Former Cowley instructor influenced many students

A.F. “Tony” Buffo was passionate about teaching. Ask any of his former students at what was then Arkansas City Junior College, and they’ll probably tell you that he instilled in them a foundation for a strong work ethic, respect for their fellow student, and the desire to do what’s right. Buffo prepared students for real-life experiences, real jobs that paid real money. And many of his former students have never forgotten the impact Buffo had on their lives.

In 1966, Buffo was hired by the college as dean of vocational-technical education and director of the area vocational-agricultural school, a position he held until 1970. From 1970 to 1973, Buffo served as dean of general education and occupational education. From 1973 until his retirement in 1985, Buffo served as dean of instruction. Buffo had considerable expertise in vocational education. He was brought to Washington, D.C., by then-President Lyndon Johnson as a consultant to a presidential commission charged with studying and recommending changes to the advisory committee responsible for developing the new Vocational Education Act of 1968. He was one of only eight vocational education directors from across the U.S. selected for this duty in June 1967.

Fred Menefee, a 1950 graduate of ACJC and 1952 graduate of the college, holds Buffo in highest regard. He was about to drop the printing class he was taking from Buffo’s predecessor when he learned Buffo was going to be taking over the printing program. Menefee had taken printing and linotype classes from Buffo for three years while at Arkansas City High School plus 20 credit hours at ACJC.

“Mr. Buffo instilled a lot of us because he applied knowledge gained in the printing trade and the military,” Menefee said. “The moment you hit the door you were there to learn. He was very compassionate and was one of the major influences in my life.”

Menefee, who went on to earn a degree from Wichita State University, worked for McCormick-Armstrong in Wichita for 39 years. Buffo had such an influence on Menefee that the former student dedicated a restores Intertype Compositor to Buffo. The Intertype, which was the last generation of linotypes, sits in the Penobscot Printing Museum in Penobscot.

“Those machines are old,” Menefee said. “But the type was connected to the press. I was working with it for 39 years.”

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As owner of the McCormick Armstrong Ad Agency division, he changed the name to Menefee and Partners Inc. He continued to work until retiring in 2003.

His work earned him several awards including a pair of Clio Awards for television commercials he produced. Menefee estimates he produced between 30-40 television commercials, most of which were award winners at the local, state, regional and national levels. He also produced a few films and print media ads.

Anita (Belew) and Marvin McCorgery both graduated from Cowley, Anita in 1959 and Marvin in 1960. Since graduation they have be in the printing business all of their working lives.

Anita is president of Airport Printing Service, a company they established in 1960, and Marvin retired from Taftor Publishing Company in May 2000 after more than 30 years of service with that firm. They feel that Cowley and the outstanding faculty members provided a solid foundation for their continued education and work experience.

Marvin was first introduced to printing in the ninth grade when he began a general printing class at his shop requirement. His instructor was Tony Buffo from whom Marvin’s interest in the printing field continued to grow. Marvin took printing classes throughout high school and even continued his college education at Pittsburg State University. His decision to attend Pittsburg State and major in Printing Technology/Management was influenced by Buffo, who himself was a graduate of Pittsburg State. Today, Marvin is still associated with the university where he serves on the National Advisory Council for the Kansas Technology Center on the campus of Pittsburg State.

Marvin remembers well his education under Mr. Buffo.

“He was a great teacher, but he was tough on you if you missed his class, or for that matter any class,” McCorgery said.

He conducted the classes as if it was a job and you were required to be there, especially if you were in the upper classes, junior, senior and the junior college level. During this phase of “advanced printing classes,” the class work was conducted as if it was a printing business.

“We were assigned job titles and those titles had certain responsibilities.”

In this format, there was a Production Manager, General Make Ready Foreman, Composition Foreman, Press Foreman and then each hourly class would have a Foreman whose responsibility was to keep the shop neat and orderly and to oversee “clean up” at the end of each class period. The Foreman could also assist in answering questions for some of the beginning students.

“In this class work we produced the school newspaper and many other items for the school system,” McCorgery said. “We had design contests where a person would create sort of an advertising slogan and then compile the printed product in its entirety. We not only were graded on class work but also on how we performed our job duties.”

After graduating from Pittsburg State, Marvin taught vocational printing and journalism before entering the Printing Industry. His first management experience was with Jostens where he was responsible for the successful implementation of the world’s first computerized typesetting system. This new system utilized the IBM 1130 computer and the Photon 713 Photo Composer. He later joined Taftor Publishing Company in Dallas and completed his career in May, 2000 retiring as Vice-president and General Manager where his duties included responsibilities for manufacturing plants in California, Florida, Pennsylvania and Texas.

When Anita decided to return to work fulltime, she and Marvin opened Airport Printing Service. The operation began as a small one press quick printer and steadily grew in volume and equipment. It remains one of the largest commercial printers in El Paso, Texas. Currently the company utilizes the most modern...
Morrow leaving having accomplished great things at Cowley

Having spearheaded many successful campaigns at Cowley College and having helped the college’s Endowment Association blossom, Terri Morrow will retire from her duties as Dean of Development and College Relations effective Jan. 1, 2008. The campus of Cowley College has gone through a wonderful transformation during the 18 years Morrow worked at the college. Morrow was originally hired in 1990 to put together the campaign to build the Brown Center. It was a real fun time and people were excited about the Brown Center because it would give us a world class performance theatre and a wonderful meeting/concert/gallery space,” Morrow said. “The building has been in constant use with thousands of people attending functions and performances there each year. Hundreds of loyal donors are to be commended for the growth of the Endowment Association and the growth of the campus. It has been wonderful to be a small part of that.”

Other campaigns have included the campaign to build the Webb-Brown Center as well as the renovations to the W.S. Scott Auditorium Lobby and the Jungle, located in the Gwen Nelson Student Center. Campaign 2001 was a campaign to increase the amount of endowed scholarships. Morrow has done everything from laying bricks with donors’ names on them to planning class reunions and working with artists on the college Christmas card each year. Her primary roles at the college included fundraising for scholarships, capital and annual campaigns, special event fundraisers, college relations, issuing scholarships, reading the Tiger Alumni News to alumni and friends of Cowley, and this year booking the performance venues and speakers at the college. “I think the event that I have enjoyed the most is the Great Cowley Duck Dash, a fundraiser for scholarships,” Morrow said. “It brings around 500 people together from the area for a fun and social time. Over the past ten years it has raised more than $133,000.”

The Cowley College Endowment fund had around $550,000 in it when Morrow started at the college. Since then, the Endowment funds have grown to nearly $4 million dollars. In addition the Endowment Association has returned more than $2 million dollars to the college for capital projects.

“There is so much support for this college and the good work that faculty and staff do,” Morrow said, “Something new and innovative is always happening here. It has been a true blessing to me to work with the Board of Directors of the Endowment Association, and all the donors, alumni, and fellow employees of Cowley. I have learned so much in this work, and have truly enjoyed my job.”

Morrow is looking forward to spending more time with her family and friends. “I also plan to take some fun photography and cooking classes, and hopefully spend a little more time in Colorado taking in, and volunteering for, Rocky Mountain National Park. And, of course, attending the events at Cowley.”

Massey to lead Cowley’s Endowment and Alumni Association

Taking over for Terri Morrow, who will retire effective Jan. 1, 2008, Shannon Massey was recently named Cowley College’s Director of Endowment and Alumni. Massey grew up in Marion, Kan. and graduated from Marion High School. She then attended two years at Hutchinson Community College before eventually earning a Business Administration degree from Wichita State University. After graduating from WSU, she spent eight years working as a Benefit Analyst at Koch Industries in Wichita. She and her family moved to Ark City in 1998 when her husband, Lane, took a job working for the City Manager. Massey began working at Cowley as an administrative assistant to the Vice President of Student Affairs in Jan. 2000. She went on to work in Cowley’s Grants Program for about six months before being hired as Cowley’s Workforce Development Director out at Stroud Field. She spent three years in that position before starting work in Cowley’s Alumni and Development department. She was serving as the Coordinator of Alumni and Development prior to being named the Director of Endowment and Alumni.

Massey is looking forward to leading the college’s Endowment Association. “I’m excited. It was an opportunity that I couldn’t pass up,” Massey said, “I’m a little nervous about filling Terri’s shoes because she has done wonderful things for the college, but I’m excited that they have the faith in me to do it.”

The college’s Endowment Association has seen tremendous growth over the past two decades. Massey hopes to continue that trend. “I would love to continue the growth of the Endowment Association and to find some new ways of keeping alumni active in the college.”

Cochran named Queen Alalah LXXVI

Cowley College sophomore Ashley Cochran was crowned Queen Alalah LXXVI during the coronation ceremony held Oct. 26 at Cowley’s Robert Brown Theatre.

Cochran, an Arkansas City native, is the daughter of Stan and Melissa Cochran.

The first runner-up was Courtney Crain, another Ark City native. The other three candidates were Katie Bevis, Janacey Sturdy and Elisha Swope. The coronation also had performances by the Ark High Singers and Middle School Magic Voices, Tim Darham and Piper Leigh, and the singing of “Something’s Coming” and “Manta” by Ryan Smyle.

Marty Mott served as the Master of Ceremonies and introduced the former queens and the visiting queens from surrounding towns in northern Kansas and southern Oklahoma. Mott also announced that Terri Eaton would be the 2007 grand marshal.
Cowley forms partnership to start new vocational program at WCF

Looking to prepare offenders for employment in sheet metal jobs, Cowley College is among a number of partners that have collaborated to start a new vocational program called AeroStructures Technology.

An open house celebrating the kick off of the AeroStructures Technology training program for individuals leaving incarceration from the criminal justice system was held Sept. 24 at the Winfield Correctional Facility. The program was developed through a cooperative effort between the Kansas Department of Corrections, Kansas Department of Commerce, Greenwood, Cowley College, Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas, 1st Arbor E & T.

“It was a great example of how we can work when everyone is working toward the same goal,” said Dr. Susan Norton, Cowley College Dean of Corporate Education. “There were a lot of different interests at the table for this project, but we all came together to make this work in a very short amount of time.”

Out of 16 applications that were submitted, nine individuals were screened and assessed and will go through training conducted by Cowley College before they are formerly released from the Winfield Correctional Facility.

Winfield Correctional Facility Deputy Warder Julie Urt is pleased with the partnership.

“Things have come together very well,” Urt said. “This is a first in Kansas as far as this partnership.”

A Manufacturing Skills certificate, Sheet Metal certificate, and an Overall AeroStructures Technician certificate will be offered. The AeroStructures certificate consists of 100 hours of Life Skills, 120 hours of Manufacturing Skills, and 120 hours of sheet metal training.

A WorkReady certification is also offered through a Kansas Department of Commerce initiative. If an individual has the certificate it means they have a certain level of reading, math, and information gathering skills.

Gail Jordan from the Workforce Alliance in South Central Kansas spoke of the shortage of workers and high employment needs in the region.

“This perfectly fits what the Workforce Alliance through their job seeker programs is all about,” Jordan said. “These individuals when they leave here will be able to take their AeroStructures certificate and have it recognized by a company that needs sheet metal workers or someone with basic manufacturing skills. It immediately eliminates some of the barriers that are standing in their way. When they leave here and enter work place they already have a job.”

The manufacturing skills certificate is a competency based training program consisting of basic math, basic reading, blueprint, general dimensions and tolerence, measuring tools, and basic skills tests in a manufacturing environment.

Once they complete the Manufacturing Skills certificate they will then go into sheet metal training.

Cowley College granted the program enough money to outfit the sheet metal lab with tools and equipment.

“We are very grateful to them because we would not have been able to pull this together without their funding,” said Norton.

Tom Coleman, employed by Cowley College and Greenshields, will provide instruction for the Manufacturing Skills and Life Skills portion of the program.

AeroStructures Technicians are employed in the aircraft manufacturing and service industry. Inmates are able to work with various sheet metal materials, which is the core skill required to qualify for a wide range of career opportunities.

Although offenders would not be eligible for employment at any company with federal contracts, they would be eligible for employment at smaller subcontractors, who are in constant need of employees.

A typical career plan for individuals completing this course is to acquire experience in a variety of manufacturing assembly operations, progress through basic and complex structural repair functions and ultimately advance to lead or inspection positions in a manufacturing or service company.

Curtis Cline, business developer at Sedgefield Country Sereen, felt this was a program that has been long needed.

“We are accessing a group that otherwise we would never access,” Cline said. “We can support andtrain them with skills and then they have something to go into the workforce. Cowley College will provide the training, while Arbor E & T and the Kansas Department of Commerce will provide the funding.

A graduation ceremony for the completion of the first AeroStructures class was held Dec. 19. If successful, the intent is to apply this model to correctional facilities across the state.

“This program has the possibility to make a difference on many levels,” Norton said. “Training these students and giving them skills that will help them transition back to the workforce is a big part. Another piece is the combination of services and programs that can complement one another and actually use the available funds in the most efficient manner. We hope that this program will be seen as a pilot for other sites and an example for other collaborative efforts.”

L.G. Pike Construction Company Inc. establishes scholarship at Cowley College

Wanting to help students who would not be eligible for other scholarships, Larry and Carlla Pike, owners of L.G. Pike Construction Company Inc., recently gave $50,000 to be used for scholarships at Cowley College.

The majority of the money will be used for an endowed Scholarship while $10,000 of scholarships will be awarded soon. The scholarships will be awarded based on financial need and are for students who do not qualify for other scholarships.

“Hopefully, this will encourage kids who want to go to college but don’t have the money,” Carlla Pike said. “We are grateful to the Pikes for establishing this wonderful scholarship.”

Governor’s Office purchases painting by Cowley art instructor

Cowley College art instructor Mark Flckinger has been the featured artist for the Cowley College Christmas card for several years.

Coward College art instructor Mark Flckinger had several accomplishments during his career as an artist. He can now add having a painting of his being hung in the Governor’s mansion to that list.

Flckinger’s oil painting titled “Cedars and Snow” was recently purchased by the Governor’s Office.

Along with the painting being displayed in the Governor’s mansion, the painting was also used as the Christmas card, which the Governor’s Office sent out to more than 26,000 homes worldwide.

“I am very pleased that the Governor (Kathleen Sebelius) wanted to use the image for their Christmas card,” Flckinger said.

Flckinger’s painting, which he finished in April, was based off of property his family owns near Silverdale. He was also invited to attend the Christmas party at the Governor’s mansion.

Flckinger has had his work appear in numerous art galleries and has had a solo show Nov. 30 at Gallery 12 in Wichita. He also took part in holiday art shows in Kansas City and at the Roachman Gallery in Indianapolis, in December.

“Cedars and Snow”, the oil painting done by Cowley Art Instructor Mark Flckinger (pictured).
COWLEY’S PTK RECEIVES SPECIAL COMMENDATION

The Alpha Gamma Upsilon Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at Cowley College recently received special commendation during the Kansas Regional Convention. Cowley’s Phi Theta Kappa chapter fulfilled all requirements to the distinction of being named a “2 Star Chapter.” The commendation recognizes Cowley’s PTK’s successful attainment of goals as presented in the

COWLEY’S ALLIED HEALTH CENTER RECEIVES MANIKIN

Being able to better learn and practice critical lifesaving skills, Cowley College’s Allied Health Center recently received a life-like manikin for its students to work on.

Cindy Bruemmer, Cowley College lead MICT instructor, and Terri Griffiths, adjunct instructor, recently completed SimMan training in Texas for the manikin purchased for the department. Slade Griffiths, Department Chair of the Allied Health Education EMS Education Program Director said Sarah Leftwich, Dean of North Campus, made the purchase of the manikin possible.

“This fully meets the students’ needs by being absolutely real in a laboratory setting, and ultimately patient care is better,” Griffiths said.

CRAZY FOR YOU ENTERTAINS LARGE AUDIENCES

The immense talent of Cowley College’s students, faculty and staff, was on display during the college’s music and theatre departments four performances of the Tony Award winning Gershwin musical comedy “Crazy For You” held Oct. 26-27 at the Robert Brown Theatre.

More than 1,000 people attended the four shows, which were directed by Scott MacLaughlin, Cowley College director of theatre and theatrical services. “I thought it went great,” MacLaughlin said. “We were blessed to have such a hard working, enthusiastic cast. We had a great audience each night. They were really receptive to the show.”

“Crazy For You” is a musical based on the book by Ken Ludwig, with lyrics by Ira Gershwin and music by George Gershwin.

MacLaughlin said everyone worked extremely hard to make the show a success in just six short weeks.

“All the hard work paid off in the end,” MacLaughlin said. “It was such a pleasure to work with Connie (Donatelli), Jamison (Rhoade) and Jennifer Batchford.”

COWLEY RECEIVES GIFT FROM EDDY’S TOYOTA

Getting an unexpected gift from Eddy’s Toyota in Wichita, Cowley College’s automotive program in Mulvane recently received a 5.7 liter engine for its students to work on.

Eddy’s Toyota in Wichita donated the engine, which is an entirely aluminum, 380 horse power, and has 401 pounds of torque. It is considered to be one of the most high tech engines Toyota makes.

It is a brand new engine design and has a cost of roughly $20,000. Eddy’s Toyota wanted to help out a local college, so they contacted Cowley automotive coordinator/automotive instructor Chris Parrott, who had contacts with the business while previously working at Wichita Area Technical College.

“Exciting because no other school in the state of Kansas has one to my knowledge,” Parrott said. “In fact, we are one of the few schools in the country to have one. We are very lucky to have it. The cost alone is pretty impressive.”

Students will disassemble and reassemble the engine. This will provide students the newest technology with regards to engine repair.

“This will better prepare students to go to work at a dealership working on new cars,” Parrott said.

Parrott is grateful for the generosity of Eddy’s Toyota.

“We really appreciate them donating the engine,” Parrott said. “I hope to develop tremendous business partnerships with the community at large. Through those relationships in business and industry we will be able to continue providing state-of-the-art training in automotive technology.”

For more information on Cowley’s automotive program visit www.cowley.edu/automotive/career.html or contact Parrott at 316-777-4334.
Cowley students prepare for educational trips

Denver, London and Paris will be some of the destinations that Cowley students and faculty travel to this spring for educational purposes. In March the Journalism Club and Tiger Tank Communications Club will be going to Paris, France, for the International Media Seminar. Students will be attending the Seminar at the American University in Paris featuring journalists, writers, and marketing experts from around the globe. This is an opportunity for students to explore another culture and to see and hear the perspectives of others in the international media community. During the day students will attend seminar sessions led by world renowned speakers, while in the evening they may attend a dinner party at the apartment of one of the professors, Connie Donatelli, vocal music director, and the Cowley County Singers have been invited to open the first session of the Chair Academy’s 17th Annual International Leadership Conference. The conference is in Denver, Colo. April 1-4, 2008. The choir will be performing at Friends University in Wichita the night before they leave, and will stop for two performances at high schools on their way to Denver. Their next stop will be a performance in Eves Park, Colo., before returning to Arkansas City. May 22-27 will find 18 students and their instructors Scott MacLaughlin and Jamison Rhoads visiting London, England. Act 1 Deems Club and Theatre students will join EF Educational Tours for the London City Stay. They will be joined by a full time tour guide who will escort them on sightseeing tours of London and Windsor, as well as the Tower of London. They will also see theatre performances and have a three-day underground travel pass. All of these students have been doing various and creative fundraisers to pay for their travel opportunities. If you would like to help these students on their way, you may make a donation to the Cowley College Endowment Association, P.O. Box 1467, Arkansas City, KS 67005 and earmark it for student educational travel.

Former Cowley student assumes duties as Officer in Charge

Lieutenant Commander Craig Neubecker, United States Coast Guard, who attended Cowley College during the 1988-89 academic year, was recently named Officer in Charge of the U.S. Navy’s Helicopter Instructor Training Unit (HITU). As Officer in Charge of the HITU, Neubecker is responsible for the joint training of every U.S. Navy Marine Corps and Coast Guard Helicopter Instructor Pilot for the Chief of Naval Aviation Training at Naval Air Station Whiting Field near Pensacola, Fla. Neubecker, a 1988 graduate of Central High School in Burden, is the Instructors Pilots he trains are then tasked with the responsibility to train all NAVY, Marine Corps and Coast Guard student aviators to fight the Global War on Terror and provide Homeland Security for the United States. It is rare that a Coast Guard Officer is chosen for this responsibility, and this marks only the third time in history that a Coast Guard Officer has been selected to assume the duties as the Officer in Charge of the HITU. Neubecker, who graduated from Kansas State University in 1993 with a bachelor’s degree in History, lives with his wife Kimberly and son Duke in Pace, Fl. His parents are Don and the late Esther Neubecker of Burden.

Tigerettes planning reunion in February

The Cowley College Tigerettes will celebrate their 20th anniversary in 2008. Throughout the years there have been many wonderful dancers who helped contribute to building a great Cowley dance program. These ladies have the distinct privilege to call themselves Tigerettes. Help us relive the past and remember the fun times we shared during a 20th anniversary celebration set for February 23, 2008. An anniversary reception will be held for current and former dancers and coaches. An optional dance clinic and a halftime performance during a Cowley men’s basketball game will also be a part of the day’s activities. Anniversary T-shirts will be available for purchase for everyone to wear to the game. We would appreciate help in locating former dancers. Please contact Tigerette Dance instructor Lindsay Sanderholm with addresses, phone numbers, or information that might help locate past Tigerettes. Sanderholm hopes all former Tigerettes can make it for the celebration. This is an opportunity to bring past and present dancers together and enjoy a fun filled day of camaraderie, food, and dance. For more information, contact Sanderholm at 620-441-5301 or sanderholm@cowley.edu.

Members of the 1988-89 Tigerettes.
Men’s Cross Country
The Tiger men won their first ever Region VI Championship and captured their second straight Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division title. The team qualified for the NJCAA National Championships in Iona, IL, where it finished fifth in the nation.
Daniel Meina finished his career at Cowley as the most decorated runner in Tiger history. For the second straight year Meina finished second in the nation and earned NJCAA First-Team All-American honors. Meina (23:30) nearly was the national champion as he lost a photo finish to Rend Lake’s Ben Cherns (23:29).
Stanley Muo also competed a second year as he finished as the Jayhawk East Conference runner-up to Meina. Mauricio Morales earned Coach’s Association All-American honors by placing 31st in the nation with a time of 26:03.
Johnny Purvis (26:10) and Brett Koehn (26:29) also earned Coach’s Association All-American honors as they placed 41st and 66th respectively at the national championships.

Women’s Cross Country
The Lady Tiger cross country team had another strong season as they finished eighth at the NJCAA National Cross Country Championships in Iona, IL. Irene Kosegi, who was the Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division champion for the second consecutive year, placed 31st at the national meet. Also doing well at the national meet was Jennifer Cherono and Ashley Cronin. Cherono earned NJCAA First-Team All-American honors for the second year in a row, as she placed 13th with a time of 17:56 in the women’s race. Cronin (18:55) placed 14th and garnered Coach’s Association All-American honors.

Volleyball
Competing at the NJCAA Division II National Tournament in Scottsdale, AZ, for the third straight year, the Cowley College volleyball team finished fifth in the nation. The Lady Tigers were led by Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division Most Valuable Player Lillian Renarde and the conference’s Freshman of the Year Lucia Cismarova. Both Renarde and Cismarova were named to the all-tournament team at nationals.
Cowley freshmen Victoria Green and Crystal German also had stellar seasons as they earned All-District M honors. Cowley finished the 2007 season with a record of 31-6.

Men’s Basketball
The Cowley men’s basketball team has gotten off to a fast start under new head coach Steve Eick. Cowley, which was ranked No. 25 in the preseason basketball rankings, won its first six games and was 10-1 after its first eleven games of the season.

Women’s Basketball
Sporting several new faces, the Cowley College women’s basketball team began the 2007-08 season with a record of 5-7. The Lady Tigers are led in scoring by a pair of freshmen as Elena Yurkova averages 11.7 points per game, while Gabrielle Curtis is averaging 10.9 points.
Cowley will open conference play Jan. 5 at home against Kansas City at 5 p.m.

computer to printing plate technology with a complete assortment of printing and binding equipment including a 40" 6 color press at a 24" 5 color press and numerous smaller presses. Another highly successful individual that was influenced by Buffo was Young Snowgrass, who had Buffo as his printing teacher from the eighth grade through graduation from ACJC in 1956.
Snowgrass said Buffo’s classes taught students what they needed to know to go to work as printers. While in Buffo’s class, Snowgrass learned to run a typesetting machine, lineotype machines, press, paper cutters and other graphics arts equipment. He also learned from Buffo how to take a part and repair a Hot Metal Typesetter.

““He took care of things at the college as if they belonged to him.””

Yvonne Craig who played “Bat Woman” in the 60’s TV series, child actor Ernie Weckbecker who starred as “Steady” in the “Our Gang” series and game show host Wink Martindale. In 1994, Gilliland was building his sales territory in southern California and he invited a number of prospective publishing customers to attend a free, one-day seminar on book production technology. The event was highly successful and at the end of the day, the attendees decided that they would like to form an official organization that would meet on a monthly basis. From that became the Publishers & Writers of San Diego.

The group has met every month for the past 13 years networking publishers and giving them the opportunity to grow and share knowledge. Those successful graduates along with many others benefited from the work done by Buffo to build a strong printing program at Cowley College.

Wilda Buffo said her husband lived and breathed Cowley in an article that appeared in the June 2003 Alumni News.

“The college was always his business, his life,” Wilda said. “He took care of things at the college as if they belonged to him.”
We heard from • • •

2000's
Pamela (Coli) McCorgy, Class of 2007, and her husband, Daniel, live in Arkansas City. The couple has three daughters, all of whom graduated from Cowley. They also have four grandchildren. Pamela is the owner of Pan’s Hair Care’s, and Daniel works for BNSF Railroad.

Carolyn (Huget) Mebane, Class of 2004, and her husband, Geoffrey, Class of 2003, live in Wichita. Carolyn serves as a Para Educator working with Special Needs students at Campus High School in Haysville, Kan. Todd, who received his bachelor's degree in Social Science from Newman University in 2005, is working on his Master's degree at Friends University. He also is employed as a Process Engineering Associate.

Ryan Julius, Class of 2004, and his wife, Bridget, live in Wichita, Kan. Ryan is employed as a purchasing/engineering assistant at RV Products, while Bridget is an aesthetician.

Allison (Hills) Bass, Class of 2003, and her husband, Harold, live in Arkansas City. She is an accounting technician for Mosaic.

Levi (Robinson) Rokitis, Class of 2001, and her husband, Christopher, live in Goddard, Kan. The couple met at Cowley in 2002 and got married Sept. 9, 2006. Lori is a member of Cowley's Academic Excellence Challenge State Championship team for two years, while Christopher was involved in PAWS, Student Ambassadors, and Theatre. Lori is a property accountant at Lodgeworks, while Christopher is a sheet metal assembler at Cessna.

Carolyn (Huget) Mebane, Class of 2004, and her husband, Bridget, live in Wichita, Kan. Ryan is employed as a purchasing/engineering assistant at RV Products, while Bridget is an aesthetician.

COWLEY COLLEGE ARTS CALENDAR 2008

January 17
Caffe’ Acoustic - Piper Leigh
7:30 p.m.

January 20
Martin Luther King – Celebration of Unity
2:00 p.m.

February 18
John Bul Dau – Speaker - Lost Boys of Sudan
Caffe’ Acoustic - Steve Butler
7:30 p.m.

February 21
7:30 p.m.

March 3-28
Prodigy – Student Art Exhibit
Fine Arts Day
7:30 p.m.

March 5
Spring Play
7:30 p.m.

March 6-8
Caffe’ Acoustic – Rich Berry
7:30 p.m.

April 4
First Person: Stories from the Edge of the World
National Geographic, NPR’s Neil Conan, Ensemble Gallilei
7:30 p.m.

April 4 – May 9
Majors’ Show
7:30 p.m.

April 17
Caffe’ Acoustic - Mark Bowling
7:30 p.m.

April 24
Jazz Band and CC Singers Concert
7:00 p.m.

May 1
Spring Concert – Concert Choir and Concert Band
Reception – Majors’ Exhibit
7:00 p.m.

May 8
Vocal Recital
7:00 p.m.

Obituaries • • •

Berkus Boga Perico, Class of 1956, died Oct. 2, 2007, in Cottontown, Arizona. He was 71. Perico was born in Arkansas City to Harry and Ruth Boga Perico. He is survived by his wife, Rosanna, a sister Phyllis, his sons Douglass and wife Lisa, and Bradley. A daughter, Lisa, and husband Dino, a stepson Mike, and wife Andrea, a stepdaughter Lisa, three grandchildren, five granddaughters, one great grandson. His son, Gregory, and Freda, preceded him in death.

He was an enrolled member of the Fort Sill Comanche Apache Tribe. He attended Arkansas State University, in Pima, Arizona State University, where he received his master’s degree. He was inducted into the first class of the Tiger Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000. Perico was an All American football player at Arkansas State Junior College in 1954. He was an all-american junior college player twice, and served as the Tigers’ co-captain in 1956. He was also the Tigers’ punter, and averaged 41.6 yards per kick. Perico also excelled at basketball, earning All-American honors in 1956. He was named to the all-state team, and led ACJC to a third place finish at the 1955 national tournament. Perico also was a two-time letterman in golf, helping the Tigers to two state championships. At the time of his induction, Perico was employed by the U.S. Government, Department of Interior, and Bureau of Indian Affairs. He worked for the Department of Interior for more than 30 years.

Helen Irene Monke Sterbeck, died Oct. 1, 2007, in Wichita. She was 80. Sterbeck was born Jan. 20, 1927, in Peabody, the daughter of Gladys Clemma Burton Monke and Gilbert Arthur Monke. She was a published author and judge of quitting competitions throughout the U.S. and abroad.

Sterbeck was active on the Cowley College Endowment Association Board of Directors for many years. She also established the D. Robert and Helen L Sterbeck Scholarship at Cowley College. Survivors include her son, Chris B. Sterbeck; son, Scott N. Sterbeck; sisters, Thelma L. Warkentin and Marjorie J. Morgan; brother, Roy J. Manke, all of Peabody and two grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dean Robert Sterbeck, who was a member of Cowley College’s Board of Trustees from 1994 until his death on Jan. 24, 1997; son, Todd Robert Sterbeck; and brother, Lyle W. Manke.
CLASS NOTES REPORT FORM

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