

THE CONNECTION

Trinity College of Florida

Commemorative Edition

TRINITY COLLEGE

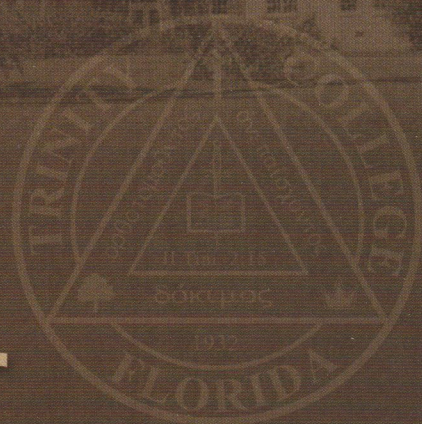
celebrating 80 years

Est. 1932



the family
together

STRONGER



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Birthday Celebrations

Birthdays are "historical markers." It is a time of recognition and honor. It is a time of celebration, looking back and looking forward. It is a time to give thanks, show appreciation, share a few aspirations and provide best wishes and gifts of friendship and love.

Having attended these special birthday celebrations, ages *one to one hundred*, I have noticed the following important characteristics:

It is a time to *remember*. It is a time to reflect and think of the experiences leading up to the date of special recognition. This time of remembrance includes not just the challenges, the trials, and the difficulties, but also the blessings, accomplishments, and victories. It is a time to *remember* and be thankful.

It is a time to *reflect*. Not only recalling the past in memory, but also *reflecting* on that memory is a core issue. It yields positive gains of that life and God's engagement and leadership are identified. A dear friend of the family, who prayed for our children for decades, celebrated her one hundredth birthday. Still driving and living independently, she continues to be a "refreshing breeze" of encouragement. *Reflecting* on her husband's contributions to the Lord's work, their love for the church, as well as their deep desire for people to *fall in love with Jesus* continues to empower this President. Reflection will energize!

It is a time to *rejoice*. Birthday celebrations should be a time to experience joy. It is a historical marker in which one can look back and thank the Lord for His faithfulness in the midst of human failure, missteps, and mistakes. What we thought was out of control was always under His control. *This brings joy, confidence, and hope for the future!*

It is a time to *resolve*. It is a time to make commitments and decisions. It is a time to discern what really is important and make "promises" to guard these "birthday revelations!" It may involve more prayer support, more contact, more communication and more involvement. The list is endless.

Having said all this, Trinity College of Florida is celebrating a "Birthday" of 80 years in higher Biblical education!

What a special moment in the mission of this College! It is a

time to *remember, reflect, rejoice, and resolve*. It is a time to sense the depth of commitment and sacrifice of our Founder, Dr. and Mrs. W.T. Watson. *It is a time* to trace the Hand of God through each year of study the students experienced in those early days to the present. *It is a time* to honor and thank the Lord for the people who made those unmatched and sacrificial commitments of serving and teaching God's precious Word. Only a yearlong celebration can make an attempt at such a lofty goal.

Since September 2012 our theme has been *The Family Together, Stronger*. Together...praying, trusting, worshipping, and working. Never has there been such a need for believers to *speak, stand, and serve TOGETHER!* Never has there been such a need to have *focus, fire, and fragrance* in this lost and wandering world. Never has there been such a need for *Biblical truth, values, and character*. May it be your desire as you read this commemorative issue of the *Trinity Connection* to once again adopt the following resolutions:

Be it resolved that Jesus Christ is the only Hope for the world. Only He can provide lasting hope, peace, and joy. Only through Him can one find true purpose in life!

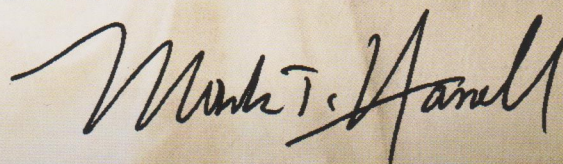
Be it resolved the Bible is the Word of God, inspired and without mistake or error. It is the guiding document for all mankind.

Be it resolved that the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ is that agency of Almighty God in which the Gospel is lived and proclaimed.

Be it resolved that each believer has a call to represent His interest and desires in every setting of life for the honor, plan, and glory of the Lord Almighty!

It has been said, "*Nothing can happen through you until it happens to you.*" As you remember, reflect, rejoice, and resolve that Jesus Christ must be more than prominent, but He must have the *preeminence* in your life. *May this inward "Reality" flow to others.*

As you make your journey through this special issue, may the "happenings" at Trinity College of Florida assist you in this exercise of revealing "*Christ in You,*" enriching and encouraging your walk with Him... and remember, *HE IS ABLE!*



Mark T. O'Farrell, D.D., President of Trinity College of Florida

THE CONNECTION

Trinity College of Florida

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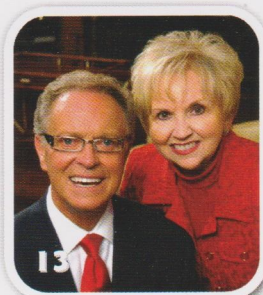
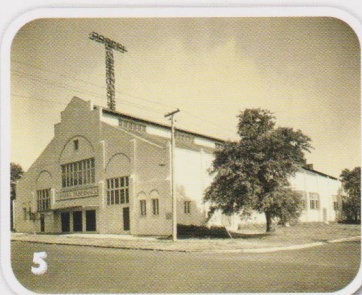
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THE CONNECTION

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bi-annually to keep alumni,
friends, partners and the
community connected with
each other and the mission
of Trinity College of Florida.

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

Dr. Mark T. O'Farrell

EDITOR

Kevin D. O'Farrell

EDITORIAL STAFF

Phillis O'Farrell

Billie Skinner

PHOTOGRAPHY

Peggy Bragg

Jenny Cordero

Kevin D. O'Farrell

Bobby Watson

Trinity College of Florida ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President

Mr. Steve Phillips (attd. 2000s)

Vice President

Rev. Sam Thomas (1975)

Secretary-Treasurer

Mrs. Bonnie Thomas (1973)

Questions & Comments:

Trinity College of Florida

THE CONNECTION

2430 Welbilt Blvd.

Trinity, Florida 34655

727.376.6911 ext. 330

kofarrell@trinitycollege.edu

www.trinitycollege.edu

EDITOR'S NOTE

Together. Stronger.

The tallest trees on earth are the sequoia sempervirens or more commonly known as redwood trees. These remarkable trees are located in northern and central California. Redwoods can reach over 350 feet high, towering over surrounding foliage and animal life. A single redwood can live for 2,000 years and weigh over 500 tons. The impressive magnitude of these specimens is difficult to comprehend. Tall and proud these sentinels of the west coast evoke awe and wonder as they thrust through the air, reaching incredible natural heights.

Yet, as remarkable as the redwood is, the root system is shockingly shallow. Redwoods have no tap root and their other roots may be no deeper than six to twelve feet. So how is it possible that this natural marvel achieves such outstanding heights with a comparatively superficial foundation? The secret is not in the depth of the roots but in the redwoods intermingling root systems.

Redwoods achieve remarkable feats of altitude because they structurally depend on each other for support. The major roots of redwoods are about one inch in diameter and typically spread 50 to 80 feet. As they grow each redwood's roots intertwine with the adjacent trees. The networking of roots allows for a solid foundation that allows the safety and infrastructure required to soar into the sky. Simply put: together they are stronger.

Trinity College of Florida is a family and this year that family is celebrating 80 years of global impact. Like the mighty redwoods, families are able to

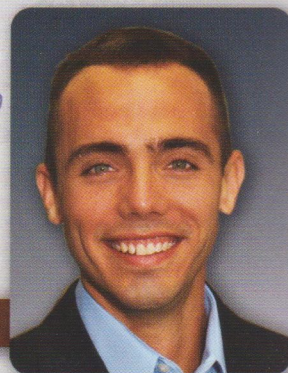
achieve, become and dream more when they are together. Individual redwoods like individual family members may be able to reach certain levels of success by themselves, but when adversity knocks, the family which is together is stronger.

In this special commemorative issue of *The CONNECTION*, we celebrate the 80 year history and legacy of Trinity College of Florida. Dr. John R. Corts shares with us the ongoing need for Biblical higher education. Later, Bobby Watson (1973) gives us a unique glimpse into the life of his grandfather and grandmother, our founders, Dr. & Mrs. W.T. Watson. Peggy Bragg (1967), daughter of famed professor E.C. Bragg, shares Trinity's impact on her life. Finally, one of the College's up-and-coming alumna, Gina Rodriguez, reminds us that a new generation of leaders is still on the move.

There's no doubt, this issue is a FAMILY issue! Together the Trinity College of Florida family is stronger because it stays together. Like the powerful redwoods, Trinity stands as a testimony to God's provision, providence and purpose. With 80 years behind us, I can't wait to see what lies ahead!

Happy Birthday Trinity College of Florida!

Kevin D. O'Farrell
Editor



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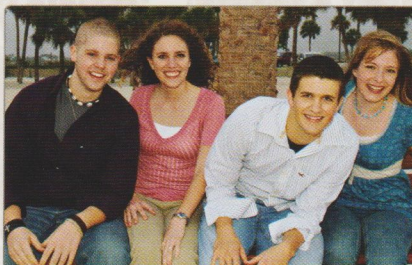


by John R. Corts

It is mind-boggling to anticipate how different our world will be eighty years into the future. Looking back at the past eighty years of Trinity College of Florida is amazing and we are filled with abundant wonder and praise to our faithful God! The Danish philosopher and theologian, Soren Kierkegaard, is credited with the statement, "Life is lived forward, but is understood backward." A meaningful 80th Year Celebration of Trinity College of Florida needs to proclaim that we are grateful for our past and excited for our future!

We look backward to see the thrill of being what our Founder, Dr. W T. Watson, called Trinity College: A "Planting of the Lord" (Isaiah 61:3). Our College has grown into an increasingly productive, fruitful place and has expanded its offerings to better serve the needs of students in the twenty-first century.

Transformational education aims to equip the hands, guide the mind and stir the heart so that we enjoy abundant life in the Spirit. The result is redeemed disciples in community, prepared to engage the worldly culture as ambassadors of the King of kings.



speech. Yet, the Bible says that "all scripture is profitable for teaching (doctrine), for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be well fitted and adequately equipped for all good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

In fact, "The word of God is living and effective, and sharper than any two-edged sword. It penetrates even to the dividing line of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and judges the desires and thoughts of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12 MLB).

Jesus closed His sermon on the mount with the story of two builders, one wise and the other foolish. The wise built upon the rock; a structure that withstood the storm. The foolish built on sand and the house was destroyed. The "rock" foundation was more than merely hearing; it was actually doing the will of God. Let eighty years of history reinforce our commitment to share God's Word which He has promised to honor above His Name!

Balanced Learning & Doing

Trinity College inspires formative disciplines to be developed. Evolving from the Bible Institute and Bible College movements of the past century, Trinity still emphasizes Christian living while students study. Trinity training means more than the mere academic stuffing of information into categorical pockets of our brain. The practical side deals with what to do with what we know. Fact is not superior to faith. Knowing is not superior to doing. What we know is not elevated above what we are. We build our lives while we study to sharpen our minds and develop our skills. The disciplines of study are matched with growth in relationships.

As friends we sat sipping our coffee and talking about a popular seminar that came annually to our town. One couple asked another, "Are you signed up to attend again this year? Got your registration in?" I felt embarrassed as I had not registered. Then, the second husband replied, "No, we have not registered 'cause we're not going. We've decided to stay home this year and do what we were taught last year." He had the right idea. It is a sorrowful fact that most of us know better than we do. Our words are right while our practice lags behind. We struggle against the hypocrisy resulting between words and action.

All education struggles to move from hearing to doing. It's oft- said, teaching is more than telling and learning is more than listening. What is vital is not just to pass the course, but to begin living; putting into actual practice our Maker's instructions. In many ways, it is true that you never truly know a truth until you've taught it to others. Pass truth on to those who follow until the taught become the teachers.

Trinity College thrives on Biblical truth because scripture becomes the guide to life at every step and in every facet of life. We discipline ourselves to follow Christ by walking in

The Centrality of the Word

It was a simple task of repairing a leaking faucet. So, though mechanically challenged, I had taken the old one off the sink, found what looked like the washer and replaced it with a new one. Yet, the faucet was still dripping with rhythmic wonder. I checked and double checked it, but the drip persisted.

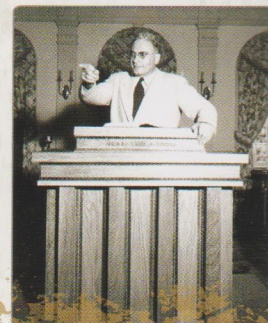
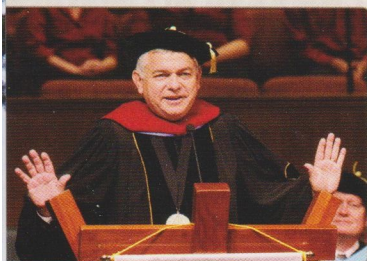
Then, very innocently, my helper suggested, "Shouldn't we look at the paper booklet which came with the product?"

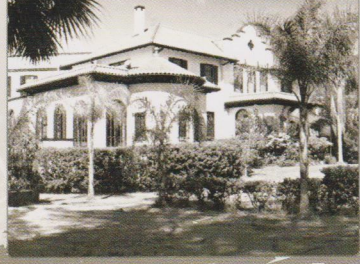
I dug it out of the waste basket and began reading. Sure enough, I had placed the washer in a wrong position. In just a few seconds, the matter was fixed by following the instructions. The manufacturer had anticipated our need thus allowing the faucet's purpose to be fulfilled and for its owner to be pleased and satisfied. God who made us has given us the instructions for abundant living in the Bible, His Book. When we consult such an authority, the result is always good and our experience is pleasant when aligned to His Word.

Though all truth is God's truth, a Bible College's worldview is harmonized by the Word of God. Quality Christian Education establishes a foundational standard. We are a people of "one book" who believe the Bible is God's inspired Word to us. It is "God-breathed" – as though the words came from the mouth of the Most High God of heaven.

True, the Holy Spirit worked through human personalities to physically write down precisely what was needed. The result: a reliable record – God's authoritative, infallible, inerrant, inspired Word. This is the basic foundation of our studies and our community.

All who live and lead in our times, must have a thorough knowledge of God's Word. There are many voices to be heard on planet earth. Our world bombards us with words and





conformity to the Word of God. Saints find favor with God and with man when they discover the Owner's Manual and tailor their life by its message.

Growth in a Community of Faith

Trinity history confirms that teacher and student interaction are dynamic influences in our development. Those who teach us and lead us are models of righteous and godly living. We learn to know our Bible but also to live by its instruction. The informal learning by example, participation and first-hand observation are possible at a college setting like Trinity College. Together it produces fruitfulness in a living-the-theory model. This deepens each lesson and strengthens our lives.

When we have moved on and no longer have the day-to-day contact with Trinity, most will carry visual images of friends, mentors and peers for whom our esteem and respect will never dim. We will cherish the memories and less-frequent distant-contacts. This is more than a bonus benefit; it is a vital part of our educational experience to be fostered and affirmed at every opportunity the Lord allows for us.

In my personal contacts with Dr. Billy Graham, perhaps one of Trinity's best loved alumnus, I have heard him repeatedly state his recall of the passionate, fervent plea of godly professors he had while a student here, urging students to "win the lost, rescue the perishing, snatch them in pity from sin and the grave. To weep 'or the erring one, lift up the fallen and tell them of Jesus, the mighty to save". These were words spoken with tears streaming down the professor's face.

Such vision and urgency is better caught than taught. But what does godly living look like? The world cannot define it because spiritual things are spiritually discerned. Observing closely those of godly character will imprint the fruit of the Spirit in lessons that words could never convey. Eighty years of Trinity College history has taught that lesson to thousands in our communities.

Reflecting His Glory

The power of prayer and the prayer of faith are very much part of the Trinity experience. When every way seemed closed and critical needs developed, we learned to seek the Lord and to depend upon Him. For a lifetime, we build our priority and participation in earnest, consistent prayer.

The Lord provides for and supplies our every need. Many have confirmed that truth in a unique way. Some found basic essentials-of-life as they worked, studied, prayed and struggled. And then, out of seemingly no-where, God sends us His provision. Faith in God, not self-reliant efforts, is the source of our satisfaction.

Yes, it's true: You can't do anything greater than to pray. But, after you've prayed, you can definitely do more! History reveals that the Trinity College community is a praying family. We know that from our story. Since little prayer means little power but much prayer means much power as we raise our voices in earnest, fervent prayer.

Like the rain on the righteous and the unrighteous, tensions, problems, troubles distractions, irritations and distressing circumstances will come. Our

trust and hope is in our Heavenly Father who waits for His children to come to the throne of grace to obtain mercy and to find help in the time of need.

Over and over again for the past eighty years, we have come to crossroads where all we could do was pray. God has answered prayer in dramatic fashion and in simple ways that affirm our trust and encourage our faith. Little-by-little and step-by-step, our dependence on the Vine to allow His life to flow thru the Branches lifts our courage to ask in the victorious Name above all names, the Name of Jesus. No crisis, whether of finances, leadership, conflict or world-chaos has been able to side-track us. We know that "He is able" and we keep on singing as we go!

Seasons of Decision

Every day we reach intersections of decision where we choose between two alternatives. Even the choice of education is a major formative decision which then helps fashion most other subsequent choices. Choosing Trinity College is of paramount influence since one makes life-impacting decisions during college days.



New capabilities and fresh perspectives result from the student's training and opens new possibilities of exploration and opportunity. Broader horizons open in the Christian worldview which is being formed during these early years. After initial choices, other steps follow in a domino effect. Each disciple will face open doors and limitations in their personal life and world.

Eighty years of Trinity history instructs us to value the mature growing discernment as learn-by-experience, *"having our facilities trained by experience to distinguish good and evil"* (Hebrews 6:12). Of paramount importance is to be open to hear God's calling for service. We use what we have of gifts and abilities, talents and opportunities, to discover our place. We recognize fully that we can all serve God in vocational witness and service.

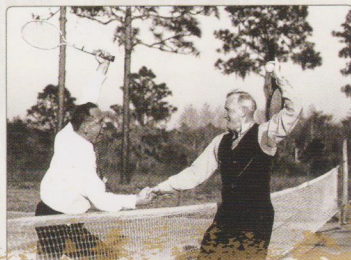
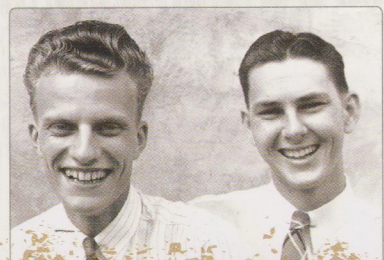
However, for God's children, a higher call to serve Christ ought to take precedence over all other inclinations. Choose well now, so that we may be grateful for our past and excited for our future! Dr. W.T. Watson, our Founder, was fond of quoting an Englishman, "If God has called you into His Service, Heaven forbid that you should shrivel up and become King of a vast Domain". A call to missionary service ranked high in values of Trinity's history. We have always honored those who left behind their homeland, family, comforts of the familiar and ease of convenience to answer God's call.

The call of reaching a perishing world, the soon return of our Savior, the value of a never-dying soul, the unfathomable love of Christ and the terror of a Christ-less eternity have

become the motivations to be all that we can be for Christ Jesus our Lord. This has been the eighty year unflinching passion of Trinity College of Florida.



Dr. John R. Corts (1956) has served as an area-pastor, Trinity College of Florida faculty member, Trustee, and President. He has also served as an associate with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association holding the position of Chief Operating Officer and President from which he retired in 2002.

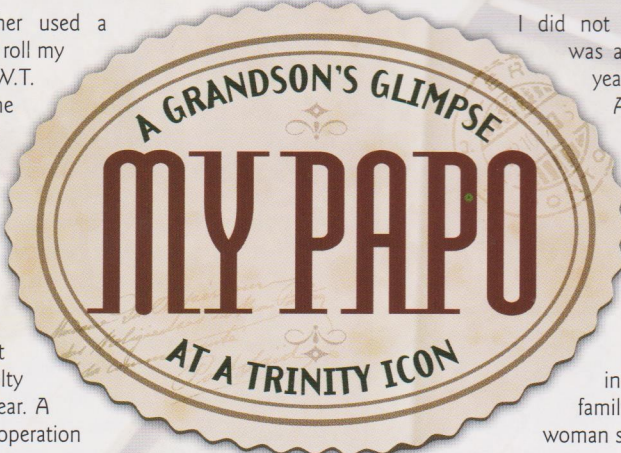




Dr. W.T. Watson

When my father used a wheelchair to roll my grandfather, Dr. W.T. Watson, into the 1981 spring Trinity College Alumni Banquet, the crowd stood and applauded in heartfelt appreciation. At

this point in history, Dr. Watson was the only president the school had ever known but due to health issues, the students and faculty had only seen him a few times during the year. A weak heart had kept him away from the daily operation of the college for much of the academic year.



by Bobby Watson

Many remember Dr. Watson as a hefty, robust man who, despite bad knees, could easily keep up with his much younger students. During his later years he used a cane to help him walk, but most had never seen him in the wheelchair he was using that evening. When he took the platform he looked weak and pale and had lost a lot of weight. Most had never seen him without a tie but on this evening his frail neck could not support one.

When he stood to the pulpit he gripped it firmly with his left hand so his right arm could be free to help him preach. Dr. Watson was an animated preacher. His sermons were marked with broad gestures and the clapping of his hands to make emphasis. He would often point while preaching but would always admonish young preachers to "...never use the index finger without using the thumb!" He would then make a gesture pointing to the congregation with his index finger and back to himself with his thumb.

After a slight pause he addressed the Trinity family. "I've been president of Trinity College for a long time. So long, in fact, I can tell exactly what you're thinking. You're thinking 'He don't look like he used to!' Well I've got news for you - YOU DON'T EITHER!" The uncertainty and apprehension that had filled the banquet hall turned into relief and laughter. Dr. Watson's body was starting to fail him, but his mind, spirit and wit were as strong as ever.

PAPO & NANNY

Almost everyone addressed my grandfather and grandmother simply as Dr. and Mrs. Watson; a few close friends called them Bill and Lucy, but my brother, sister and I always knew them as Papo and Nanny.

William Thomas Watson was born in a small tenant house near the tobacco fields of eastern North Carolina on May 21, 1901. He was born premature and weighed less than two pounds. He told folks he was so small they had to put him on a pillow to make sure he was still there. He often related this story in his sermons: "When my mother thought I wasn't going to make it, she took a spoon with honey and touched it to my lips. I opened my mouth and started wagging my tongue and I've been wagging my tongue ever since!"

I never heard my grandfather talk much about his father, but he often spoke of his Godly mother. I never knew her but my father often told me about getting tobacco juice on his cheek when his grandmother Watson, who regularly dipped snuff, would give him a kiss. Dr. Watson's younger sister Cora came along soon after and the small family of four eked out a modest existence as sharecroppers in the Carolina sand hills.

My grandmother grew up in an upper middleclass family in Greensboro, NC. Her father was a businessman from Michigan who relocated to the South in the late 19th century to open a factory supplying dogwood shuttles to textile mills. Great-grandmother was a petite woman who taught art on the college level before getting married. I remember making several visits to the home of my great-grandparents Roberts. They lived in a charming, arts and craft style home in Greensboro. Mrs. Watson's parents were devout Quakers who often spoke using 'thee' and 'thou'.

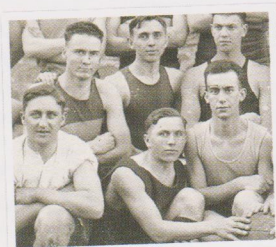
I did not know until years later that my grandmother was adopted. She never spoke of it until just a few years before her death. She was born deep in the Appalachian Mountains near Sylva, NC. My great-grandfather Roberts met her as a young child while buying dogwood for his shuttles. Someday I hope I can learn more about the tragic early years of my grandmother's life, but I am proud I was able to know the Godly Quaker couple who took her in as a child, made her a part of their family and helped shape the Christ-like woman she became.



W.T. & Lucy Watson

MR. & MRS. WATSON

My grandparents met while attending Toccoa Falls Bible Institute in the early 1920's. Shortly before she passed away, Nanny told me about the time the school founder and president, Dr. R. A. Forrest called her into his office when he heard she was engaged to marry Bill Watson. He attempted to discourage the marriage and suggested she should make a visit to his home in the sand hills of North Carolina near Lumberton so she could see "where he came from" before saying "I do". She didn't need to make a visit, because she loved the young preacher and believed in him. She became his life-long companion and strongest supporter.



W.T. Watson (upper left) on the basketball team at Nyack Missionary College circa 1922



Dr. & Mrs. Watson at their wedding at her home in Greensboro, NC

After graduating from Toccoa Falls and before getting married, Dr. Watson headed north to attend Nyack Missionary College in the beautiful Hudson River Valley north of New York City. When I was ten years old, Papo and Nanny took me to Canada. As we crossed the George Washington Bridge into New York he pointed north in the direction of the college and remarked about going to school at Nyack and what a beautiful place it was.



Dr. Watson with his long-time friend, John Minder

It was there he met John Minder, a tall lanky fellow Southerner, who became his life-long friend. They had no way of knowing when they were preaching together on the streets of New York City as young students that they both would later mentor one of the greatest evangelists of the 20th century, Billy Graham.

MOBILE MINISTRY IN 1962

It was during a 1962 summer trip with my grandparents, that I was introduced to two of the great campgrounds of New England and Canada. In Old Orchard Beach, Maine we stopped at the old Methodist campground located on the north edge of the popular Atlantic Coast resort. For well over fifty years the campground had been home to summer Chautauquas and camp meetings.

Dr. Watson was a regular speaker almost every summer during the 1930s and 1940s and he used the opportunity to promote the new Bible Institute he founded in Florida in 1932. My Dad has several personal letters between my grandfather and Billy Graham from 1940 until the early 1950's. In some of the early correspondence they wrote about the summer meetings in Old Orchard Beach and how Rev. Graham planned to join Dr. Watson in one of the meetings. In subsequent letters, however, the young evangelist explained

to my grandfather that his busy schedule would prohibit him from attending.

Our road trip adventure continued when we headed north toward Canada. We made the long trip in my grandmother's 1961 Rambler Classic. Papo did most of the driving and while he was a great preacher and a dynamic orator, he was a terrible driver. Riding with him was somewhat akin to riding a rollercoaster – sometimes fast and sometimes slow, always jerky and many times a little scary. The few times Nanny drove she resembled a typical St. Petersburg senior lady driver who looks through the steering wheel rather than over it.

A CANADIAN STOP & CONNECTION

In Hartland, New Brunswick, Canada he held a revival that summer involving a few of the many Canadians who had become an important part of Trinity College. From the time Dr. Watson founded Florida Bible Institute in 1932, Canadians were a part of the school. Winter Bible conferences were always synonymous with Trinity College and they attracted "snowbirds" from throughout the North and Canada who in turn became financial supporters of the school.

I remember the campground in Hartland on the banks of the St. John River being very primitive. With the exception of the dining hall and assembly room, there was no electricity or running water. My grandparents stayed in a small one room cottage where they used a bowl and pitcher to bathe and an oil lamp for light. I stayed in the back part of the canteen near the dining hall and slept on a small cot surround by canned goods and kitchen supplies. Hartland is home to the longest covered bridge in the world and if you visit the small town today, it is still very much as it was fifty years ago.

The crowds were not huge, but the assembly hall was comfortably filled each evening and the response of the local people was enthusiastic. Many will remember the Musical Mac Murrays who were often at Trinity College during the 1960s and 1970s. Mac led the music that summer and was a colorful trumpet player who along with his wife Lavada traveled the country leading music for revivals. My grandfather was always impressed with the showman and used him often.

The musical part of the service was dynamic and exciting. Papo would often join Mac in leading the congregation in singing All Hail the Power of Jesus Name, Since Jesus Came into My Heart, Ring the Bells of Heaven and other great hymns. While Dr. Watson was not the greatest singer and was sometimes not exactly on pitch, he was without a doubt the best song leader I have ever known. When he led the congregation in a hymn, everyone sang. His enthusiasm was infectious.

A PASSIONATE PREACHER

When Dr. Watson stood to preach, he took command of the room. His sermons were simple, profound and memorable. He often centered his remarks around a biblical phrase from his text. "Is the seed yet in the barn", "Where there is no wood, the fire goeth out", "Come and see", "Alas master, for it is borrowed" were all familiar sermons to anyone who was under his ministry for any length of time.

After our visit to Canada and New England during the summer of 1962, we made a stop in Lumberton, NC to visit Aunt Cora, Papo's younger sister. She operated a small cafe in town and lived just a few miles from the tobacco fields where she and my grandfather grew up. Many will remember Cora who faithfully manned the switchboard at the Trinity College Fenway campus during the 1960s and early 1970s.



Dr. Watson (front center) at a Bible Conference at Temple Terrace



Dr. & Mrs. Watson at graduation

My most precious memory of my grandfather was at the graveside of his sister. Before we left the graveside, he talked to Cora as if she were there, expressing how much she meant to him through years and how much he loved her. He then laid his hand on her casket and said, "Goodnight Cora. I'll see you in the morning". With that we quietly walked away.

Dr. & Mrs. W.T. Watson

A FARMER & FAMILY MAN

My grandfather learned to love Northeast Georgia during his Toccoa Falls days and regularly visited his alma mater after graduating. In 1936 Dr. Watson purchased an old, apple orchard near the Northeast Georgia mountain town of Demorest. I'll always believe he bought the farm as a way to stay connected to his farming youth.



Someone once said "you can take the boy from the farm, but you'll never take the farm from the boy." That was certainly the case for Dr. Watson. Almost every time I visited my grandparents in their small, neatly kept home in St. Petersburg, I would find a current copy of *Progressive Farmer* next to my grandfather's chair. Stories about plowing in the field and slopping the hogs almost always found a way into his sermons.

The only person who loved "the farm" more than my grandfather was my dad. Robert Watson was their only child and six years old when he first visited Northeast Georgia. He remembers to this day the first time he saw the place he would someday make his home. In Florida Dr. Watson's time was often consumed by the college and church, but when they were on the farm my grandfather and dad were father and son.

THREE FRIENDS

During my years as a student at Trinity I often drove my grandfather to meet many of the VIP's arriving to speak at the college. I'll never forget the time Papo and I met Col. Sanders at the airport. Yep, he and I took the famed Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) founder to lunch and no, he didn't order chicken! I was most honored to drive Dr. Robert G. Lee, the great pulpit orator, during his many visits to Trinity College. My heart is filled with many warm memories of my grandfather.

One of Dr. Watson's greatest sermons was from I Corinthians 13 on faith, hope and love. Indeed, faith, hope and love are the best words to describe the life of W.T. Watson. At the close of the sermon he talked about standing at the gates of Heaven with his life-long companions, Faith, Hope, and Love.

He looked to Faith and said, "Faith, you have been a good friend. I used you every day. It was you who helped me accomplish things I never dreamt possible. But I need to tell you goodbye now, because I won't need you any longer." Then he looked to Hope. "Hope, you were also a wonderful friend. It was you that lifted me up when I was down and gave me strength when I was weak. But Hope it is time for me to say goodbye, because I won't need you anymore." Then he looked to Love and said, "Love thank you for introducing me to Faith and Hope. Together we made it to these Pearly Gates. Now take my hand Love as we step together into Heaven."

When Dr. Watson waved to the Trinity family assembled at the graduation banquet in 1981 it was his last public appearance. He went to be with the Lord on June 5, 1981.

I love you, Papo. You were a great inspiration to us all. May we all follow your example of a life filled with faith, hope and love, until that Blessed Day when we meet on the other side, when our morning comes.



Bobby Watson (1973) served as Minister of Music for 27 years in Baptist churches in Georgia and South Carolina. He is a singer, writer, historian and traveler. He and his wife Susan have two daughters and two granddaughters. They make their home in Demorest, Georgia and are part owners of Daniel's Discovery Tours, a Christian tour company based in Lula, GA.
messageinsong@windstream.net



A LIFE-CHANGING

HERITAGE

by Peggy Bragg

On September 20, 1932 a small Bible college, Florida Fundamental Bible Institute, opened its doors. Part of the first class included a 20 year-old young man, Ervene C. Bragg, who began at that time his lifelong ministry and close relationship with the institution, later to be known as Trinity College of Florida. Through many years of service to His Lord, that close bond between him and the college grew to include his wife, his children, his grand-children, and, in recent years, even his great-grand-children. The daily course of the family was totally bound up with Trinity as an integral part of their daily lives and its activities.



Young Ervene

The Beginning

Being wholly the Lord's began in Ervene's life at the age of six. He was led to the Lord by a faithful Sunday School teacher, Ida Puffer, at a Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Miami, where he grew up. In a mini-biography, he writes of that decision, "In those tender years the grace of God was real to me and salvation was a blessed reality." Later, at the age of 13 during a revival meeting, he knelt in consecration of himself to full-time Christian service whatever, whenever, and wherever the Lord would lead. After coming to Bible college, Ervene

wasted no time getting involved in

ministry. He preached his first full sermon at the Cleveland Street Mission in Tampa in September 1932. He called his message "A God Sent Witness;" that fully surrendered walk and witness, fostered and grew through his days at Trinity, became the hallmark of his life and ministry. In his salutatorian address in the first graduating class, Ervene stated, "Not until we abide in God's perfect will, resting in His guidance, can we vie with the Psalmist, *'He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake,'*" Psalm 23:3. Trinity instilled in Ervene a desire to walk those paths and be God's man; he never wavered from that commitment to his Lord.

During his days at Trinity, Ervene preached in many churches, youth rallies, and meetings. His records indicate that he preached 94 times around Tampa and its vicinity while a student at Trinity. In the summer of 1933 at his first pastorate, a little mission church started by Dr. Watson in a movie theater in Largo, Ervene met his future bride, Pauline Mixon, who was just 16 at that time and was playing the piano for the little group of worshippers. They were married in June of 1935 and thus began the time when the family became a part of Trinity. Pauline also attended Trinity after they were married.

Early Ministry

After graduating as president of the first class, Ervene began about ten years of pastorates, mostly in Alliances churches in Daytona Beach, Lumberton,

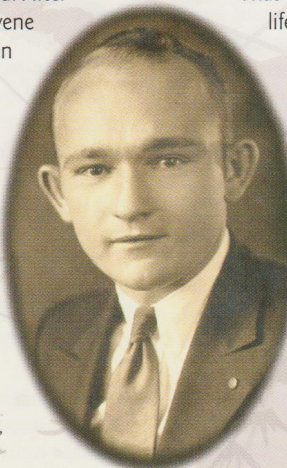
North Carolina (Dr. Watson's home church) and Roanoke, Virginia and was involved in evangelistic meetings in Alabama. He was ordained under the C&MA in November, 1934. In 1942 he

returned to Florida permanently, settling at that time in Largo. By then, the family

had increased by two children Kenneth and Mary. Donald and Peggy were born after the return to Florida. He began his lifelong service to the Lord at Trinity where he taught Systematic Theology, Christian Apologetics, Christian Psychology, Hermeneutics, and the course that he uniquely developed, Pauline Theology. He also preached in youth rallies, churches, conferences, and served as summer interim pastor for Dr. Watson's church, the Gospel Tabernacle in St. Petersburg. From that time, God used him at Trinity until his death in 1995 in the lives of young people, preparing them for service and ministry.

Ervene set up his home and family in New Port Richey, FL. Dr. Watson had bought the Hacienda Hotel and planned to move the college to that town from St. Petersburg. Buying a house and setting up a jewelry store in New Port Richey meant the family was settled there even though the school later went to Belleair. The jewelry store and his watch-making abilities became the bread and butter for the family as, through most of his years, Ervene received only gas money for his service at Trinity. He used to say, "I would pay Trinity for the privilege of teaching there as that is where God wants me to be." In his Bible, Ervene wrote, "May God the Father speak His Word to my heart as its source; may God the Son freshen His Word to my heart as its message; and may God the Holy Spirit quicken His Word to my heart as its life and power."

That commitment permeated his life and became the motivation of a life-long learner of the Word; giving it out to all he met and living it before the world.

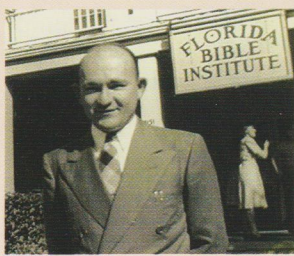


E.C. Bragg as a student (1934)

Ervene's life, because of his surrender to the Lord and training at Trinity, became not just head-knowledge but a heart living, exemplifying that of "practicing what you preach." One year, in his Monday evening Bible class, he was teaching on the verse, *"Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice"* (Philippians 4:4). That night he was roused out of bed around midnight with the news that the jewelry store had been broken into and many things were taken. Insurance only covered what was stored in the safe so the loss was substantial. After dealing with the police and boarding up the store, he came home, got the entire family out of bed, and prayed with us, thanking God for what had transpired. He quoted Job 1:21, *"The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."* My sister Mary remarked on how that blessed her and remained as a testimony of just how much Dad trusted God in all things. I will never forget that astounding example of love and faith in the Lord despite the circumstances. He learned these lessons at Trinity through the Spirit and the Word and applied it faithfully in his life.

A Family Affair

By that time, Ervene was firmly established as a professor at Trinity. All through the years, the family spent hundreds of hours at the college: Friday and Saturday evening services, Sunday afternoon vespers, graduations, meetings,



Professor Bragg outside FBI

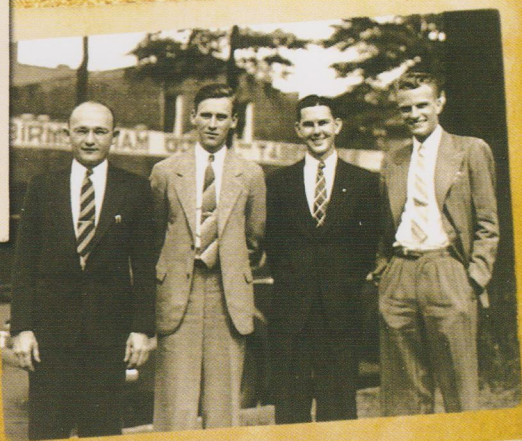
school picnics and many other activities. It was always a treat to be there among the students and the faculty. We were treated like beloved members of the family. Dr. & Mrs. Watson, the faculty, and the students made a lasting impression on each one of us. The people of Trinity impacted our lives for the Lord just as it had for our father during his years as a student. The people were why we loved to go there.

First, we were influenced by Dr. Watson, in the same way so many others had, by his life and work at Trinity. I loved to hear him lead the services. He always began with "All Hail the Power," singing at the top of his lungs and often beginning off-key but, oh, how he showed a passion for the Lord. We all knew him as a praying man, one of great faith. Story after story came as a result of Dr. Watson's praying for food to feed the students, money to pay the bills, and always believing the Lord would provide. He set the tone for the importance of prayer. No one ever left his office but that he prayed with them. We used to say that even if you went into the office to change a light bulb, he would pray with you before you left. Knowing his example of faith and prayer made a deep impression on the life of the family.

We also greatly loved and respected the faculty and staff members. I could never name them all, but so many made a lasting impression and influence on us as a family and individually. I remember how heartbroken I felt upon learning that Dr. Auginbaugh had gone to be with the Lord the summer before I entered Trinity as a student. I had been looking forward with great anticipation to learning under that dear saint of the Lord. These faculty members always treated us, even as little children, as part of the "family" of Trinity. We watched their lives; we saw their love for God; we observed their support, encouragement and love for the students; and we were touched by their service to the Lord. What an invaluable heritage we enjoyed and lasting influence for the Lord on our lives as "children" of Trinity and the Lord!

We also greatly benefited from the lives of the godly men and women that come through Trinity for the Bible conferences. Some of these saints of the Lord exemplified a tremendous example of what God could do through the life of a wholly surrendered Christian. We benefited from their messages but more from their lives and love for the Lord. As a student at Trinity, I had close contact with many of them. Through their lives, treatment of us, and sharing the message of the Lord, I learned the true meaning of "greatness" in the Lord: being well-known only granted you status in the world, not before God. Dr. Oswald J. Smith spent quite a bit of time with me one day. I had started to write poetry and, of course, he had written hundreds of hymns. He did not have to take time with me, give me pointers and just share, but he did. That made such an impression on me. The humility that most of these great saints showed before the Lord served as a tremendous example. It was never about them, but the life of the Lord in them.

The students had a great impact on us as well. Many spent hours in our home and with the family. We were able to learn from them, not by being taught



E.C. Bragg (far left) with Billy Graham (far right) and fellow students

but just to see their surrendered lives, their desire to serve, their love for the Lord, and their patience and care for us as children. They took the time to help us in the Lord. We watched as they gave their lives up for service and spent them for God in the far-flung corners of the earth. They knew hardships and difficulties; they knew defeats but they also exhibited faith, love, and victory in the Lord. My personal salvation came about because of the summer camp ministry of Hazel and Percy Cannon. How could I ever express what that meant to me! I could never begin to list them all or to ever really explain just how greatly they affected my life and walk with the Lord. I

thank God for each and every one of them and that I had the privilege to grow up in their lifetime and see what God could do with a surrendered life.

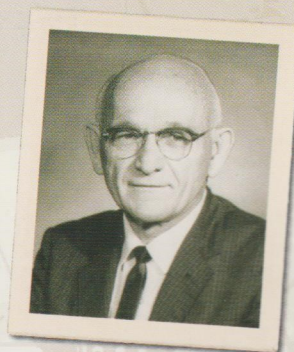
More Than a Professor

Art Yohner remarked to my brother Don about Dad, "Your dad was more than a professor; He taught the students how to live and love by his example." As a part of the Bragg family, I can say, as do we all, that the people involved were what made Trinity the blessing, encouragement, challenge,

and joy that it has always been in our lives. All of the best memories and times are wrapped up with those saints of the Lord that composed and remain the Trinity family. They, too, taught how to walk with God and be His people to the world. Our family has been influenced by Trinity all through the years. From Ervene's graduation, to two of the children's graduation, and one grand-child's and one great-grand-child's graduation from Trinity, the college has been a part of the family. It will always be a place where we know God reigns supreme, truth is preached, lives are changed, and service to the Lord is paramount.

We are all extremely thankful that God placed us in the family that He did where a college like that could be a part of our lives. As was remarked to me recently, our very DNA resounds with Trinity in every part of our being. That is a heritage that remains very precious as it helped to shape who we have become today. It was always there as a vital part of our lives. The presence of the Trinity "family" stayed with us in the crises of our family, praying us through, helping us in practical ways, ministering to our spiritual needs, and showing us how we, too, should live before the Lord. The value of that will only be fully realized in eternity both

in our lives and the lives of all the people it has touched since it came into existence 80 years ago. Trinity will always hold a very special place in the lives and hearts of the Bragg family.

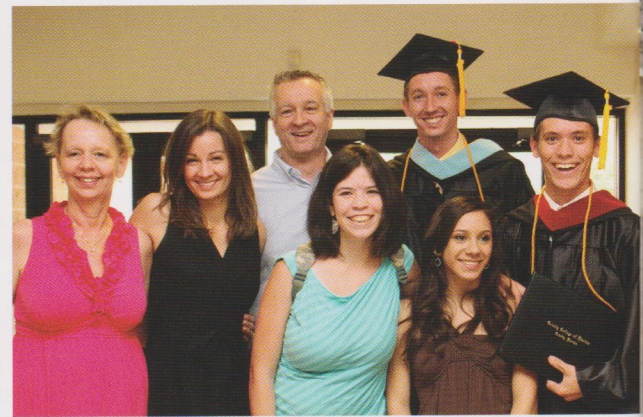
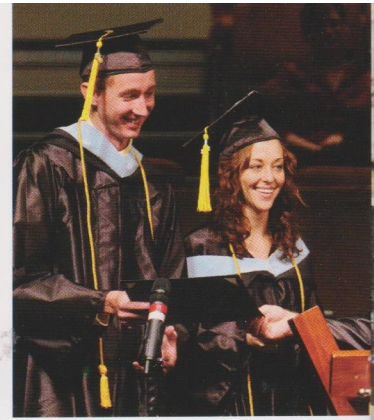


Dr. E.C. Bragg



Peggy Bragg (1967) was a missionary for 12 years in Kenya, Africa before returning to the United States where she served in various educational-ministry positions at Trinity College of Florida, Keswick Christian School and Calvary Christian High School. She is now retired and resides in Minneola, FL. Dr. E.C. Bragg's legacy lives on through his lectures and writings which are accessible through the E.C. Bragg Library at trinitycollege.edu



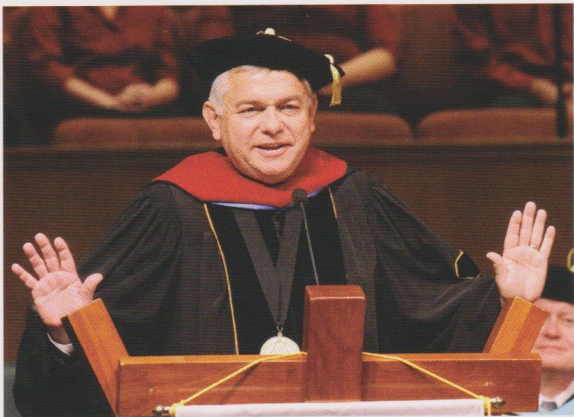
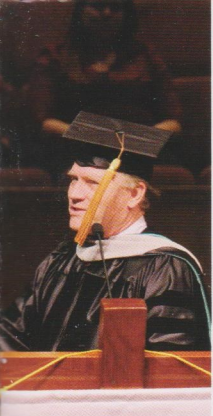


His Glory

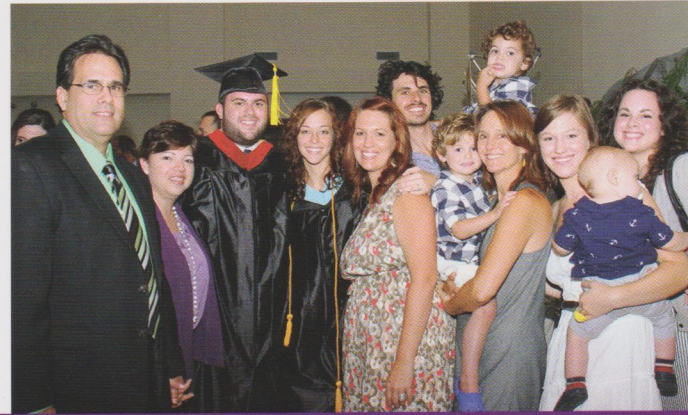
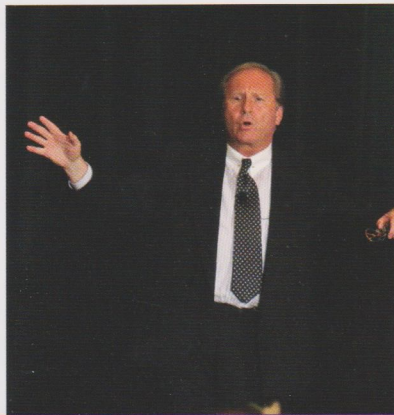
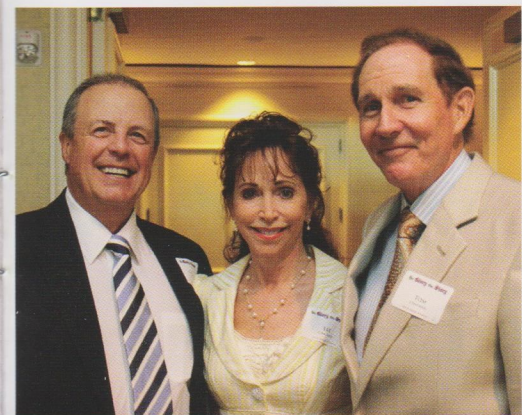
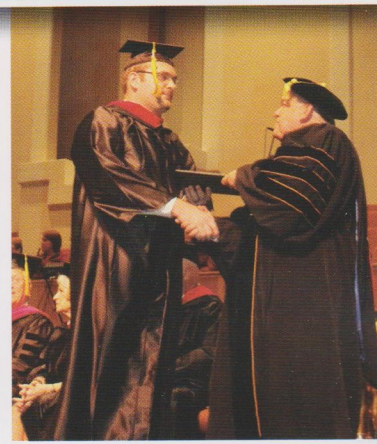
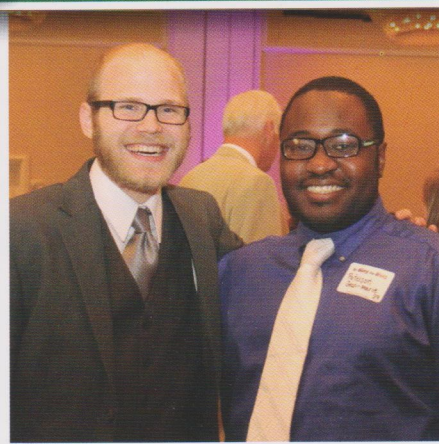
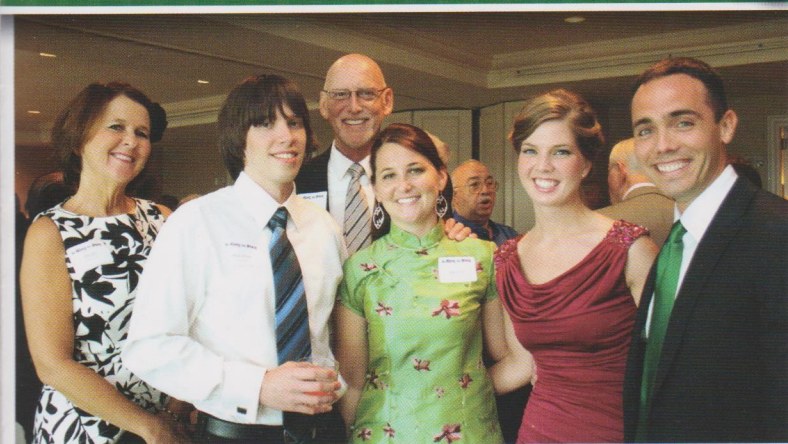
On Thursday, May 10, 2012 over 400 supporters, friends, and alumni of Trinity College of Florida gathered at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay in Tampa, Florida for the College's annual awards banquet. This year's theme was: *His Glory Our Story.*

Professor Michelle Chauncey received the Wade Academic Service Award, which recognizes a Trinity College of Florida faculty member for outstanding contributions in the areas of teaching. Ed and Jan Brandt were named the 2012 Alumni of the Year for their outstanding ministry in Christian and business leadership. Ed Brandt also served as the evening's keynote speaker. Long-time supporters Glen and Marty Keys were presented with the Prokopé Award for their service to the College.

On May 12, 2012 family and friends gathered at the First Baptist Church in New Port Richey, Florida to witness the College's commencement exercises. Dr. Ralph Enlow, President of the Association for Biblical Higher Education, challenged the graduates to impact the community with the transformative power of the Word of God. The Trinity College community gathered to celebrate and recognize the achievements of the class of 2012 and proudly welcomed them into the Trinity alumni community.



Our Story



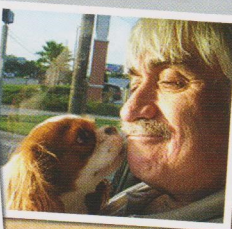
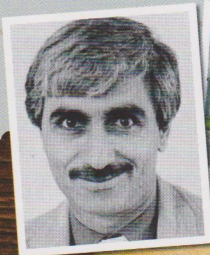
Starting from the top, left to right by row: Ray & Nancy Murray and Kamal & Najla Majeed enjoy the reception; Juliana Anderson is congratulated by her family; President O'Farrell addresses the graduation audience; Prof. Michelle Chauncey with her family as she receives the Wade Academic Service Award; Greg & Becky Johnson, Kristin & Preston Coursey and Kevin & Katie O'Farrell connect before the banquet; Josh Corrick & Peterson Jean-Marie at the annual banquet; Ronald Evaldi receives his diploma; Charlie Martin and Lee & Tom Chapman; Ed Brandt delivers the keynote address; AJ Gutierrez and Megan Weas celebrate with their families.

80 YEARS OF MEMORIES



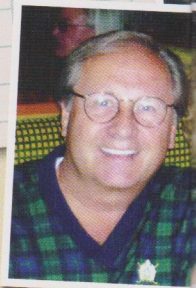
One early day as a freshman, I was in the chapel reading Isaiah. While I was reading, Dr. Ypma and his wife passed by. Dr. Ypma asked me, "What are you reading?" I told him the book of Isaiah. He then answered, "Did you know that Isaiah is a mini bible in itself with 66 chapters representing the 66 books in the overall Bible?" He proceeded to tell me about the deep riches contained in Isaiah. That occasion was the first time I met Dr. Ypma and his lovely wife.'

Eddie Considine (1988)
sunshineejc@yahoo.com



Ed remembers: One year we turned the entire old Temple Terrace campus into a "House of Horrors" with games & food for the whole student body. The House of Horrors was only surpassed by several rooms in the men's dorm. Jan remembers: Getting up on Saturday mornings with my roommate and going to a small shopping center to do our laundry & have breakfast at Woolworth's where we would get a huge breakfast for only \$2.

Ed (1968) & Jan Brandt (Cosbey, 1966)
edward-brandt@comcast.net



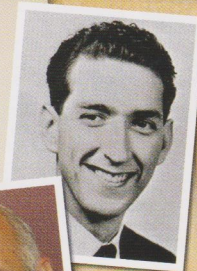
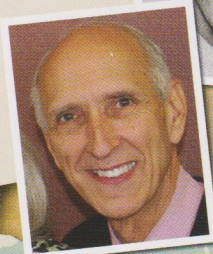
One of my favorite memories from Trinity College was when every student had to take turns helping making the meals, as well as, washing the dishes after every meal. Back then we did all the maintenance, housekeeping, and also the cooking under the hired cook's instructions, which was sometimes just a note left for us on the stove!

Normandy Woodward (Bryant, 1970)
normandywoodward@tampabay.rr.com



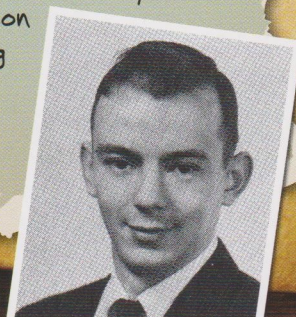
At this wonderful Bible College, God introduced me to my future wife Carolyn Doyle. Another favorite memory was sitting under Dr. Auginbaugh, Dr. Bragg, Mrs. Watson, Dr. Doyle (my future father-in-law) and others. I can remember hearing fantastic chapel speakers like Dr. Kenneth Wuest, Dr. Watson and Dr. Oswald J. Smith. I am so thankful to God that He allowed me to get a fantastic grounding in His Word at Trinity!

Tommy Walden (1964)
abilenediscoverycenter@gmail.com



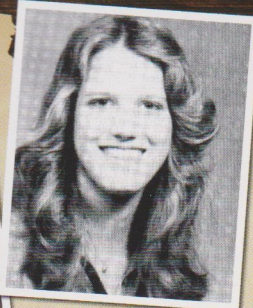
My husband, Kenneth Zesinger, and I were students in the late 1950s. In 1957 Billy Graham came to a conference in Clearwater. One day he came into the chapel and sat directly behind me. I could hardly concentrate on the speakers. During the offertory, I got the nerve to turn around and ask him to sign my Bible. He graciously smiled and signed it. I have treasured it ever since.

Silvia Zesinger (Wilson, 1960)
zesingerkl@embarqmail.com



One evening I was on watch when I heard someone rattling the garbage cans behind the Kitchen (at the Fenway campus). I went out carefully and turned on the Flash light. I was greeted with Dr. Watson clearing out garbage cans. He said that he was just going by and had time to take care of them.

Ray D. Baker (1963)
raydeanbaker@verizon.net



We had a project to do for Bible Customs class with Rev. Nussbaum, and Martha Lowell decided to do her project on Bible funeral

customs. She had a wig head and got clothes and stuffed them to make a body. We wrapped it all up in sheets and sprayed awful perfume all over it.

The idea was that she would put her body in the back of the classroom and then wail. By the time she finished her project it was the middle of the night and she didn't want to carry her "dead body" across campus in the morning, so we decided to sneak out and take it over to the classroom during the night. We were on the 3rd floor of the Fenway building and ever so quietly we opened the fire escape door to carry the body down the fire escape stairs. However, the "click" of the door must have awakened our monitor (Esther Moore) because all of a sudden we heard her yelling, "What in the world are you doing?" and here we were holding a dead body on the fire escape!

Karen Board (Edscorn, 1982)
boardsinchina@juno.com

My favorite memories of Trinity are: Dr. and Mrs. Watson, Dr. Bragg, Dr. and Mrs. Collins, Dr. and Mrs. Williams, Dr. Copeland, Dr. and Mrs. Everett, Dr. Massey, Dr. Ypma, and precious Mrs. Bruso. Students: Fred Kornis and Sam Thomas. I well remember the conservative Standards that mattered and dress codes that the old Trinity had at that time!

Alfred J. Cockrum (1975)
DC5577@aol.com

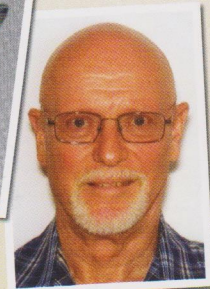
I have many very special memories of my years at Trinity (1963-1968), but I feel the top one would have to be my relationship with the President, Dr. Watson, as he led the school with a love for the Lord Jesus Christ. I helped him a bit with secretarial work and enjoyed it tremendously.

Mary Jane Ames (Abbott, 1968)
maryjaneames57@gmail.com



While making a chapel announcement, I forgot the name of the street on which a married student wives prayer gathering was to take place. I invited my friend Art Wilson on stage to help me. He told the audience, "I can't remember its name, but if you get to the bar you went too far." Nearly everyone in the chapel burst out in fits of laughter - everyone, that is, except Dr. Watson. Thinking that Art and I had planned and rehearsed the announcement beforehand, we got a royal "chewing out" by the President and founder of Trinity College of Florida!

Gary C. Brooks (1967)
gcdmb@tampabay.rr.com

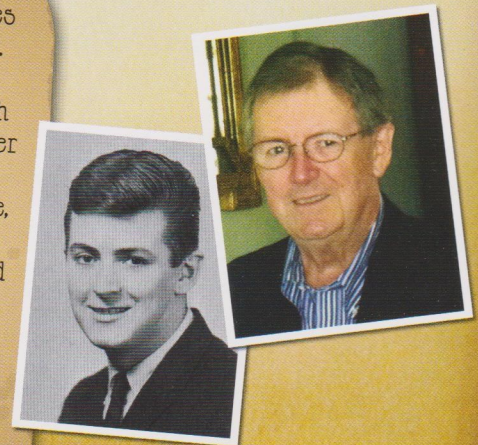


On Sunday, January 30, 1958, Herman was attending chapel service at Trinity College on Coe Road in Clearwater, Florida. Dr. Watson was speaking that morning. Herman went forward and accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. Our next best memory was meeting each other for the first time in the lunch room during our Sunday Dinner. We've been married 53 years!

Herman & Sharron (Yoder) Bailey (1958)
sbailey@cntv.net

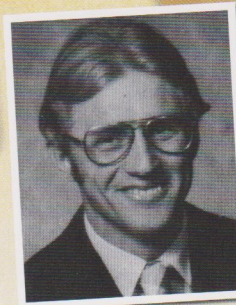
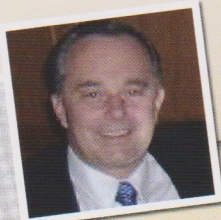
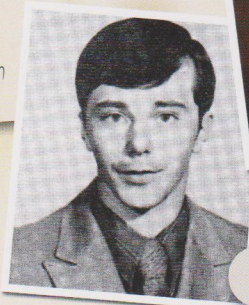
Lots of wonderful memories - theology classes with Dr. Bragg, and Bible survey classes with Dr. Auginbaugh especially memorable. Trailer park ministry on Sunday evenings. On the lighter side, going out, in the evening, to the golf course that adjoined the old campus and hitting golf balls up the hill from the par 3 tee near the bay wall to the green.

Michael Gregory (1964)
mdgregory@aol.com

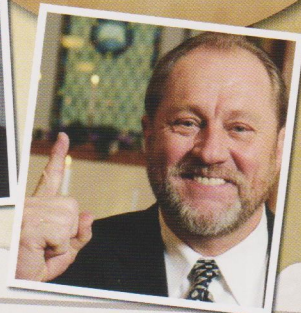


I was fortunate to be on the Fenway Campus in Dunedin on Edgewater Drive and recall evening walks to the pier in front of the converted hotel. I remember the great times in the men's dorm where classmates shared wonderful memories. The jokes and tricks we played on each other only made the bonds stronger. I can remember trips to Clearwater Beach, when we could get a pass (Dr. Watson referred to those who went to the beach as "Beach Lizards"). And who could forget the great men of God teaching the word of God: Dr. Minder, Dr. Watson, Dr. E.C. Bragg and Dr. Boyington.

Jim Stephenson (1971)
jimstephensonnb@gmail.com

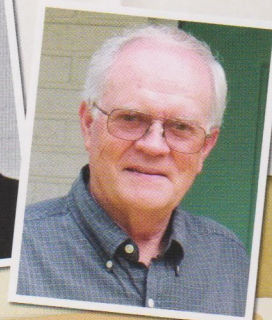


Fred Kornis (1976)
fred@heartforhim.org



My memories are: Godly teachers and staff shared by life and example, graduating on two different campuses (on Bellaire campus in 1963 with a diploma, and from Dunedin in '64 for a BA and then in '65 with an MA). I benefitted greatly from the Great Commission Missionary Fellowship which the Lord used to guide many of us to home and foreign fields of service.

Les Harris (1964)
lesharris5@aol.com

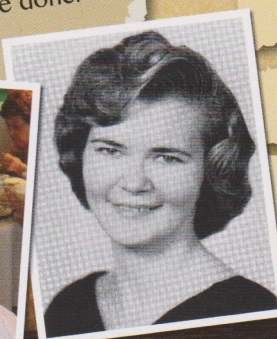
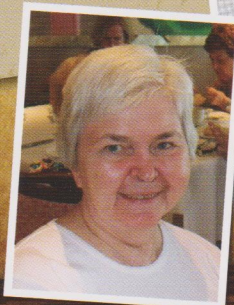


I remember "Moving Day" when Trinity College moved from St. Petersburg to Clearwater. All the students were involved in the move, many of us assigned to cleaning duty. I cleaned windows all that day. What a lot of them there were! We were all excited to have so much room! There was a large dining room, a place for a snack bar and lounge, a waterfront lawn with lovely shade trees. The chapel was so nice, and complete with a roulette wheel that had been "converted" into a table, and a grand piano where Mrs. Markham presided. It was an exciting day. We were all thankful to God for providing such a beautiful place for us to study His Word.

Linwood McCurry (Coker, 1953)
jack.mccurry@verizon.net

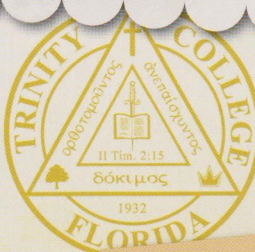
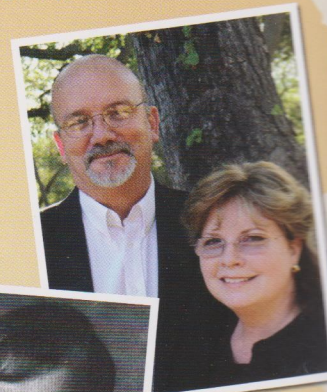
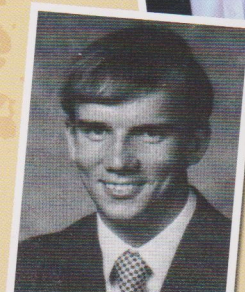
My favorite memory is Mrs. Watson and her beautiful smile with such a caring heart. She pitched right in and helped with what needed to be done.

Ruth Ludlow (1966)
ludlow7@hotmail.com



I enjoyed the late nights in the "pot shack" at the rear of the old Fenway Hotel building. I spent many nights in there washing pots and pans and worshipping the Lord loudly. In the dorm, we had extra mattresses and my roommate had stacked up about six or seven on his bunk and was asleep. As I was praying on my knees by my bunk there was a loud "Thunk!" and I looked around to see that he had fallen off of the stack of mattresses in his sleep. I can still see Dr. Watson preaching in chapel, pointing his finger, sweat dripping down his face, as he passionately preached on the subject: "No Man Cares For My Soul!"

Scott (1974) &
Susan Harrell
cbc@tds.net



TRINITY COLLEGE OF FLORIDA



APRIL 19, 2013



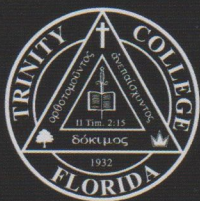
CAMPUS PREVIEW DAY

Trinity College of Florida wants you to experience its campus during our Campus Preview Days! These FREE one-day events allow high school students to experience the academic, spiritual, and student life at Trinity College of Florida. You can check out classes, experience chapel, tour the campus, attend a financial aid workshop, enjoy an outdoor BBQ and meet professors and students!

APRIL 19, 2013

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- Admissions Open House
- Hot Buffet Breakfast
- Trinity 101 Q&A Session
- Chapel Experience
- BBQ Lunch
- Professor Meet & Greet
- Campus Tours
- Financial Aid Workshop

For more information & registration contact
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OR admissions@trinitycollege.edu
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TRINITY Quest

Glad I'm a Part of the *Family*

by Charlie Martin

The theme of this year in the life of Trinity College has been "Trusting God". It seems so simple, but it is so important. The truth of this theme impacted my life when I left my home in Arkansas as a teenager to begin my study for the ministry. The journey led me to Trinity College and to a new family of faith. Through the years, I have come to know and love the Trinity College family; a family of students, alumni, parents, professors, supporters and faculty members. It's hard to believe that our beloved school is celebrating her 80th birthday. There is no better way to celebrate than with family and friends. Someone told me that friends are really just the family you get to choose. Isn't that an awesome thought?

First Memories

One of the first Trinity family members I met was Dr. W.T. Watson. We met in the garden at the old campus on Coe Road in Clearwater. Dr. Watson walked me and my parents around the school and answered a number of questions. Since that day in the summer of 1962, I have come to know and love an ever increasing number of the Trinity family.

I can so vividly remember the first time I met Billy Graham. He had come back to speak in Chapel at Trinity and he spoke of how much he had loved the school and Dr. Watson. Billy Graham was one of many evangelists who spoke in our Chapel services. I remember Dr. Vance Havner of North Carolina and Dr. Oswald Smith of the People's Church in Canada. Dr. R. G. Lee of Memphis, Tennessee was there too! Dr. Paul Alford, Dr. Paul Smith of People's Church, Evangelist Johnny Woodhouse and the list goes on. There were many missionaries, pastors and evangelists who came to Trinity just to invest their lives in our lives and the ministries to which we would serve.

Family Encouragement

Several years later, I would look back in amazement and awe at the impact upon my life by the Trinity College family. These were people who prayed for me, preached to me, influenced my life, and taught me how to better serve the Lord. Some, who invested financially in me, did so while I was a student. They wrote a letter enclosing a ten or a twenty dollar bill. It meant the world to me.

All over the world, our Trinity College family is faithfully serving the Lord! So many have served God faithfully for 30 years or more! I appreciate the missions climate at Trinity College. Our desire has

always been to help preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth. Thanks to all of our missionaries. We love you and thank God for your faithful witness and ministry to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Many of our Trinity family have served as I have in the pastoral ministry across America. Some of my greatest pastor friends are part of our Trinity College family. I was recently reminded of the importance of my professors at Trinity and the significant role they played in my life. Dr. John Corts was my teacher as we studied "The Life of Christ". Mrs. Watson, Dr. John Doyle, Dr. Bragg, and many others invested their lives in teaching me the things that have been used to help others. I realize the importance of those who poured their lives, their influence, and their experiences into students like me who went on to serve in the role of pastor.

Time to Celebrate

So, here we are, 80 years old! What does that say? What does it mean? We are family together and stronger! We can thank God for a wonderful beginning, a good start, and a great history. We can trust God for each new day full of hope and His blessings. We can expect God to do even more than we could ask or think tomorrow! We can ask God to provide our needs at Trinity College and are assured that He will, because "He's Able"! Amen!

At Trinity, The Office of Advancement is able to help answer your questions about joining the work at the College. Making a gift through Trinity College of Florida is easy and can even be accomplished through your estate planner, tax attorney, or local bank. You can make a difference in the lives of students who seek to become 21st century transformational leaders for Christ!

TRINITY COLLEGE OF FLORIDA

The Office of Advancement

727.376.6911 • cmartin@trinitycollege.edu

Charlie Martin (1967) is the
Vice President for Advancement
at Trinity College of Florida.



Still Changing Lives to Change the World

by John Whitehead

*H*aving been blessed to serve on the Board of Trustees for the last seven years and to sit as its Chairman for the past three, I know firsthand of the heritage of Trinity and of the dedicated service of those who have gone before us. They have built the foundation on which we now stand. A foundation built on the "Rock, Jesus Christ"; a foundation that has endured the test of time.

A Legacy

As people, an 80th birthday or anniversary means we have been blessed with a long life or relationship. For Trinity College of Florida, it means we have been blessed with a long and fruitful history of service to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

A history that is filled with evidence of God's grace and provision - from its beginning and our founding in 1932 as the Florida Bible Institute in Temple Terrace by Dr. William T. Watson to our present location in Trinity as Trinity College of Florida under the leadership of our current president, Dr. Mark T. O'Farrell. The history of Trinity speaks of who we are and our legacy is one of dedication to the One that calls us to serve.

It is our history that points to God and what He can do in and through each of us. This can be seen in the past achievements of the graduates of Trinity and in its much needed and continuing role in the lives of the next generation of graduates.

The past 80 years has given evidence to this truth. Trinity College of Florida has produced alumni who have had and are having an impact in our world for Jesus Christ. Trinity's rich heritage spans from our most famous alumnus, Dr. Billy Graham, whose service to the world is acknowledged by people of all faiths, to the many graduates who have served and are serving our Lord. Today they lead throughout the world. Our current students, whose resumes are just beginning to be written and whose futures and impact are yet untold, are enjoying the power and legacy of Trinity College of Florida.

A Testimony

Trinity College of Florida has made and is continuing to make a difference in our world and is carrying out its mission of "Changing Lives to Change the World".

What does this 80th Anniversary say about Trinity College of Florida as an institution? It gives testimony to the college's consistency and perseverance and to its uncompromising faith and the unwavering focus of those who have gone before us and who are leading us today. It points to the dedication of our mission and to our steadfast belief and trust in our Lord and Savior.

These are the qualities that have allowed Trinity to remain effective and at the forefront of biblical studies. Qualities that point to our heritage and to our legacy and will lead us into the future in a world that more desperately needs to be educated and reminded of the need for God's Word in their lives.

An Unchanging Mission

No matter the period of our history or the location of our campus, one thing has always remained the same: Trinity College of Florida is a Bible College. It is rooted in the teaching of God's Word. This is the foundation of everything we do and believe as an institution. In this ever changing world, this is the constant that sets Trinity apart. That distinction is a commitment to teach God's Word to the next generation of leaders. This truth is as strong among us today as it was in 1932.

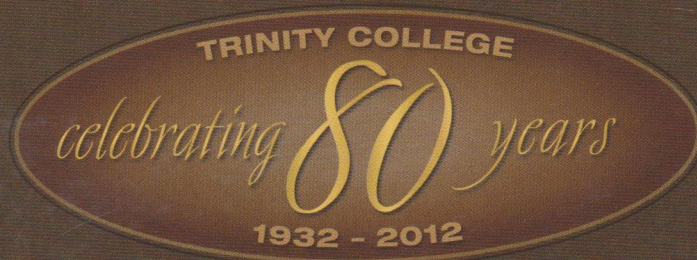
This consistency is what we celebrate on this 80th anniversary. Though our world has changed and is changing, perhaps faster than ever before, it is our continued focus on these founding principles that keeps Trinity College of Florida relevant in today's world. It is that focus that continues to allow us to meet the need of equipping the leaders of tomorrow's world with the tools necessary to reach the lost for Jesus Christ.

John Whitehead serves as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Trinity College of Florida. Mr. Whitehead, a resident of Wellington, FL, is president of J.W. Fire Sprinkler located in south Florida.



TRINITY COLLEGE OF FLORIDA PRESENTS

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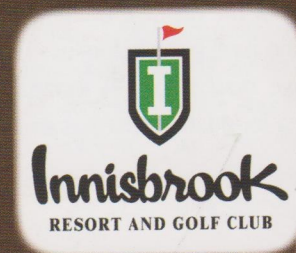
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