962 is recognized as having given the largest gift total among all classes to the Alumni Loyalty Fund with \$2,230. The Class of 1969 had the most members giving to the Alumni Loyalty Fund with 26 members contributing.

In judging participation by per cent of the eligible donors to give, the Class of 1934 was the leader among all classes with a participation rate of 45 per cent.

The Alumni Association recognizes these three classes for their leadership efforts in giving to the Alumni Loyalty Fund and wishes all classes the best of luck in reaching the top ranks for the 1989-90 Alumni Loyalty Fund year, which ends on May 31, 1990.

## Death claims Maggie Bridgers, Vice Chairman of Trustees

The funeral for Mrs. Maggie Boone Bridgers, 79, who died Sept. 3 in her home on Creeksville Road near Jackson, was conducted Sept. 5 at Creeksville Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Bridgers, widow of the late J. Grady Bridgers, was active in education, politics and Creeksville Baptist Church, of which she was a member. Sunday School teacher and treasurer.

A retired public school teacher, she taught mathematics at Jackson High School, Seaboard High School, Gates County High School and Northampton

County High School, East, before retirement.

She was a member of the N. C. State Democratic Committee. She served on the Board of Trustees of Chowan College and was vice chairman. Mrs. Bridgers was a 1932 graduate of Chowan.

Her survivors are a son, Lanny B. Bridgers, of Atlanta, Ga.; grandchildren, Hillary Bridgers and Land Bridgers, also of Atlanta; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations may be sent to the J. Grady and Maggie B. Bridgers Scholarship Fund at Chowan College.

## President's Viewpoint

My first four weeks in office have been most gratifying and rewarding. My family and I have been graciously received by the college family and the community. It is both an honor and a pleasure to serve as Chowan's 20th President.

One of the major issues with which we are dealing is whether or not Chowan should remain a 2-year institution or become a 4-year institution. When I met with the Presidential Search Committee, there was strong feeling that this issue needed to be studied again, as the "jury is still out" on the decision that had been made some five years ago. In talking individually with over 90 faculty and staff members during my first month in office, it became obvious that the Search Committee was on target in their assessment.

Since the college had just successfully completed its Southern Association Self-Study, it appeared that this was the best time to study the 2-year versus 4-year issue again. In its meeting in September, the Board of Trustees approved the study of this issue again, that the Chairman appoint the committee and the committee present its final report by June 1, 1990.

The members of the committee are: Dr. Joyce Elliott, Professor of Speech, Chairperson; Mrs. Phyllis Dewar, Professor of Chemistry, Dr. Calvin Owens, Chairman of the Department of Mathematics, Mr. David Parker, Chairman, Department of Art, Mr. Robert B. Spivey, member of the Chowan College Board of Advisors, and ex-officio members Mr. Thomas M. McCrary, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Frank Lowe, Dean of the College, and Mr. Ben Sutton, Business Manager.

Please contact any of the committee members or me if you have any thoughts on this issue. We will be pleased to hear from you.

The invitation is open for you to visit the campus anytime you are in the area. It is always a pleasure to visit with alumni and friends of the college.

—Jerry F. Jackson,  
President of the College

## Miss Betsy: A tough act to follow

By GUY FRIDDELL  
Reprinted from the September 8, 1989  
edition of  
The Virginian-Pilot

If you have even been around Elizabeth Camp Smith of Franklin, you would have met her, a great-niece remarked the other day, because wherever she was, she introduced herself immediately to everybody.

"She left us a real act to follow," said Betsy Rawls Agelasto of Virginia Beach, thinking about her great-aunt, who died Wednesday in Franklin at age 92. Mrs. Smith was the last surviving child of James L. and Carrie Savage Camp. "Big Jim" Camp was one of six brothers, three of whom founded Camp Manufacturing Co., which became Union Camp Corp., after a merger in 1956.

As with all the Camps, Elizabeth was tall, gregarious, generous and extremely bright, said historian Parke Rouse, Jr., whose "The Timber Tycoons" traces the founders and three generations of progeny.

She was so happy and vivacious that a roommate at Westhampton College

called her "Betsy Bumps," a nickname that persisted through the Camp generations. Agelasto recalled that she talked about her so much in college that a classmate, upon meeting Mrs. Smith, exclaimed, "I've heard so much about you, Mrs. Bumps."

"We would go into a restaurant, trailing her, and she would know 50 percent of the people and stop at their tables and move to meet the others, talking, her hands flying, with everybody, no matter the age, color or what. She was stately so she came forth as a strong person. Peggy Ray says he kind of swooped into a gathering. She was deeply religious, and, entering church on Sunday, she stopped for a greeting at every pew.

"She had no children so she was everybody's mother or grandmother. She kept a closet full of blocks and a bottom drawer of a chest with coloring books and crayons and paints ready for us. And she was as interested in the families of the servants as she was in us. She just adopted people, and each felt he or she was the object of her special attention.

"I'll tell you something real special: The Camps always met for coffee at somebody's house every Sunday, but on Christmas Eve we gathered at Betsy Bumps', 120 of us, for an elegant lunch, all kinds of cheeses and tons and tons of desserts. Her brother, Jim, had a beautiful voice and we sang carols around the piano for 45 minutes. It just set the tone for Christmas."

Agelasto's father, Sol Rawls, Jr., recalled that Elizabeth Camp entered the first class to attend Westhampton College. Dr. George Modlin, former president of the University of Richmond, observed Thursday that her very generous support of the university included memorials to her classmates.

She established a chair at Chowan College honoring Colgate W. Darden, Jr. He and his brother, Pretlow, and sister, Katherine Lindsay, were "close as cousins" to the Camps of their generation.

"A dear, dear sweet soul!" Mrs. Darden commented Thursday. "There was never anybody like her. She just loved people."

In his childhood, Rawls said, "her house was a wonderful place to visit because we could get away with things there we could never do at home."

She insisted that her teenage nephews dance with the daughters of her friends, and when one 14-year-old was dilatory about the duty, his aunt walked behind the girl and gave him a stern eye, along with a glimpse of a \$5 bill, a simultaneous carrot and stick that moved him quickly. "She wanted everyone around her to enjoy life as she did," Rawls said.

"She created a scholarship fund and took an interest in everyone she helped," he said. "They'd visit her between semesters."

She loved the outdoors and was one of the first women in Southampton County to ride a horse astride instead of sidesaddle, going early every morning with her father about the farm.

"She was just a great, outgoing lady," Rawls said.

And his daughter, thinking of Betsy Bumps, said, "What she stood for remains."