

# THE ECHO

*"Continuously in print since 2002, Serving Kemper Old Boys and the Kemper Family"*

CHIMI

Official Publication of Echo Company, Kemper Military School

COST \$1.00

March 2013

www.echocompany.org P.O. Box 883, Fallon, Nevada 89407-0883

Vol X No 1

## ECHO COMPANY BOARD ANNOUNCES DATES FOR 2013 BLACKWATER REUNION

The Adjutant for Echo Company, Kemper Military School, LTC John Downs, recently announced plans for the 2013 gathering of Kemper Old Boys in Blackwater, Missouri. "We are pleased to be able to invite our friends and members to the eleventh annual gathering of Old Boys in what has become a tradition," said Downs. "The agenda for Blackwater is simple and uncomplicated. Echo Company will host a bbq on Friday evening the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, an open Board meeting on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup>, and later that same day a dinner featuring a presentation of the Standard of Honor."



Echo Company has been host to the event each year for the past eleven years in the same location and subscribing to the same basic agenda. What originally began as a simple meeting of a few friends has rapidly grown into a signature event for the alumni of Kemper Military School.

In years past, Echo Company has used the occasion to recognize distinguished members of the Kemper community, to expand the venue to include a presentation of the school colors, and to provide a Standard of Honor ceremony which includes an opportunity for the attendees to affix their signatures. The 2012 gathering included a salute to a Boonville landmark restaurant, the Stein House.

Included among the attendees annually are a number of Kemper Military School faculty and staff. You are invited! Your participation makes the difference in success each year.

### YOUR INVITATION TO BLACKWATER

The Officers and Staff of Echo Company, Kemper Military School, extend an invitation to join with them in a weekend remembrance and celebration of Kemper Military School, 7-9 June 2013.

Friday 7 June casual reception bbq at the train depot in Blackwater, Missouri 5:30-9:30pm

Saturday 8 June General session Board meeting of Echo Company, Kemper Military School, Inc at the train depot Blackwater 1:00-2:00pm Reception, train depot, 5:00-6:00 Dinner followed by Standard of Honor ceremony 6:00-9:00pm

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### BLACKWATER 2013

7 June Friday 4:30-9:00pm bar-b-que and reception in the old train depot at Blackwater

8 June Saturday 11:00-1:00pm Lunch at "Stein House" in Blackwater.

1:00pm Open meeting of Echo Company, Kemper Military School  
3:00pm rehearsal of Standard of Honor ceremony – train depot  
5:00-6:00 cocktail reception  
6:00pm presentation of colors  
6:00-7:00pm – dinner  
7:00pm – awards and decorations  
7:30pm – Standard of Honor ceremony

9 June Sunday 7:00-8:00am breakfast at "Stein House" in Blackwater; departures

### MENU FOR EVENING MEAL

Saturday 8 June 2013

Prime Rib Steak  
Fresh Garden Salad w/ dressing  
Baked Potato  
Steamed Garden Fresh Vegetables  
Homemade Bread  
Choice of iced tea, coffee, or soda  
Signature Iron Horse Dessert  
\$25 cost payable at door



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Butt Pack** page 2

More of your letters and responses from the *ECHO*. Read what others are asking and saying

**War Story by Tim Carpenter** page 3

The conclusion to the two-part story of a real WWII soldier whose service was honorable, interesting and authentic.

**An Interview with Dr. Ridgley** page 4

Ed Ridgley accepts our invitation and tells it like it is!

**Ten Ways to Tell if You are Married to A Kemper Old Boy**

Ever wonder if Kemper women have anything in common beside their Kemper men? An unscientific report page 5

**Firing the 3.5 inch Field Gun** page 5

A nostalgic look back to the time when a Sunday parade included firing the Kemper field guns.

**Five Things for a Gentleman** page 6

Major Roderick Martin gave his students timeless advice and we share it with you in this issue.

**Horoscope** page 7

**Aunt Suzy** page 7



**BUTT PACK**

**Candice is so overwhelmed by the volume of mail received in the Echo Company mailroom she just decided to "go swimming"! You can add your comments, ask a question, or reconnect with Old Boys right here. Just send us your comments/questions and we'll add them to the Butt Pack. Write to us:**

**Echo Company, Butt Pack  
P.O. Box 883  
Fallon, Nevada 89407-0883**

**P Simpson – Fulton, MO** "I thought you might like to see the big buck which Charles LeBus shot down in Texas using a bow and arrow."



**ECHO** – Looks like Charles was on an African Safari!  
**Charles Berlemann – Bellingham, Washington** "I tried to follow the story line in the December 2012 edition of the newsletter I just received but found it a little disjointed. I am more than a little interested as NAS Fallon and the surrounding area is very familiar to me after 24 years in Naval aviation. I participated in many deployments to that site with various A-6 Intruder squadrons I was assigned to during my career. So... Are the Echo Company treasures now stored in the town or on the base? Will future reunions be held there? More detail please."

**Jim Ewing – Ft Worth, Texas** "I'm sorta like Chuck. Could you explain in "plain English" what the move means, why, how much, who is close by that can care for it since it's on a closed base? I've never felt that Echo was such a large operation that day-to-day operations required a large staff. I'm for you, but the newsletter and responses are well-written "fluff." 'sPositly been about 70 years since I first arrived at Kemper, so maybe that's the reason I don't understand all this, so please forgive."

**ECHO** – Wow!! We never expected such a reaction. It is clear that our reader's have a keen interest in the Fallon connection so we have dedicated a portion of this issue to explaining the rationalization behind the move. Hopefully this will clear up some of our reader's questions.

**David Ashby – KM S 65-69** "Just wanted to get everyone up to date, THE KEMPER FILES are coming along fine. Only problem is each time I think I am closing in on a finished section, I discover a better way to do it. This is becoming a true labor of love. New fonts, new layouts, new pictures and stories. All wonderful to have but really putting me behind the schedule I set for myself. atWhefeel is most important is to provide a book you will all be proud of. To that end I must move my target date. To all showing interest in THE KEMPER FILES, thank

you. The completed book will be available soon, but probably not by Christmas. Thank you for your patience and believe me, it will be worth it."

**ECHO** – David, your undertaking is an inspiration, a true noble effort. We are behind you 100%.

**Grant O Nelson – Houston, Texas** "I see Echo Company has moved to a warmer climate, I hope it doesn't get as hot as Texas in the summer! There is something I want to get off my chest that has been bothering me since the Standard of Honor ceremony last summer. I was hoping that the **ECHO** might have listed the participants in the newsletter.

There were a lot of years of Kemper Old Boys participating, from 1944 to 2002! It would be nice if you had done something on the Old Boys who took part. Not for me but it took some courage for some of the members to do the ceremony. It was very emotional and I was especially touched by the Old Boys and women who came through and gave us hugs after signing, that has never happened before."

**ECHO** – Grant, you make a great point and without the SOH commission members who rehearsed on their own time, deferred the enjoyment of just watching the ceremony, and put such a powerful effort into making the ceremony come off perfectly it would not have happened at all. It is as simple as that. We owe a great deal to the 2012 commission, Bill Burkett, Mike Dundee, Grant Nelson, Dan Hammack, Ed Ridgley, Tedsan Timberlake Jr, and Ken Barley. Our thanks to you all!

**Gerald Owens-Tenino, Washington** "I enjoyed the variety of writers in the December issue of the **ECHO**. I was amused by the company commander's stories, touched by Marcia Crabb and entertained by Emilyn Burmek. Great job! Keep up the good work."

**ECHO** – All of the writers provide stories without reward or compensation. It is often a thankless task with no promise of even being published. Your recognition is the only measure of appreciation they receive.

**Bob Gaskill – Michigan** "I was going through some old Infantry Magazines and found an article published by Kemper graduates which I thought might be interesting reading to include in the **ECHO**."

**ECHO** – Thanks Bob, our readers can view the article INFANTRY magazine, May-June 1999, "Thoughts for Rifle Platoon Leaders" by LT Charles J Dugle. Lieutenant Dugle is a 1993 graduate of Kemper.

**Steve Shanks – Wisconsin** "I look forward to seeing everyone in Blackwater this year!"

**ECHO** – We look forward to seeing you too, Steve.

**Gene Miller – Ohio** "Congratulations to the staff of the **ECHO** for a great year! I enjoyed the 'Grown Up Christmas Wish' by Marcia Crabb in

the December 2012 edition.

**ECHO** – Thank you, Gene. An ever increasing number of authors have emerged to add a new level of vitality to the **ECHO**. Writers such as Crabb, Burmek, Gerber, Dundee, Ochsenlager, and others have elevated this newsletter to new heights. We owe them our thanks.

**Clyde Hashagen** – "I just got up this morning and, I don't know why, but Kemper was on my mind. I have called lots of Kemper Old Boys today and I wanted to check in with Echo Company too."

**ECHO** – Thanks Clyde! We appreciate all Old Boys who check in anytime. It's great you took the time to give so many friends and fellow Old Boys a call.

**Rick Buchanan – New Hampshire** "I thank the **ECHO** for all it does!"

**ECHO** – Thank you as well, Rick! Your service as Corps Commander placed you in very good company with others who came before and after you. Come and spend some time with us in Blackwater, Missouri this June, rally the Corps, and help us keep the Standard of Honor alive.

**Bob Rhuland – Colorado** "Echo Company, donation, good!"

**ECHO** – Thanks Bob! We always enjoy it when a Kemper legend drops us a line.

**Marilyn Cochran – Boonville** "I enjoy the connections with Kemper through the newsletter. Keep up the good work!"

**ECHO** – Thank you Marilyn. It is an honor to have you as a member.

*Editor's Note: Marilyn is the widow of the late Captain Sam Cochran and was herself a dedicated figure at Kemper earning the title "Sergeant Mother".*

**Tom Gerber – South Carolina** "Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year's!"

**ECHO** – Tom, we want to thank you for your generous contribution but more important was the fact that you took time to write a well received story for the **ECHO**. Thank you and we hope to see you in Blackwater this June.

**Spencer Crawfis – Vero Beach, Florida** "Happy holidays to all the good people of Echo Company and all KMS Alumni."

**ECHO** – Thank you, Spencer.

**Peggy Beard – Washington** "In the article about being married to a Kemper Old Boy, I got a real kick out of 'Mannerism Number Eight'. The first time I visited Ben at his home in Sherwood, Oregon, before we left to visit some friends he said he wanted to fold his laundry first. I offered to bring it up from the drier and help him. He said, 'No, I'll just do it on my folding table in the garage.' Of course I thought he meant a table that folds – but no - it turned out to be a carpet covered table he always folded his clothes on. He then gave me a demonstration on 'the proper way to fold clothes.' (I had of course been doing this task for well over fifty years.) So at the ripe old age of 75 I learned the 'real' way to fold clothes. After we married I was informed that the clothes fit much better in his dresser if I folded them 'properly'. End of story – I still fold them the 'Kemper' way now. Once an 'Old Boy,' always an 'Old Boy,' I guess."

**ECHO** – Peggy we got a real hoot out of your comment! We are also happy that the story brought back some pleasant memories.

**Keith Balch – California** "Thank you, Echo Company, for all you do!"

**ECHO** – Coming from a past distinguished Corps Commander, that is a true compliment



Happy Easter from



all of us at the **ECHO**!

# WAR STORY

By Tim Carpenter

(continued from December 2012 issue of the *ECHO*)

Carpenter added imaginary details about the weapon, "The damn Kraut was just about to shoot me with it!" The bidding went up again. "I think he was some kind of SS Captain or something!" The bidding raised even more. Up and up the price went until Carpenter felt he had hit the jackpot of the biggest crap game in his life.



Weeks later Captain Carpenter found himself in southern France reporting to the commander of the POW camp. It housed around 300 German POW's who were mostly railroad workers before the war. Carpenter called the Germans to formation and they complied with Prussian-like efficiency. Some still retained their rank and insignia, others were obviously sick while some lacked even the most basic of clothing. Carpenter told the German Commander, "Have your men remove their insignia and place it in your hat. They may retain their rank insignia. Now, Oberst...I will make a deal with you. If you will give me your personal assurance that no one will try an escape, I will do my best to make your men comfortable."

The German officer looked at my dad, handed him the cap full of cloth rank and badges and said, "Some of my men have no shoes, none of us have seen a priest in months, and the Russians which we once guarded, now guard us and treat us with horrible abuse."

Carpenter did not expect such a reply and especially in such perfect English. "We are agreed. Tell your men they will see a priest tomorrow. I will work on the shoes. The Russians will no longer have guard duty inside the compound area."

The Germans were put to work building roadside parks and other improvements. They had been made to remove their insignia, the eagle and swastika patches, from their uniforms. The insignia was collected up and CPT Carpenter kept these and gave them to me some years later.



One day the local priest came to the POW camp; he was French and spoke with CPT Carpenter, who was

fluent in the language. The priest explained that there was difficulty and resentment toward the POWs within the French community for the wartime damage they had done. However, he had a plan and if the Germans would assist in rebuilding the local church they could attend services in the church. Carpenter thought about the offer and consented, asking the German commanding officer if he would like such an arrangement. Everyone agreed and the Germans attended church with the French, singing and even sharing hymnals after rebuilding their church.

Later Carpenter received a call from the Division Headquarters. He was asked if the POWs could construct a garden in front of the Office of the Commanding General, which was also the location of the flag pole. Carpenter consulted the German Oberst who commanded the prisoners; he said certainly he had men who could do such a job. The Oberst gave Carpenter a list of supplies including colored gravel, and various flower seeds, as well as shovels and working implements.

The German POWs worked hard on the garden with enthusiasm and energy. Day after day they carefully cultivated, planted, laid the gravel in colored patterns by hand and finally it was done. Some time later Carpenter's phone rang again from Headquarters and he was asked to report there. This time he was sure he would be praised for the outstanding job his POWs had done. Instead, as he arrived at the office of the Division Commander he glanced at the garden and could see the prisoners had planted a perfect eagle and swastika which was now germinating and sprouting in the most prominent location within the camp all in the national colors of Germany.



Carpenter returned to the POW camp with his tail between his legs and, half his ass missing. He called the Oberst into his office and was ready to chew him out. The Oberst knew exactly why he was there and asked Carpenter all about how red the General's face had gotten, how upset he was and so on. Soon both of them were laughing.

As the weeks passed, the German POWs built roadside parks with amazing efficiency using only the simple tools from the side of a jeep, shovel, pick and axe. Each day the Germans worked hard, sang, and played soccer with ruthless brutality

during their lunch break. The Russians who guarded the Germans hated the POWs and, if they were not watched, manhandled them. On one such day a Russian guard decided he needed cigarettes and ordered several Germans to empty their pockets for inspection.

When the Russian guard attempted to take Red Cross cigarettes from one of the Germans, the worker objected and he was summarily knife stabbed several times by the Russian. Captain Carpenter attempted to drive the young German soldier to the hospital but he died en route. Carpenter was furious and ordered the immediate repatriation of the Russian soldier, telling me years later, "I knew I was sentencing him to death since all repatriated Russian soldiers were seen as deserters. He begged me to stay but this guy was nothing more than a murdering thug and I really didn't care what happened to him. All I could think about was that seventeen-year-old German kid who died because of a cigarette."

Carpenter left France in 1945 and returned to the United States. His war trophies included several things such as an anti aircraft gun sight for an 88, a radio part with ID plates on it, several pistols, a French map with Nazi unit markings on it ("...the intelligence guys didn't want it!") and, of course the German uniform cap filled with rank insignia. As a youngster I used to trade the Nazi stuff to my friends for the trophies which their fathers had brought back. I remember trading two Nazi cloth eagles for a mother's medal, an embroidered wheel made with gold thread for a Japanese pilot helmet, and an iron cross for a CO2 pellet pistol.

Over time I collected up a lot of loot (including Playboy magazines once I hit puberty) but I had traded off almost all of the original cloth eagles my dad had brought back. Today I have about twenty-five or thirty of the original batch left. That, in a nutshell, is the story of my ol' man's wartime experience and, if you think that is boring, some day I will tell you of my service. You will be asleep by the end of the first paragraph!

## ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION

2013 Echo Company, Kemper Military School, Inc. **THE ECHO** (ISSN 1530 0101) is published quarterly by Echo Company, Kemper Military School, Inc. P.O. Box 883, Fallon, Nevada 89407-0883 Permission to reprint may be obtained from this office. **Phone (715) 854-7555**

**Editorial e-mail:** [echo151806@hotmail.com](mailto:echo151806@hotmail.com)

**Sales e-mail:** [echo151806@hotmail.com](mailto:echo151806@hotmail.com)

**NOTES:** Subscription rates for **THE ECHO** are \$4.00 per year. Send address changes to: Editor, **THE ECHO**, P.O. Box 883, Fallon, Nevada 89407-0883. Articles submitted for publication in **THE ECHO** become the property of Echo Company, Kemper Military School. Letters to the Editor (The Buttack), reviews, articles, and stories represent the opinion of the author and are not necessarily the view of Echo Company, Kemper Military School. The Board of Directors assumes no responsibility for the opinions expressed by the authors or individuals quoted in **THE ECHO**.

**THE ECHO** is published quarterly in cooperation with Mercury Media, Inc. Approximately 750 copies of **THE ECHO** are printed each quarter and 650 are mailed to subscribers. There are 70 non-paid copies mailed to associates of Echo Company, Kemper Military School.

The term "member" as it applies to those affiliated with Echo Company, Kemper Military School does not imply a share in part or whole in the assets of Echo Company, Kemper Military School.

Echo Company, Kemper Military School, Inc does not recognize any group, organization, faction, or club which purports to speak for the Old Boys of Kemper Military School and members of Echo Company, Kemper Military School. Such notice having been placed in this March 2013 issue of the **ECHO**, all interested parties are advised that Echo Company, Kemper Military School is a legally registered corporation in the State of Wisconsin and that a violation of this claim of proprietary management may subject the offender to civil penalties.





### INTERVIEW WITH DR. ED RIDGLEY

**ECHO:** Thanks for taking the time to answer some questions our readers have been asking.

**Dr. Ridgley** – It is my pleasure. I hope the community of Old Boys does not stop asking questions and continues a strong tradition of inquiry and involvement.

**ECHO:** Can you tell us how and why Echo Company moved to such an obscure location as Fallon, Nevada?

**Dr. Ridgley** – Okay. In the early part of 2009 I received a report regarding the composition and storage of the archive collection within Echo Company, Kemper Military School. The report detailed the holdings within Echo Company as well as conservation efforts, and proposed several venues for future disposition. The outline suggested that a plan be put in place making disposition for the holdings and gave several practical solutions.

In short, there is a practical need to determine what to do with the substantial historical artifacts in the event of Echo Company's dissolution. I don't want to suggest that Echo Company is going to go away. We just needed a plan in the event a catastrophe affected the ability of Echo Company to function.

Not long after I received the report, perhaps a year or so later, John Downs provided notice of his intent to relocate to a warmer climate. John also provided me with his resignation since he is the principal caretaker of the collection and operates Echo Company on a day-to-day basis. This compelled the Board to act decisively and quickly.

The Board considered transferring custody of all holdings to the Western Historical Preserve operated by the University of Missouri. We also discussed transferring the holdings to the State of Missouri Museum. We also considered continuing operations in Wisconsin. Ultimately a fourth option arose which was the complete transfer of assets to Fallon, Nevada where John was headed. This option was expensive but also allowed Echo Company to maintain control and access to the collection.

**ECHO:** So John Downs was allowed to move the collection?

**Dr. Ridgley:** In so many words yes! He had to provide the Board with proof of insurance for the move itself and, more importantly, find a repository for the holdings.

**ECHO:** Is that where the Naval Air Station comes in?

**Dr. Ridgley:** Yes! John coordinated that whole end of the transfer. Today, we have more modern, long-term, storage and office facilities.

**ECHO:** How do you see the future of Echo Company? What would you like to say to those who call for Echo Company to better plan the future?

**Dr. Ridgley** – We do the best job we can while being mindful of, and respectful toward, our school's great heritage. If someone else has a better plan, a more successful vision, a more proven way of doing things, then I urge them to step forward. No! Echo Company will not be around forever, you and I both know that but we make the best use of the time we have.

It is important we construct a vehicle allowing future generations to learn about our school. Not only the physical plant but the values and character of the cadets who lived there.

**ECHO** – There seems to be some confusion about the status of the Naval Air Station at Fallon. Is it closed or not?

**Dr. Ridgley** – The Naval Air Station or 'NAS' is an active military installation. It is not closed as we would think of a barber shop on Sunday afternoon. Instead the status of 'closed' as it applies to NAS Fallon means it is a limited access facility with restricted entry. Our staff and their dependents do have access.

**ECHO:** Will the changes in infrastructure, the move to Nevada, mean a change in venue for Old Boy gatherings?

**Dr. Ridgley:** NO! The only changes our members will see is a change in address. Everything else will remain just as it has. We will gather in Blackwater, break bread together, and recall the Standard of Honor.

**ECHO:** Is there anything else you would like Kemper Old Boys to know?

**Dr. Ridgley:** Each year Echo Company gathers in Blackwater, Missouri to remember and celebrate our common heritage. This year we will do so 7-9 June. Each year the number of Old Boys who come increases and each year the occasion is more memorable than the one before.

I hope all Old Boys will consider taking advantage of joining us this year to salute and celebrate our school together.



Dear **ECHO**,

*The Missouri National Guard has one of the cannons that was at Kemper. It has been restored and is on display in the foyer of our Headquarters building in Jefferson City at the Ike Skelton Training Site. The other is at Fort Sill with the Artillery Museum. From what we learned from Fort Sill, they are the last 2 of that type in existence. So, we are happy they have been restored and preserved for people to view these unique pieces of artillery history.*

*"Those who do not remember history are doomed to repeat it"*  
-unknown

*Charles D. Machon  
Museum Director  
2302 Militia Drive  
Jefferson City, MO 65101*

When the Missouri National Guard learned of our story about "Firing the 3.2" Field Gun" they were more than happy to oblige us with a photo and an update. It might be a stretch to think that Kemper Old Boys would visit the center just to see the cannon so we brought you this photograph as a courtesy.

Now, isn't this better than if the guns were auctioned off and sold to a European arms collector? Do you know from where the guns came in the first place? Right you are, the Missouri National Guard!

---

### All the Little Children By M. Ripper

All the little children of today face tomorrow  
on the wings of dreams and the coat-tails of our lives.  
All their questions deserve answers  
Little cowboys, little dancers  
Need the light of understanding in their eyes.

Their hearts are open and their thoughts are new  
Trusting every word we say  
Their eyes will follow everything we do  
Let our example light the way  
Lead the way.

All the little children need our love  
They need our words to rise above  
We've got to teach them not to fear  
And in the coming years  
They will turn around and teach their children to love.

Now's the time we must get honest  
The hour is upon us  
We've got to show the little ones the way of life.  
They are willing with hearts burning  
And their lives will be deserving  
If we take the time to teach our words of life.

# TEN WAYS TO TELL IF YOU ARE MARRIED TO A KEMPER OLD BOY

An Exclusive from the **ECHO**



For wives and girl friends we have undertaken the effort to help identify those little quirks and mannerisms which characterize a Kemper Old Boy.

## Mannerism Number One –

The closet  
There are two extremes here but each is capable of telling

you if your man is still breathing the air of “D” barracks. If hubby carefully spaces his shirts on hangers and arranges his clothes trousers first followed by shirts and jackets, he is a Kemper Old Boy. If the bottom of his closet looks like a bomb went off in the clothing section of Wal Mart that is likewise a fairly good indication of repressed cadet days.

## Mannerism Number Two – Speed eating

Have you noticed by the time you have taken your first bite he is already finished with his entire dinner? If true then you are most certainly married to a Kemper Old Boy. Another tell tale sign or “Kemperism” is neatly stacking silverware at dinners end.

## Mannerism Number Three – “Would you slow down?”

Almost all Kemper wives report being left behind like a stalled car on a NASCAR track at one time or another. A simple stroll is anything but when it comes to walking with a Kemper Old Boy. Quite simply, they all walk with a drumming cadence in their head.

## Mannerism Number Four – Not undecided

Liberal or Conservative? Democrat or Republican? One thing for sure no Kemper Old Boy would ever say is, “I really am undecided” or “I don’t have an opinion!” Lack of decision making is so foreign to Kemper Old Boys that their wives will almost universally agree the one thing which binds all Old Boys is that they are of strong opinion. Just ask one!

## Mannerism Number Five – Discipline

Uh oh! Careful now, this is dangerous water! We asked a lot of wives and girl friends about discipline and it seems Old Boys do share a common denominator, the ability to chew ass like no one else on earth. One Kemper Belle told us her hubby chewed on a refrigerator salesman with such surgical precision his butt nearly fell off intact. Discipline comes at a price though and nearly all Kemper Old Boys lack tact preferring a direct frontal assault. Gee! Wonder where that comes from!?

## Mannerism Number Six – Illustrates point well

When it comes to story telling or making a point leave it to a Kemper Old Boy. These guys love a good story, a bawdy joke, and talking to other Kemper old Boys. It is as if they are on some kind of secret frequency or something but Kemper Old Boys could all get tickets to the World Series and they would find a table to sit and talk while ignoring the game. Almost all conversations start with “You won’t believe this shit!”

## Mannerism Number Seven – Remembers some detail

Any Kemper wife will agree that their Kemper Old Boy seems intent on relating dreams about the school from the night before. With amazing detail these guys can describe minutiae about mundane subjects such as the construction of the “inner court” or the smell of certain buildings. Almost all Kemper wives share astonishment

that such a memory cannot remember a simple appointment, anniversary, or shopping list.

## Mannerism Number Eight – Fold it like this!

If you’ve folded underwear, socks, t-shirts, or anything else traditionally contained within a man’s chest of drawers only to have it unfolded and redone...then you are definitely married to a Kemper Old Boy. One Kemper Belle told us she is forbidden from folding clothes altogether and that hubby carefully measures his folded undies to insure they precisely meet some inspection specification.

## Mannerism Number Nine – Kemper!

Doesn’t matter where he went to finish college, he really only remembers one school and that is Kemper! Everything is relative to Kemper and the days he spent there. He may even occasionally comment that someone would have “Never made it at Kemper!”

## Mannerism Number Ten–Sleep!

We are pretty sure this one will cause a firestorm of protest and perhaps some skepticism but all of the wives we talked to for this story agreed their husbands have a switch they can flip to fall asleep! It doesn’t seem to matter if the Old Boy is young or old, healthy or ill, he can fall asleep just about anywhere and at anytime. A few wives even observed that hubby could sleep on a slab of concrete so long as it was 18” wide.

## Firing the 3.2 Inch Field Gun

A number of Kemper Old Boys have asked about the “Kemper cannons” where they are and how they are doing? We are pleased to report that the guns were returned to the US Army where they underwent restoration and conservation. One of the guns is on permanent loan to the Missouri National Guard and can be viewed at the State Headquarters building in Jefferson City, Missouri.

The cannons, nicknamed “grasshoppers” by the cadets because of their propensity to jump from battery when fired, were 3.2” field guns. The barrels were cast at Watervliet Arsenal in Watervliet, New York. The gun carriages were made at Rock Island Arsenal in Rock Island, Illinois.

The cannons required a crew of no fewer than five and the general procedure for firing the guns was as follows:

Battery Commander: **Cannoneers to your post!**

Battery Commander: **Gun number one, ready?**

Gun One Commander: **Number one gun ready!**

Battery Commander: **Gun two ready?**

Gun Two Commander: **Number two gun ready!**

Battery Commander: **Check equipment!**

Gun one Commander: **Number one gun ready!**

Gun Two Commander: **Number two gun ready!**

Battery Commander: **Fix brakes!**

Gun One Commander: **Brakes fixed!**

Gun Two Commander: **Brakes fixed!**

Battery Commander: **Select target!**

Gun One Commander: **Target selected!**

Gun Two Commander: **Target selected!**

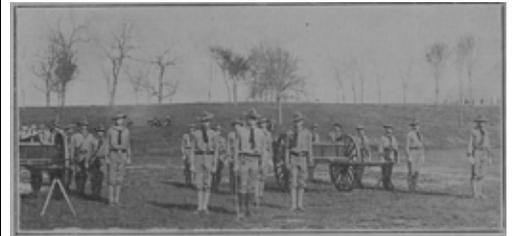
Battery Commander: **Solid shot! Range, 2000 yards! Report!**

Gun One Commander: **Ready to fire!**

Gun Two Commander: **Ready to fire!**

Battery Commander: **Commence Firing!**

The guns were then fired a preset number of times by the cadet crews, usually three times each, then cleared from action. The process of target acquisition, angles of elevation, and ammunition employment were carefully scripted and rehearsed even though the cadets fired only blank rounds.



These views show the field gun batteries in position. At top are the caissons with crews and battery commander at the ready. Second image shows guns fixed to caissons in preparation to leave the field after firing.



(continued on page 7)

# Five Things a Gentleman Always Carries

## By Major Roderick C Martin

### With update by Echo Company Staff

When I went to Kemper I was ready for the uniforms, military drills, haircuts and all that sort of thing. However, one thing I was not ready for was any kind of class on etiquette and it did not come from where you might expect it, the Hostess. Instead my one and only class on etiquette came from one of the ROTC instructors, Major Rod Martin.



One day a few weeks before Military Ball a few of us were joking before class. It seems one of the cadets had been sent a book on gentlemanly conduct by his mother. He read some passages to us which seemed out of date and antique. One I distinctly remember was to enter the car first when the door is held by the chauffeur. That seemed wildly out of touch with reality.

I suppose we piqued the interest of our teacher and before the bell rang he asked about our conversation. His statesman-like presence always commanded respect and when he spoke we grew quiet even though the bell had not yet rung.

"I know you are interested in proper conduct. He began. All young people are interested in correct social behavior so mockery of etiquette is actually in poor taste regardless of the time. It may seem out of date to you now but you will have use of it at some point.

Here are some simple rules which, if followed, will insure that you are a reasoned gentleman. First, there are five essential things you must do in preparing for a date. One, make sure you have a comb. Personal grooming is important and carrying a comb will convey that you are not a slob. In effect, if you have a comb then you likely bathe and brush your teeth.



Second, always carry a watch and use it! Pay attention to it. If the parents of your girl friend ask that she be home by 11:00pm, look at your watch and note the time. Let your date's father see that you carry a watch and it will impart to him your sense of

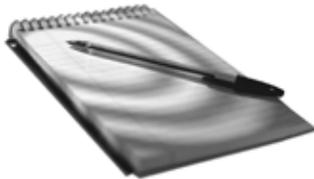
responsibility. Be sure you get missy home by the appointed time or this is all for nothing.



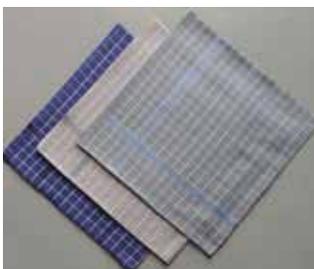
Third, no matter how much money you plan to spend, carry an additional \$50 just in case it is needed for the emergency of your young lady. If she is called home on a matter of urgent personal importance you will have taxi fare for her to get home. This might seem old fashioned but it is not. Just relate the text of it to our current time.



Fourth, always carry a pen and paper. I do not care if you can see no use for it right now; carry it anyway. Young ladies are seldom equipped to write appointments and make calendar notations in a social setting; that is your responsibility. If your date suggests a future engagement, write it down and in this way you have communicated a greater desire to see her again.



Finally, all gentleman carry a handkerchief. The old time rule of this was to place upon her shoulder so you would not touch her with a moist hand when dancing. Since young people seldom seem to dance while holding each other anymore I will tell you that the reason for this is to show compassion if the occasion should



present itself. You will certainly feel a sense of helplessness if your girl is crying and you have no way to console her. A handkerchief is simple, easy and meaningful when needed."

We all looked at Major Martin who had just given us the only class on etiquette any of us had ever had. In short order we began to ask questions about other matters of common courtesy and he obliged us with answers.

I thought it was interesting to learn that a gentleman never leaves his escort alone in a public place. He never excuses himself to make phone calls (or accept them) and always rises to greet his date even if she has only gone to the restroom during intermission.

I know that today, with cell phones and baggy pants, young people are seen as uncouth and uncaring but I still believe that they desire to treat the girl they care about with dignity and respect. I have taken the liberty to rewrite the rules so they have a contemporary meaning.

First, take a shower and shave before you "hang out". You do not look like a model with three days of growth on your face, you look like a bum. Shave, comb your hair and brush your teeth.

Second, you can buy a cheap watch at Walmart for \$5.00. Go get one! Your cell phone is not a timepiece and you might as well get used to not having it with you. Who is more important, the guy texting you about some war game or your girl?

Third, and this is a still a good rule. Never borrow money from your date or suggest that she pay for some of the evening. It lacks character to run out of money so don't. Using a credit card is like panhandling on the corner to borrow money for the movie. **DO NOT USE CREDIT CARDS ON A DATE!**

Pen and paper? This is not old fashioned either. As much as a cell phone is in bad taste, pen and paper are in good taste. Want to make a distinct impression? Carry an expensive pen. Anyone can use a cell phone, not everyone has the savvy to carry a notebook and a Montre Blanc pen.

No one wants to see a girl cry and the feeling of male helplessness is as old as the ages. Do not risk being relegated to spectator status, instead carry a handkerchief and be ready to offer it should the situation warrant.



This, my friends is not sexy or cool!

### State Fair Students Find Use for Math Hall

We thought you might like to see Math Hall in use!



## HOROSCOPE

By Karl Schwendler

Especially prepared by noted astrologist and astrologer, Karl Schwendler, for readers of the **ECHO** during the period between 1 March 2013 to 31 May 2013.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** A time for revelry is at hand so rejoice and join in the celebration. A serious decision will be placed upon you by those who trust your judgment. Luckiest day March 3rd. Lucky numbers 2 and 18.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Focus your attention on things which have potential to show results. Your sign indicates that right now you are interested in excess so avoid becoming a victim. Luckiest day April 9th. Lucky number 26.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21)** Lie low during these days and try not to get caught up in frivolous verbiage that dominates your waking hours. After sundown, feel free to speak your mind. You may notice that there is a sober tone and restrictive sensation these days which leaves you feeling like you will never be able to break free from your current situation. Don't get caught in this negative mindset! Luckiest day, May 5th. Lucky number 24.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22)** Let your fun-loving nature come out to play during this time, Cancer. As the weeks progress, the clouds are likely to move in. There may be a more restrictive tone to your emotions that could make it difficult to express how you really feel. You are emerging from the shell and seeing the world for the first time. Grasp all of it or none of it. Watch for a clever stranger who does not have your best interests at heart. Luckiest day April 7th. Lucky number 11.

**LEO (July 23-August 22)** Make a plan for the next few weeks and be practical about what you can accomplish. Don't set yourself up for failure by biting off more than you can chew. Luckiest day March 5th. Lucky number 14.

**VIRGO (August 23-September 22)** Communicate your feelings early in April, because by summer you might feel too restricted to want to socialize with anyone. Use a disciplined, sober tone to get a realistic perspective on the issues at hand. You'll have a stable, practical attitude for dealing with any situation. Take a slow, well-calculated approach in order to overcome whatever hurdle is in your way. You have learned the lesson of friendship through trial. Your reward of having a devoted friend reveals itself to you in splendid fashion. Luckiest day April 19<sup>th</sup>. Lucky number 36.

**LIBRA (September 23-October 23)** You will find that it's much easier to get to the heart of issues and be more honest and realistic about your emotions during the full moon of March. Assess your feelings with a practical perspective. Luckiest day April 21st. Lucky numbers 12 and 14.

**SCORPIO (October 24-November 21)** Concentrate on you and the answers will come from within. Be realistic and practical when it comes to your emotions. You may find it hard to connect with someone during April, so stick close to home and focus inward. Luckiest day March 10th. Lucky number 17.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21)** Your days are beginning to change from traditional to unconventional. What once seemed like work is more like recreation, and vice versa. Embrace the hours of unrest as divinely inspired. Open your mind and your heart. Luckiest days March 8<sup>th</sup>, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Lucky number 37

**CAPRICORN (December 22-January 30)** March heralds an invitation which you must refuse to preserve your welfare.. Luckiest day May 5th. Lucky number 34.

**AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18)** During the period of the full moon in April you will

experience a great love. Luckiest day March 3rd. Lucky number 19.

**PISCES (February 19-March 20)** You are organized by nature so why do you put off telling others what they mean to you? Do not wait but tell those near you how you feel. Luckiest day March 9<sup>th</sup>. Lucky numbers 15, 27, 30.

### Aunt Suzy's Advice

Dear Aunt Suzy,

Not too long ago I discovered my daughter wants to work as a cocktail waitress and give up her job as a preschool teacher. I do not approve of this change and I told her so. What can I do to convince her that serving drinks is no way to make a living? Dizzy in Des Moines

Dear Dizzy,

Who the hell do you think you are? Just because someone's position in life, or chosen profession does not meet with your own personal standards, you have no right to be condescending. Consider that all of us contribute to society in our own unique way and your daughter can do likewise. Give her your approval and don't be such a prude!

Dear Aunt Suzie,

You called me Illinois Gun Hater in the last issue and all I can say is that now twenty little children are dead. If we would just get rid of all the guns there would not be this problem. Now do you see my point? Illinois Gun Hater

Dear Gun Hater,

Guns do not kill people, people do. Each day weapons are used more frequently to prevent crime than commit crime. The Sandy Hook School was a drug free/weapons free zone. If only one teacher had been armed the result might have been different.

What we do know is that guns are not the problem. Rather, a sense of hopelessness and futility among our youth is pervasive. I contend that a suicide bomber in Iraq and a mass murdering gunman in Connecticut have more in common than we might like to think! Until we are able to restore hope nothing will change, the carnage will continue. If you want real change don't ban firearms. Get rid of the smirking network of bureaucrats who create a system where the "fix" seems all too normal.

Dear Aunt Suzie,

My wife says I spend too much time on the computer. When I ask her how much time is too much she doesn't have an answer. What do you say? Clutched in Lawton

Dear Clutched,

Every so often I am asked to answer a question which I am either reluctant to answer or I just don't know the answer (I admit it). How about it readers? Help us out with your advice for Clutched. Write:

**Aunt Suzy, P.O. Box 883, Fallon, NV 89407-0883**

### Firing the 3.2 inch Field Gun

(continued from page five)

Cadets relayed signal commands to the gun positions via semaphore and heliograph. In the preceding photograph from page 5, cadets had mounted the roof of the administration building to "wig wag" signals to the fire control center.



The photograph at top, taken over one-hundred ten years ago, is the Cadet Signal Command element for Kemper Military School. This was the Battery Commander and his staff. Photo at center shows guns moments after receiving the command to "Commence Firing". Photograph at bottom is the Signal Heliograph detachment. The heliograph section would relay firing orders received from the semaphore Signalers atop the administration building.

Firing the guns was a tradition which grew at Kemper; the cannons were fired to signal the beginning of parades, conclusion of the spring encampment, and in succession as a 21-gun salute to visitors. Some Old Boys who returned to Kemper after the guns were moved to permanent display on the north parade field lamented the absence of the cannons from everyday life and observed that cadet life would never be the same.



**SUPPLY ROOM**

It doesn't take a genius to recognize the work of one! Here is "Marilyn" as painted by Antonio Vargas in 1941. Vargas chose this beauty as a subject for one of his patriotic posters used for recruiting during WW II. In this case, Marilyn carries a Signal Corps semaphore.

We thought, with a little imagination, it would be easy to see Marilyn playfully wearing your Kemper cap and teasing you saying she "isn't going to let you return to Kemper!"

We can let you return to Kemper! Our supply room has lots of interesting trinkets for you, or someone dear to you. Going to Blackwater this June? Why not dress the part and wear your pride?

**ECHO CO POLO SHIRT WITH KEMPER CREST**  
s/m/l/xl/xxl \$35

**SWEAT SHIRT/ SWEAT PANTS W/EMBROIDERED KEMPER CREST \$20ea**

**Reproduction antique Kemper Post Cards \$5**

**Call or Write: Echo Company, Supply Room**  
P.O. Box 883  
Fallon, Nevada 89407-0883

**A GENUINE KEMPER OLD BOY WHO IS ALSO OUR PICK OF THE QUARTER**

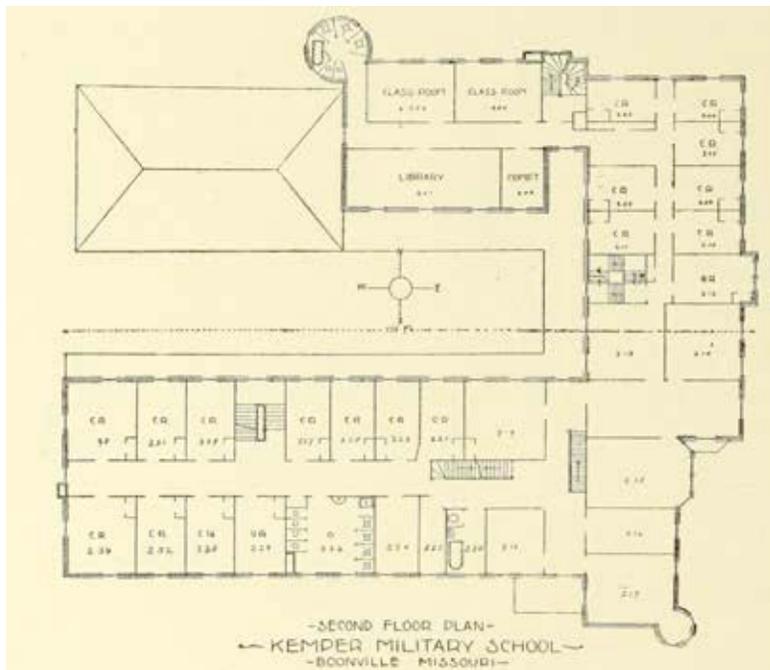
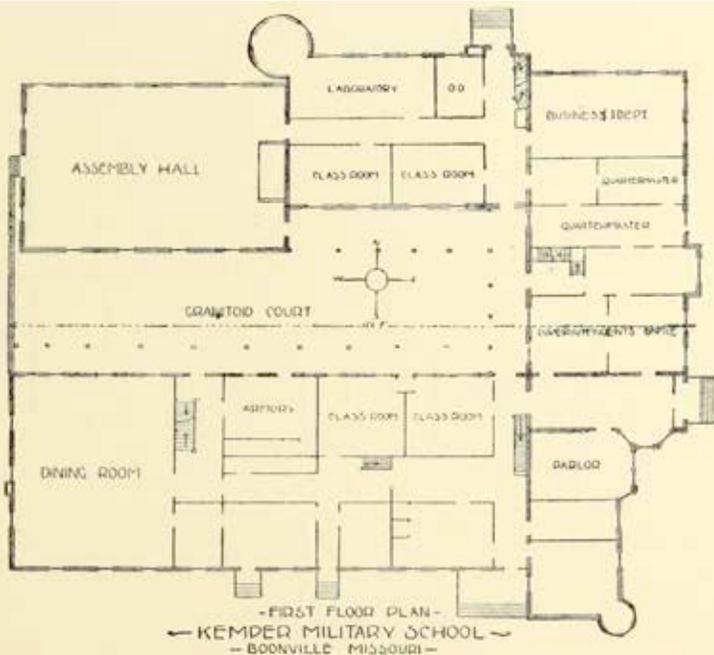


**DAVID S ARTHURS**  
Inverness, Florida

David is a unique Old Boy who has met some mighty interesting people throughout his career, including while at Kemper. Take for instance his roommate was the son of Colonel John Kralovec!

David has never retired, choosing instead to remain active in business and marketing. He even owned a radio station at one point! We are mightily proud of David, he is an energetic, enthusiastic Old Boy who epitomizes the best attributes of Kemper and our common heritage.

When we met up with David, he proudly produced his Echo Company ID card as proof that he is a 100% Kemper Old Boy. Hats off To David Arthurs!



**"B" Barracks Concept**

While doing research for the story "Firing the 3.2 Inch Field Gun" we stumbled upon these unique plans for the addition of "B" Barracks. The plans also had a third floor which, for sake of space, we have not included here. We found it very interesting that the area most cadets knew as the "Hostess Lounge" was originally conceived as the dining hall and the library was originally intended for use as an assembly hall. The "CR" designation denotes "cadet room" but there is no designation for the area occupied by Colonel Johnston and his family which were rooms 215, 216, and 217.

An armory was also incorporated into the plans (but never used as such). In fact once the plans were finalized and building begun, the plans were almost continuously revised which surely frustrated the builders.

Even as the school expanded and brought more rooms on-line, the student population growth outstripped the ability of the school to keep up. Almost every year administration officials had to turn down requests for admission solely based on the space available to house students.

As the school grew it projected power, importance and prestige. The contributions of the school to the local economies of Boonville and the surrounding communities was enormous in terms of influence, employment and commerce. Kemper wielded so much power that Colonel T.A. Johnston found himself in the business of banking simply to manage the huge business of the school and it's collateral holdings.