

## WEDDINGS



MR. AND MRS. EDWARD ALLEN SCRUGGS  
(Cynthia Greene Poole)

### Poole-Scruggs

Cynthia Greene Poole of Ellenboro and Edward Allen Scruggs of Kings Mountain exchanged their wedding vows April 3, 1999 at the home of David and Lisa Clary in Earl.

John Cashwell, pastor of Campfield Memorial Baptist Church, Ellenboro, officiated. Eric Ross and his daughter, Jennifer Ross, vocalist, presented a program of wedding music.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Joe Greene of Ellenboro. She is a graduate from Gardner-Webb University with a Master's Degree in Elementary Education. She is employed at Township Three Elementary School.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Scruggs of Kings Mountain. He is a graduate of Winthrop University with a degree in education. He is a member of Sigma Nu and is employed by Conserv of Shelby.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Bill Greene. She carried a bouquet of spring flowers of tiger lilies, pink roses, tulips and daisies. She wore a formal gown of blush crepe with a V-cut back enhanced with bow.

She chose her sister, Tracy Harrill of Ellenboro, as her Matron of Honor. She wore a sage, tea length gown with a V-cut back enhanced with bow, and carried a bouquet similar to the bride's.

Jennifer Ross was flower girl and Ridge Scruggs was ring bearer.

Jerry Scruggs was his son's best man.

The bride's parents hosted the wedding reception at the home of David and Lisa Clary. The groom's parents, Debbie Dorsey, sister of the groom, and Missy Scruggs, sister-in-law of the groom hosted the rehearsal dinner at Patterson Springs Town Hall.

After a wedding trip to Myrtle Beach, SC, the couple will reside in Ellenboro.



MRS. MICHAEL ALLEN PHILBECK JR.  
(Andrea Christine Shell)

### Shell-Philbeck

Andrea Christine Shell and Michael Allen Philbeck Jr., both of Kings Mountain, exchanged marriage vows April 17 at Heartland Wedding Chapel, Townsend, TN.

Rev. Terry Stinnett officiated. Robert Shell II, played Trumpet Voluntary.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Robert Shell. Her gown was decorated with pearls and she carried a bouquet of white roses and periwinkle accents.

Matron of Honor was Shannon Standish of Shelby. Bridesmaids were Renee Murphy of Kings Mountain and Tina Shell of Gastonia. She wore periwinkle empire waist gowns made of satin.

Best man was Rodney Sailors of Lake Norman. Ushers were Steve Murphy of Kings Mountain and Robert Shell II of Gastonia.

The bride is the daughter of Robert C. and Jackie S. Shell of Kings Mountain. She is a 1994 graduate of Burns High School and a 1998 graduate of Appalachian State University. She is employed as a Credentialing Specialist at Horizon Eye Care, PA in Charlotte. She is the granddaughter of Buland Short of Casar and Elizabeth Shell of Lexington, SC.

The groom is the son of Michael A. Philbeck of Shelby and Patty Long of Salisbury. He is a 1994 graduate of Burns High School and has served in the U.S. Armed Forces. He is employed with Firestone Fibers and Textiles of Kings Mountain. He is the grandson of Robert and Inez Philbeck of Waco, Harold and Ethel Peacock of Salisbury, and Richard and Ann Spry of Mooresville.

The wedding reception was given by the bride's parents at Laurel Valley Country Club in Townsend, TN. After a wedding trip to Gatlinburg, the newlyweds will live in Kings Mountain.



MRS. LARRY CABEL JAMES II  
(Kimberly Kaye Hagans)

### Hagans-James

Kimberly Kaye Hagans and Larry Cabel James II, both of Cherryville, were married April 17 at Christian Freedom Baptist Church, Kings Mountain. The Rev. Michael Chambers officiated the 2 p.m. ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Dorothy Elkins of Bessemer City and Danyo Hagans of Gastonia. She is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Grover Bates and Carrie Hagans and the late Clarence Hagans. She is a graduate of Kings Mountain High School, North Carolina State University, and North Carolina University College of Veterinary Medicine, where she received a doctorate degree. She is employed by Cottonwood Veterinary Hospital in Shelby.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry James of Burlington. He is the grandson of Juanita James of Burlington and the late Jesse James, and Elizabeth Blanchard of Burlington and the late Allen Blanchard. He is a graduate of Eastern Alamance High School and North Carolina State University, where he received his master's degree in nuclear engineering. He also was a member of Alpha Nu Sigma and the Nuclear Engineer Honor Society. He is employed by Duke Engineering and Services in Charlotte.

Danny Hagans of Gastonia gave his sister in marriage. Bonnie Conrad, sister of the bride, was matron of honor.

Bridesmaid was Shannon Fluck of Gastonia. Flower girl was Brooke Conrad of Cherryville, the bride's niece.

Larry James was his son's best man. Ushers were the bride's brother, Danny Hagans, and Ari Tuckman.

A reception was given by the bride's family at the church following the ceremony. A rehearsal dinner was given by the bridegroom's parents at Satterfields of Shelby.

Following a trip to Cancun, Mexico, the couple will live in Cherryville.



MRS. TIMOTHY LEE POSTON  
(Teresa Lynn Grigg)

### Grigg-Poston

Teresa Lynn Grigg and Timothy Lee Poston, both of Kings Mountain, were married on April 10, 1999 at Dixon Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Mike Dixon, pastor of the bridegroom at Second Baptist Church, officiated the 3 p.m. candlelight ceremony which included the lighting of the Unity candle. Rev. Allen Sinclair, pastor of the bride at Dixon Presbyterian Church, prayed the benediction.

Jeff Grigg, brother of the bride, vocalist, and Nancy Hughes, pianist, presented the nuptial music.

David O'Shields, the bride's stepfather, escorted her to the altar and gave her in marriage. The bride wore a formal gown of white bridal satin fashioned by the bridegroom's mother and designed with V-neckline and long sleeves enhanced by lace and hand-sewn pearls and sequins. The full-length train was also enhanced by matching lace. The full-length veil of silk bridal illusion was draped from a tiara of white flowers. The bride carried a bridal bouquet of pink lilies and white roses.

Barbie Barrett of Kings Mountain was matron of honor and bridesmaids were Leigh Anne Newton, cousin of the bride; and Terry Greene and Heather Hughes, all of Kings Mountain. Michaela Dixon was flower girl.

All the attendants wore light pink satin formal, the matron of honor in an ankle-length design and the bridesmaids in tea-length designs, all fashioned by the bridegroom's mother. The dresses were enhanced by quarter-length sleeves and scoop necklines. They carried bouquets of pink lilies and white roses. The flower girl wore a pink short-sleeved dress. The full skirt was accented by a bow in the back. She carried a basket of rose petals.

Rick Greene of Kings Mountain was the bridegroom's best man. Groomsmen were Jimmy Barrett and Dale Smart, both of Kings Mountain, and Dave Poston of Grafton, West Virginia, brother of the bridegroom.

Register attendant was Melissa Dixon and program attendant was Ricky Greene, both of Kings Mountain.

The wedding was directed by Mary Jo Stewart.

The bride's parents hosted the reception at the church fellowship building after the ceremony. Reception helpers included Lori Stewart, Christy Hughes, Hilda Kiser and Edith Reynolds. A pink and white wedding cake centered the bride's table and was cut and served with punch and party refreshments. The pink and white theme of the wedding was featured in decorative details.

Family and friends of the bride and bridegroom hosted the rehearsal dinner on April 9 at the Dixon fellowship building. The wedding colors featured decorations.

Mr. and Mrs. David O'Shields of Kings Mountain and Dewey Grigg of Bessemer City are parents of the bride who is the granddaughter of Mrs. Letha Stewart of Kings Mountain and the late George T. Stewart. She is a 1986 graduate of Kings Mountain High School and a 1988 graduate of Gaston College. She is employed by Dr. Roger K. Miller in Kings Mountain.

The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Delores Mayle of Galloway, West Virginia and the late Elzie Poston of Grafton, West Virginia. He is a graduate of Grafton High School and is self-employed.

After a wedding trip to the North Carolina mountains the newlyweds reside in the Dixon Community.

### Social Deadlines

The Herald welcomes your social news. Deadlines for all social news, including weddings engagements, birthdays, anniversaries, club news, community news, and church news, is 12 noon Monday.

There is no charge for articles. However, there is a \$10 preparation charge for wedding and engagement pictures, and a \$5 charge for birthday pictures.

# A TRUE SURVIVOR

## 81-year-old Bill Alexander, WW II POW, now excels in Senior Games

By Jim Heffner

"I was lying flat on my stomach when I heard a whining sound. I looked up and actually saw a German shell tumbling end over end. It landed right beside me. If it had turned another quarter of a turn, it would have landed on the tip and exploded. I told the Lord if he would help me get out of there alive I'd live the rest of my life for him."

The speaker was Bill Alexander and that was the defining moment in his life. The locale was Sicily during World War Two, an important interruption in the life of a Tarrboro, N.C. man who was destined to become a schoolteacher in Kings Mountain.

"I graduated from Wake Forest," Alexander said, "but I didn't go to college right out of high school. The war came along, and I knew I was going to be drafted, so I enlisted."

Alexander, an animated storyteller, served in the US Army from February 22, 1941 until December of 1945. Captured twice, he spent six and a half months in German prison camps, mostly in Poland. He graduated from OCS and

served his time in the Army Combat Engineers. Alexander shipped overseas to a replacement depot in North Africa in 1943 and from there he went to Tunisia. His next duty station was Sicily with the Third Infantry in Salerno.

"That was rough," Alexander said. "That's where I saw my first dead person."

After being captured Alexander was forced to walk 350 miles from one prison camp to another. He has been walking and running ever since.

Alexander, after his graduation from Wake Forest in 1951 spent 10 years in churches as minister of education, fulfilling his promise.

"One day I was in Greensboro and happened to pick up a copy of the Raleigh News and Observer," he said. "I looked at the advertising section and saw that the Kings Mountain School System was looking for a Bible teacher. I applied and got the job at Kings Mountain High. I stayed for 19 years teaching Bible and Mathematics."

He retired as a teacher in 1984, the same year the Cleveland County Senior Games began. Alexander jumped right in and has won more than a fair share of gold medals, 15 consecutive

in a couple of events.

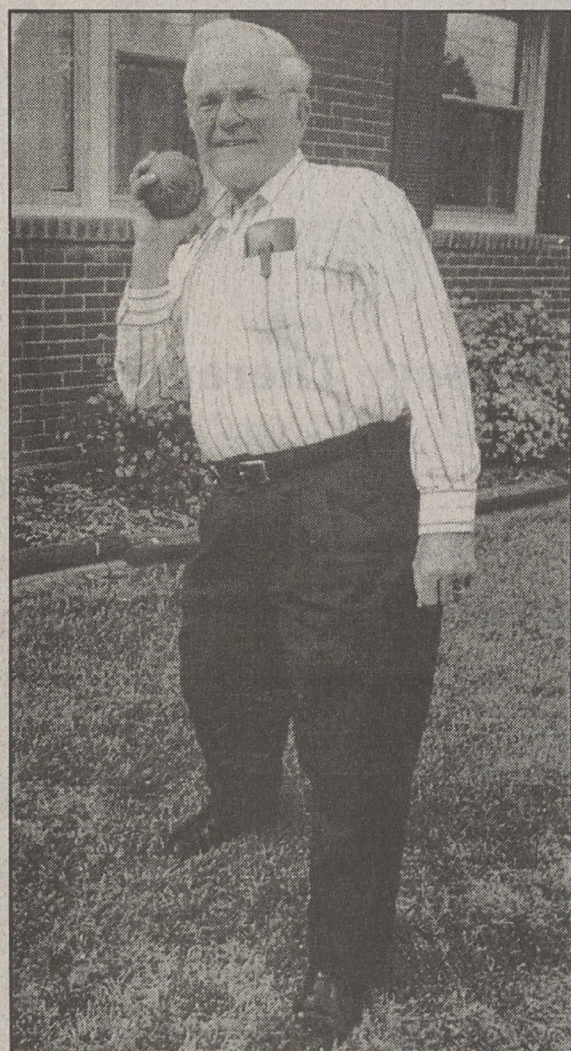
The senior games are a project of the Council On Aging/Senior Center, and is sponsored by the Kings Mountain Senior Center, Gardner-Webb University, the Shelby Recreation Department and Dicey Fabrics. The program is sanctioned by North Carolina Senior Games, Inc. The winners in each event are invited to participate in the statewide games.

The purpose of the senior games is to promote health and wellness among older adults. The program offers annual competition as well as year-round fitness activities including wellness workshops and training clinics. Some of the events are golf, tennis, ping pong, softball throw, shot put, discus, horseshoes, basketball one-on-one, and several more events.

Alexander participated in 21 events this year. He threw the softball 87 feet four inches underhanded, threw a discus 69 feet seven inches and his shotput was good for 30 feet eight inches.

Those are terrific figures for a man who is 81 years of age. His looks belie his age.

See Alexander, 4B



BILL ALEXANDER