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HUMBOLDT NEWS LETTER

HUMBOLDT STATE COLLEGE, ARCATA, CALIFORNIA, JANUARY 29, 1945

WHAT THEY ARE DOING

Betty Jean Abbott ('41-'42) has enlisted in the WAVES and is taking her indoctrination course at Hunter College in New York City.

Cpl. Joyce Abbott ('40-'41) of the WACS, stationed at Luke Field, Arizona, has been awarded the Good Conduct Medal and personally commended by Col. John K. Nissley, commanding officer of Luke Field, A.A.F. Training Command School. The Good Conduct Medal is awarded enlisted personnel upon completion of at least one year of service with outstanding record of deportment and efficiency in military duties. Cpl. Abbott is a clerk in Unit Personnel Section of Headquarters.

Francis Aggeler, GM 1/c, (fall '41), writes from a S. F. Fleet P. O. address that he has seen **Bill McGleam** GM 2/c (fall '41).

Lt. Tom Amen ('38-'40) recently ran across his younger brother, **Cpl. Jack Amen,** somewhere in the South Pacific. Tom is now pilot of a fighter plane on a carrier.

Thais Baldwin, SKT 2/c, ('41-'43), writes from Norfolk, Virginia, where she is in the same barracks with **Dorothy Dillon,** Y 3/c ('32-'36). She has also seen **Ensign Fred Hibler** ('35-'40) who is stationed at Camp Bradford.

T/3 Howard Barnes ('35-'37) sends a Christmas card from Paris. Says it's the gayest city in the world but he'd still rather be sleeping in the library under the gently reproving eye of **Mr.** or **Mrs. Graves.**

Cpl. Rod Belcher ('37-'42) is still doing Public Relations work at the Army Air Field at Kingman, Arizona. He has been playing on his Field's basketball team with two former All-American players. Says he still thinks that Humboldt's **Billy Lee** ranks second only to Stanford's legendary Hank Luisetti.

Wilson Belloni Y 1/c, (fall '33), who has been serving on a destroyer in the South Pacific the past two years, visited his father, Mr. John Belloni of Fortuna, during the holidays.

Wayne Biord, PhM 2/c, ('30-'34), had a furlough in December when he telephoned his father in Eureka from Duluth, Minnesota, where he was visiting relatives. Wayne is now out at sea.

Word comes from **Capt. Darrel Bishop** ('39-'40) through his mother that he is with Lt. General Patton's Army, that he is very busy, and that everything is a sea of mud where he is. By this time it is probably snow.

Capt. John C. Boggess ('35-'36, '39), now in the Philippines, has written an interesting letter to Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Lamb of Arcata which was published in the Arcata Union of Dec. 29. The letter was written the day before Thanksgiving and he stated that they expected to have turkey, even though they had to carry it through knee-deep mud. In front of his tent was a lake about 100 x 100 feet and from two to four feet deep which wasn't there the week before.

Ensign Darrel Brown ('41-'43) writes an interesting account of his initiation into the Court of Neptune. Judging from his description it must be a combination of all the most fiendish pranks known to all the college initiators of the country.

Cpl. Ernie Caro ('39-'42) writes from Fort Lewis, Washington, that he served as captain of his Post Championship football team which won the "G. I." Bowl, carrying with it recognition as the Pacific Northwest champions. Ernie says that all t he players exnie says that all the players excolleges; that none of them had

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CLAIRE GUSTAFSON TAKES LEAVE

Mrs. Claire Speier Gustafson ('33-'37), secretary to President Gist, has taken a leave of absence for the spring semester. Her place is being taken by **Miss Sarah Davies,** well-known to Humboldters as President Gist's former secretary. On January 8, **David Lee Gustafson,** weight 7 lbs. 7 oz., was born. His father, **Elvin** (spring '38) is somewhere on the German front.

Miss Davies will also take Claire's place on the editorial board of the News Letter. The job of keeping information up-to-date on the activities of 545 Humboldt servicemen and women is not an easy one. Claire has taken a deep personal interest in the work because of the fact that her husband and brother are both in the service overseas and the editors appreciate her industry and enthusiasm.

Mr. Graves's index to the News Letter shows that 257 Humboldt servicemen and women have been mentioned in its columns. That is less than half of the total number of names on our mailing list. The editors would very much like to hear from the other 288. Why not sit down right now and reel off a few words about yourself? Your old Humboldt friends, as well as the News Letter editors, would certainly thank you.

THE LIBRARY
HUMBOLDT STATE COLLEGE
ARCATA, CALIFORNIA

Capt. and **Mrs. Harry Griffith** and two daughters were recent college visitors. On Saturday evening December 30 a no-host dinner was given for them by faculty members and wives at Drake's (formerly Hunter's) Restaurant. "Griff" left shortly afterwards for a month at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, where **Major W. B. McKittrick,** husband of our registrar, **Mrs. Myrtle McKittrick,** is stationed. Later he will go East for study of the Japanese language and military government work.

HUMBOLDT NEWS LETTER

EDITORIAL STAFF

President Arthur S. Gist, Chairman
Sarah M. Davies
C. Edward Graves
Maurice Hicklin
Jessie Woodcock
William J. McMillan, Eureka correspondent

THANKS TO PARENTS

Once again we have occasion to thank the parents of men and women in service for making it possible to print and distribute this issue of the News Letter.

McMILLAN ON EDITORIAL STAFF

President Gist has asked **William J. McMillan,** newly appointed manager of the Veterans' Office at Eureka, to accept appointment as a member of the editorial staff of the Humboldt News Letter. The staff is glad to welcome Mr. McMillan as a new member. We are indebted to him for several news items in this issue and for much information in the past. Not only in his official capacity as manager of the Veterans' Administration Office but also as the father of a service man is he in a position to be of real service to the cause represented by the News Letter.

The Eureka office of the Veterans' Administration is located in the First National Bank Bldg. and was opened on Jan. 8th. Mr. McMillan's assistant will be **Miss Wava E. Morris,** who has recently been employed at the Eureka Farm Labor Office. Mr. McMillan stated that his office has been established to provide service on matters relating to compensation, pension, insurance, hospitalization, loans for homes, farms and businesses, as provided under the GI Bill of Rights. For the present no provision has been made for itinerant service to take care of the outlying districts. However anyone wishing to avail himself of the services offered is invited to write or phone in.

WHAT THEY ARE DOING (Con.)

ever heard of Humboldt but that now they know it all right. (Good work, Ernie! That makes up for the time you brought the snake into the library. C. E. G.)

Lt. Walter Carr ('38-'42) was a recent college visitor. He is back in this country after taking part in 35 bombing raids in the Central Pacific. He is credited with scoring direct hits on gun positions and block-houses in the Marshalls. He is now at the Marine Air Depot, Miramar, California, awaiting re-assignment.

Lt. (j.g.) Mike Chetkovich ('37-'39) is Chief Engineer on a ship in the Pacific area. Says they usually go two or three weeks without sighting land but that morale is high, due largely to movies and the ice-cream machine.

The latest Humboldt student to join the WAVES is **Nancy Crane** who was sworn in on Nov. 24 at the Humboldt Bay Naval Section Base. Nancy will take her initial training at Hunter College, New York City. She will be missed in college musical circles where she was very active.

Lt. Clarence Edsall ('36-'41), former football star, called at the college the other day, accompanied by his wife, the former **Eleanor Shaw** ('38-'42). "Snooky" was wounded in France, being one of the first to go there after the invasion. He is now convalescing at the DeWitt General Hospital, Auburn, California. He and his wife have been spending the holidays at the home of her parents in Kneeland. "Snooky" looks fine and says that he gained ten pounds during his recent holiday visit.

Lt. Jack Ellis ('35-'39) was mentioned in Scoop Beals' column in the Humboldt Standard of Jan. 3 as being around town. He told Scoop that he never felt better physically and could play four quarters without time out any time. There was no news reported of Jack's army activities.

Sgt. Bill Farber ('35-'41) who was here visiting friends last fall is now at Officers' Training School at Quantico, Virginia. Bill, who was in some of the toughest fighting in the Pacific area, says he much prefers Humboldt to East Coast weather.

Bill Fiedler ('40-'41) is now a First Lieutenant, according to word received from his mother. He is still flying missions from a base in England.

N/o Gene Flocchini ('38-41) writes from northeastern France where he is in the Supply Service. He accompanied his unit all the way from southern France through the Vosges Mts.

Ensign Dean Galloway ('41-'42) writes from San Diego on a letterhead of the U. S. Pacific Fleet Air Force, Rescue Squadron Six. Says he doesn't know much about his future job but thinks he will be co-pilot on a plane equipped for rescuing men from the sea.

Lt. Earl Gossard ('41-'43) recently received his commission and gold bars at the AAF Training Command School at Yale University. After a Christmas visit with his parents in Eureka he left for Luke Field, Arizona. Later he expects to be stationed at a field in Southern California where he will be in charge of a crew of enlisted men who are specialists in aircraft maintenance.

Ensign Fred Hibler ('35-'40) is now training at Camp Bradford, Virginia, for duty on LSTs. Recently in the railroad station at Memphis, Tennessee he ran across **Qm 3/c Cap Torp** ('38-'40). Cap has been in the Canal Zone with the Navy but at last account was in the U. S. awaiting re-assignment.

Sgt. Cliff Hutchins ('37-'39) writes from a Rotation Detachment Base in New Guinea where he is awaiting return to the U.S. He spent 26 months in Melbourne, Australia. His work is that of sign-writing and poster-making for Special Services.

Lt. Wilbur Jensen ('41-'42) is taking a Technical Observer's course in radar at Langley Field, Virginia. Says **Lt. Jim Wheeler** (fall '42) is the only Humboldt man he has seen.

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SAN FRANCISCO REUNION

Jim Hall ('35-'40), who is now living in Berkeley, and **President Gist** arranged a Humboldt get-together dinner at Lucca's in San Francisco December 30, 1944. Thirty-three former students and faculty, some of whom are now in service, attended. Old times at Humboldt were talked over and some of its future plans were discussed. Suggestions were made to hold another get-together dinner in the near future. Jim Hall will be glad to hear from any Humboldter who is in the Bay region at any time. His address is 2422 Channing Way, Berkeley, telephone Ashberry 6360.

Following is a list of those present at the get-together: **Ethel French Montgomery,** junior cadet nurse; **Jeanne Sweet; Joan Roth SK 3/c USNR; Patricia Black; Helen Newell Goodwin; Cpl. Howard Goodwin; Juanita Kennedy S 1/c; Gilberta Negro; Eva Clayton; Alice Wilkinson; Ensign Patricia McMillan; Anne McMillan SK 3/c; Charles E. Back; Phyllis N. Back; James N. Hall; Frances Petty Bryan; Bob Bryan; Verda German McAleer; Eva Mathiesen Bosley; Allen E. Bosley; Emmalena Winkler Thomson; Carl Thomson M 3/c; Ethyl Morris MaM 2/c; Midshipman Herbert W. Penzel; Wilma Wrigley MaM 3/c; Virginia Torp Harris; Jim Harris; William Jackson; Lt. Henry Trione** and friend; **Lt.** and **Mrs. James J. Hunter** of the faculty, and **President Gist.**

WHAT THEY ARE DOING (Con.)

GM 2/c Bill McGleam (fall '41) who was injured in action in December is recuperating in a South Pacific hospital. He has seen action in seven major engagements.

Sgt. Leonard Juell ('36 - '42), now in Assam, India, has written a long letter about his life there which was published in the Lumberjack of January 10. It seems that at present he is living on an English tea plantation which has lawn tennis courts, volley-ball and Badminton courts and a private swimming pool. Looks pretty tough, Leonard!

Cpl. Jay Jones ('32-'38) sends greetings in Spanish from an AAF Airways Station somewhere south of New Orleans.

Lt. (j.g.) Billy Lee ('38-'42) and his wife, the former **Frances Prather** ('41-'42) send a card from Brooklyn announcing the arrival of **Lani Frances** on December 28.

PhM 1/c Wilfred McCready ('35-'38) writes from the New Hebrides. Says it is cool with little rain and the scenery reminds him of Humboldt.

BM 1/c Bill Madsen ('38-'40) writes from the South Pacific that he is probably the only Humboldt man serving on a "Humboldt-made" product. He is doing duty on one of the dry-docks constructed in Eureka. Says it is consoling sometimes, when he gets lonely, to "stroll around, touch an electric cable, and think that my Dad helped install it or that Fred Hibler probably checked on the angle that the bill-board was to be placed."

Lt. Donald T. Malone ('37-'39), fighter plane pilot who was reported missing in action last spring, was awarded the Air Medal, according to word received by his mother, Mrs. Bertha Malone of Bayside. He was attached to Fighter Squadron 17 and had participated in many missions against Jap shipping and installations.

Pfc. Merton Meng ('32 - '33) sends a Christmas card with a picture of St-Lo, France.

Bob Mostyn ('41-'42) received his silver wings at Marfa, Texas, Dec. 23, when he graduated as a Flight Officer from Marfa Army Air Field. Bob was a recent visitor at college. From here he was to report at Kingman, Arizona, Army Air Field for further training as pilot of a P-17.

Lt. Dayton Murray ('41-'42) writes from France that he likes his squadron very much and is enjoying himself. He is surprising himself (and perhaps Mademoiselle Johnson if she could hear him) with his French conversation.

Still another case of "brother meets brother" has been reported from the South Pacific. **Ensign Clarke Nellist** ('40-'43) and **Lt. Bill Nellist** ('37-'38) recently met in the Philippines area. They hadn't seen each other in three years and met twice last month on a Pacific island. Bill, who had been wounded at Leyte, is on detached service doing advanced reconnaissance. Clarke has seen action in several invasions in the Palau and Philippines area.

Sgt. Joe Rezzonico ('31-'32) gave his family an exceptional thrill on Christmas day by broadcasting a Merry Christmas to his friends and relatives of Arcata from Australia.

Capt. and **Mr. Merwyn Riddle** ('38-'41) send a Christmas card from Ypsilanti, Michigan. Mrs. Riddle is the former **Frances Larsen** ('38-'42) who was a teacher at the College Elementary School last year.

Lt. Nebby Roscoe ('39-'42) has been a recent college visitor. Nebby had finished his C-47 transition at Bergstrom Field, Austin, Texas, and was ready to ship out but he was transferred to C-46's, our biggest twin-engine plane. Now he is through with that and expects to be overseas soon.

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PHONETICS HELPFUL

A course in Phonetics he took at Humboldt has been of help to **Pfc. Ledo Matteoli** ('39-'42), now in China. Ledo has been learning Chinese and in addition has been helping Chinese college graduates with their English; these young Chinese were preparing to be interpreters, evidently, with American troops. Ledo writes that these Chinese college graduates have taken either French or English, and that all of them have studied phonetics. Whenever he or they have difficulty in teaching the other party sounds in their respective languages, they resort to the use of the phonetic alphabet. Ledo read in the November News Letter that **Lt. Bill DuMond** ('39-'42) was in China and proceeded to inquire about him. He finally located him about 100 miles away and they had a good old Humboldt reunion. They were on their way to town for a dinner when Bill was called back to go on a mission but they hope to have another meeting soon.

WHAT THEY ARE DOING (Con.)

Lt. Eldrid Spinas ('41-'42) telephoned his parents at Christmas time from somewhere in the South Pacific. He is a pilot of a fighter plane and has had several successful missions. He recently was named Assistant Flight Officer of his squadron.

Lt. Gene Thomas (fall '42) has been awarded the Air Medal with bronze Oak Leaf cluster. His group has flown more than 140 combat missions for the 15th AAF and has been twice cited by the War Department for outstanding performance against the enemy. Gene recently was reported missing in action but later sent his mother a telegram saying he was well and safe.

Lt. Jim Wheeler (fall '42) writes from a New York APO address that he has two Oak Leaf clusters on his Air Medal in addition to the Purple Heart. He was in a hospital and away from flying for two months.

Lt. George Winzler (fall '42) was one of twelve American fighting men killed on Christmas day in the crash of an Army transport plane in Southern California. George received his wings and commission at Frederick Army Airfield in Oklahoma, September 8 and had been home on furlough after that.

Ensign Don Hurst ('41-'43) and **Ensign Fred Slack, Jr.** ('40-'42) recently enjoyed a seven-hour gabfest when their respective ships crossed each other's path somewhere in the South Pacific. Their conversation was via blinker lights and Don reported that he could see Fred clearly through the glasses he had. Don writes that he enjoys meeting the native chiefs on the South Pacific isles, and that the swimming is good, provided you have a buddy standing watch with a trusty rifle to shoot the sharks.

Pfc. Bill McMillan, Jr. writes his folks from the Philippines on January 2nd: "As you can see, I am on the move again. This place is a lot warmer in more ways than one. I am okeh—don't worry. The people here are a lot friendlier than in the last place and a lot more intelligent. At least it is good to see some sort of civilization for a change. The people here are clean and as a whole most of them speak English fairly well; also Spanish. So I get along okeh—thanks to Senorita Mathews" (Eureka High School teacher)!

Lt. Robert Frakes ('39-'40), Army Air Corps, was a recent college visitor. Bob is now on leave in this country after several weeks of service in England. He has been assigned to an instructorship at the Bombardier School, Carlsbad, New Mexico, and is leaving immediately for duty. He stated that some of the first mail that greeted him in England was the Humboldt News Letter.

George D. Kinsman, former faculty member, is in the army, stationed at Battle Creek, Michigan. Kinsman taught music courses and directed the Humboldt choir and the orchestra while Edmund Jeffers was on a two-years' leave, completing work for his doctor's degree at Columbia University. Kinsman is a lieutenant in the Medical Administration Corps and is the officer in charge of the Music School under what is known as the Convalescent faculty at the Percy Jones General Hospital at Battle Creek. He has been in service a little over a year, originally going into the engineers, from which branch he was later transferred. He was in service in California, in Washington, in Oregon, and in Texas before being sent to his present station. Mrs. Kinsman is now with him, and they still have their dog Topper.

A new book recently acquired by the college library is **Captain Herbert L. Merillat's** "The Island; a History of the Marines on Guadalcanal." Humboldters should have a real interest in this book because it is an account of the Marine Division to which **Sgt. Bill Farber** ('35-'41), one of Humboldt's most famous football players, belonged. In the appendix of the book is a list of medals awarded and the name of **2nd Lt. Amedeo Sandretto** ('35-'41) is included among those who have received the Air Medal. Amedeo was reported missing after a voluntary air mission.

JEFFERS AND KARSHNER IN HAWAII

Two Humboldt faculty members on leave who are serving with the Seabees in Hawaii are **Dr. Edmund Jeffers** and **Don Karshner.** It is not possible to publish their addresses but we suggest that any Humboldt men wishing to get in touch with them should call at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Ackermann, 2329 East Manoa Road, Honolulu, parents of **Margaret Ackermann** ('42-'43) and **Lawrence (Jack) Ackermann** (fall '42). Margaret and Jack are both at home now and will be glad to see any Humboldters and to help put them in touch with "Jeff' or Don or anyone else in the service whose addresses they know.

S 1/c Don Wilson ('42-'43), son of Prof. Bert Wilson, spent Christmas day with the Ackermanns. Don has been specializing in fire-control of five-inch guns.

Pvt. Gene Orlandi (fall '43) is now at Fort Sill, near Lawton, Oklahoma, where he is attending a field artillery school. He writes: "We have quite a lot of math to do, but it is very interesting just to know how to calculate and give a command to the guns."

Sgt. Fred Smith ('39-'42) is with the United Sttaes Army in Germany. He writes: "I was in England for a while and saw quite a bit of London, but not enough to satisfy my appetite. I didn't have time to go to Stratford-on-Avon, something I missed. I have been through Versailles, Paris, Brussels and part of Holland. Although I can say I've been there, it was no vacation trip." He adds that he hopes the Humboldt News Letters will catch up with him pretty soon, as he would like some news from Humboldt State.

JUST A REMINDER

for those of you who will be coming back soon! Don't forget that many County Recorders will record and copy discharge papers for veterans free of charge. It is important for a number of reasons that this be attended to.