



## ALUMNI OFFICERS

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**Nathan Thomas,**  
President

**Tom Thomas**  
Vice President

**Wendy Barulli**  
Secretary

**Jim McQuarry**  
Treasurer

Last December I got a call from Larry Griffin as well as David Veillon and they told me, "Congratulations! You are the new Alumni President!" Margaret Harrison had been the President but had moved up to be on the College Board. Since I was the Vice President, I automatically became the new President. I told both Larry and David that I would be happy to serve if I could appoint a Vice President. I did and it is Tom Thomas. Wendy (Simpson) Barulli is still serving as Alumni secretary and now Jim McQuarry will serve as Alumni Treasurer. The Alumni Association is hoping to do several things: have a quarterly Alumni newsletter, an alumni page on the MSCC website, and promote events at MSCC. We would like any suggestions, ideas, feedback and pictures from you.

I will never forget going to Mid-South in 1981. I was the only freshman boy.

And a couple of people took me under their wings. The first was Tim Anderson. I noticed that everyone went to bed early except for me and Tim. We were the night owls. What a great encourager he was to me! Another one was Pop Howard. I remember walking into the cafeteria, seeing that they were serving fried chicken and turning around and walking out because I don't like chicken. Pop Howard came after me to see what was wrong. I told him, "Nothing, I just don't care for chicken." And he said, "Come with me." And he took me to his apartment and Mom fixed us both cheeseburgers because he didn't like chicken either. Then on to my sophomore year in 1982. We had enough boys to have 2 dorms. We called one of the dorms

the Hilton (the dorm that slept) and the dorm I was in was called Alcatraz (the prison that's free). I remember several all night UNO parties with friends like David

Walton, Stephen Bond, Mark Pee, Jim Boutell, Mike Bush and others. Later on came one of my room mates that became a great friend – John Lumpkin. John definitely provided the humor and friendship that I needed at Mid-South. Then I met Linda, my wife to be. It's funny I don't remember meeting her for the first time, but boy, she remembers meeting me! Linda says that Lumpkin and I came out of the gym from playing basketball and I was all hot and sweaty and sat in her lap! I'm sure it was love at first sight for her! I have no doubt that God sent her to Mid-South to be my partner. Then Darryn and Amy Davis came into our lives along with Deborah Stokes, Lisa Bowlby and Debbie McElhenny and we can name on and on the special friendships that were made at Mid-South. In Philippians 1:3 Paul says, "I thank my God every time I remember you." May we thank God daily for Mid-South, friends and for our memories.

Nathan Thomas,  
Alumni President



### Blast from the Past

Summer of 1982 at MoArk  
Camp

Back row: Gerald & Nor-  
madeen Gibson, Bill Griffin,  
Nathan Thomas

Front row: Caroline Anderson,  
Susan Dixon, Jim McQuarry

## DO YOU REMEMBER?

**I Remember When** I first drove on the campus of Mid-South Christian College. I remember the emotions I felt. Do you remember? I remember when Ray Tran-

tham cooked popcorn in motor oil, or when we stayed up all night popping corn to fill John and Becky Bliffen's car for their wedding. I remember the fun we had. Do you remember? I remember when Al



**Larry Griffin,  
MSCC President**

Hamilton came on campus and inspired us all to the task of mission work, or when Bro. Jack Bliffen issued a call to fight forest fires around the lake. I remember the sense of urgency. Do you remember?

**I Remember Who** was my first roommate – Mark Bush, and I remember who was the professor for my very first college class – Jim

McMillan. I remember who convinced me that MSCC was a great place to study – Jack Bliffen, and who was the first one to pile on top of me in the dorm room to make me feel “welcome” – Tim Stapleton. I remember who opened my eyes to the beauty of God's grace – Robb Smith, and I remember who opened my eyes to the joy of the Lord – John Cash. I remember the wonderful family that God brought to MSCC when I was a student. Do you remember?

**I Remember What** was the cafeteria's least appreciated meal – turkey on a stick, and I remember what was my favorite treat at Sonic in Senatobia – Fried Apple Pie with Ice Cream. I remember what was my favorite prayer retreat – the camp trails through the woods, and I remember what was the most inspiring view on campus – the leaves of the trees in fall. I remember what

time my classes began – 7:00 a.m., and I remember what my most challenging class was – New Testament Criticism. I remember what it was like to study at Mid-South Christian College. Do you remember?

**I Remember Why** I came to the college – to become a missionary. I remember why it was one of God's greatest blessings in my life – because he formed me into the servant he wanted. I remember why I have held it dear to my heart all of these years – because I wouldn't be where I am, doing what I am doing, if it weren't for MSCC. I remember why I supported the college with my finances and my prayers – because there are so many who still need to hear the message. I remember why I have to stay faithful to my alma mater – because I remember! Do you remember?

## A LOOK AT AN MSCC STUDENT



**Michael Dupuis**

Where are you from? **Lake Charles, LA**

Hobbies: **Anything exciting or dangerous**

Last book I read: **Philippians**

Favorite all time TV program? **The Dukes of Hazard**

Favorite all time Movie? **Sahara**

Best advice I ever got: **Go with what you know**

Favorite Meal: **Pizza**

Why did you choose MSCC? **The staff is dedicated to training ministers**

What I like best about MSCC **The way the staff cares about each & every student**

Favorite Scripture: **“Not my will, but thine be done.”**

**WHERE ARE THEY NOW?!**  
**FOCUS ON MSCC FACULTY**

I am married to the former Miss Debra Lynn Toney of Senatobia, MS. We will be married as of Aug. 20, 2006 for 25 years. We have two wonderful children, Davi'd who is 19 years old, and Desire'e who is in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.



I attended Mid-South Christian College in Senatobia, MS from

**David Veillon,**  
**Director of Development**

1979 to 1983 and again in 1987 while it was on Elvis Presley Blvd. in Memphis, TN. In 1997 I graduated from Southwest Bible College with a Bachelor of Arts in Theology and in 2000 I graduated from Southwest Seminary with a Masters of Arts in Theology.

My ministry experience began while at MSCC with the Master's Hands Muppet Team. Later I had weekend ministries at Southwest Christian Church in Jackson, MS; First Christian Church in Clarksdale, MS; and at Hickory Flat Christian Church in Hickory Flat, MS. MSCC was a great place to learn the skills necessary to be a preaching minister.

In 1984 we moved to Raleigh, MS to be

the first full-time preacher that S. Raleigh Christian Church had. We saw the church grow from 25 to 55 people in regular attendance.

In 1987 our little family moved to Flora, IL to be the Sr. Minister of North Harter Christian Church. 90% of our county was churched and most of them went to the Christian Church. By the time we left, North Harter was running between 90 to 100. The sad thing was that most of the growth came from people moving their membership from other Christian Churches. All we ended up doing was rearranging the kingdom rather than helping it grow. The good thing that came out of that ministry was I learned how elders were to function. I have always said that the people of North Harter possible taught me more than I taught them.

In 1989 we were called to go to Lake Charles, LA and be the minister of First Church of Christ. We spent 11 years ministering there. We saw the Lord transform that congregation. When we left in 2000 First Church of Christ was the largest Independent Christian Church in LA, SE TX, & MS. We went from 37 members to over 260 and many Sundays we would run over 300. They went from a traditional Acadian Christian Church to a Contemporary Christian Church.

In 2000 the Lord called us to North Mississippi, where we started a donut shop in Horn Lake, MS. In 2003 we bought a house in Hernando, MS. A month later John & Wendy Wagnon moved to Hernando with the support of V.E.A and Magnolia State Church Planters and New Discovery Christian Church was born. Today New Discovery has worship attendance of 135 each Sunday.



In October 2004 Larry Griffin asked me to come on board as the Director of Development for Mid-South Christian College. With the adding of other positions the college has seen some significant growth in the areas of student body, financial support & also alumni involvement. We recently applied for accreditation with Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) and on Feb. 17, 2006 we were official granted applicant status with ABHE. I could have never imaged in my wildest dreams that the Lord would bring me back full circle to where my ministry experience started, Mid-South Christian College and I would not have had it any other way. I love this ministry and I love the Lord's people that I get to serve with.

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**Blast from the Past**

Tribute: Jim Bliffin, Tom Thomas,  
 Terry Anderson, John Bliffen



We would like for all alumni to get behind this effort of accreditation and support it with your prayers and monthly financial support. Any amount would be helpful and appreciated as long as it is coming in on a monthly basis (\$10, \$20, \$30, \$50 or \$100, whatever you can afford to give). Please mail it to the school at: P.O. Box 181056, Memphis, TN 38181.

If you have any news or pictures of you or your family from the present or past, we would like to hear from you. Also if you have any suggestions, ideas, or feedback let us know. Just email it to:  
 HisPainYourGain@aol.com



**Blast from the Past**

Radiance from the spring of 1984 at Vinemont Christian Church, Vinemont, AL

Back row: Caroline Anderson, Susan Dixon, Sam Miller

Front row: Nathan Thomas, John Lumpkin, Linda Talbott

**Special Memories**

AN OLD PROF REMINISCES

I was asked to recall the days of teaching while at Mid-South Christian College 1983-1990. One of the really special characteristics of those days was the close relationships formed with the students. I also recall the comradeship of the staff and faculty through some difficult days.

I remember Deanna and Beverly making fun of my Bicentennial tie. I remember the morbid birthday party for my fortieth birthday (doesn't seem so bad now) and the cane given to me by Ron Buck. I remember the trips with traveling teams and those hot summers at camps across the South. I remember walking through the student lounge and freezing in stunned silence with a group of students as we watched the news of the Columbia disaster. I remember the fake skip day which the students weren't so happy about. I remember the laughter and the tears on almost a daily basis. I remember the dramas that we presented after many days of toil and practice.

Like most memories--I relive some special times in my life and thank God for so many precious moments with so many precious people.



**Vernon Eaton is now a professor at Johnson Bible College**

**MSCC Family Reunion**

**Friday & Saturday**

**May 26 & 27, 2006**



**Attention all current and former students, staff and supporters.**

**Come and join us for a great time of fellowship, fun and catching up with friends!**



**Special Speaker:  
Mark Fessler  
Former Professor  
at MSCC**