



GLENVILLE STATE COLLEGE

Pioneer Update

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GLENVILLE STATE COLLEGE

A COMMUNICATION TO ALUMNI AND FRIENDS ABOUT EVENTS AND PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Alumni Spotlight

Dr. Trent Busch '58 was honored with the 2016 Margaret Reid Prize for traditional verse poetry. His entry, a poem entitled 'Edges of Roads,' was selected from nearly 3,000 submissions from writers around the world. [See the full text of the poem and an accompanying video by clicking here.](#)

A native of Wirt County, West Virginia, Trent wrote 'Edges of Roads' about 30 years ago, his inspiration being time spent venturing the woods of the Mountain State. In an interview with the *Valdosta Daily Times*, Dr. Busch advised others to write often and hone their

Drennen Receives Guggenheim Fellowship



Many of you may recall earlier this year when we featured Anthony Craig Drennen '88 in the Alumni Spotlight section of the Pioneer Update. Since that time, Craig has been awarded a [Guggenheim Fellowship](#) from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

The official awards ceremony took place in New York City on May 7.

Craig was among 172 other scholars, artists, and scientists who were appointed on the basis of prior achievement and exceptional promise. The candidates were chosen from a group of almost 3,000 applicants in the Foundation's ninety-fourth competition.

Ohio University, where Craig earned his M.F.A., has six alumni from their photography department who have been Guggenheim winners. Drennen is the first painting alum from OU to receive a Guggenheim Fellowship. The University has invited him back to campus to speak at the end of September.

Craig serves as an associate professor of drawing and painting and graduate director of the Ernest G. Welch School of Art & Design in the College of the Arts at Georgia State University. [You can read more about his artwork and his Fellowship by clicking here.](#)

Congratulations on this tremendous recognition Craig!

skills saying, "It boils down to this: you really have no choice; if you're a writer...you write."

His poetry has been published throughout the years in a number of prestigious publications, including *The Nation*, *North American Review*, *American Scholar*, *The Hudson Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Poetry*, *Boston Review*, and many others. However, Dr. Busch considers the inclusion of his poems in *The Best American Poetry 2001* – an anthology of the year's best poems – to be one of his greatest honors.

During his years at Glenville State, he was a member of the football and baseballs teams, the G-Club, Kappa Sigma Kappa, the Ohnimgohow Players, Alpha Psi Omega, and Student Council.

Following his graduation from GSC, Trent received a Master's Degree from West Virginia University and a Ph.D. from the University of Utah.

Dr. Busch currently resides in Lark Park, Georgia and is an Emeritus Professor of English at Valdosta State University. He and his wife Carol have a daughter, Laura, and a son, Bret. In his retirement, Trent continues to write and enjoys



(standing; l-r) Interim Vice President for Advancement David Hutchison, Athletic Director Jesse Skiles '88, John Hoover '66, Jerry Trembush '68, Larry North, Charles Gwinn, Wilbur 'Smoke' Matthews, Kermit Moore '66, Roger Gossman '65, Mark Downey '65, Cliff Neal '68, Bill Casto '67 (seated) Darrell 'Dike' Goff '66 and Al Stewart

'Old Friends from the 60s' Continue Reunion Tradition

Late last month, twenty-one friends from the 1960's who attended Glenville State College got together for the tenth straight year. It all started in 2008 when a small group that had stayed in contact over the years got together for a weekend, and then a week long 'road trip' the following year. "It was like forty years had never passed. We kept thinking of others that we had lost contact with and we would love to see and share the experience. We made it our quest to find and reunite with as many as we could," said Bill Casto '67.

Their get-togethers weren't meant to be alumni functions or football reunions, but simply friends who shared a common experience that greatly affected the rest of their lives reuniting. The friendships they made at Glenville were forged over 50 years ago and have lasted a lifetime.

Within the past 10 years, nearly 50 'old friends' from the 60s, including some GSC staff personnel, have reunited near Lewisburg, West Virginia to spend three days reminiscing, renewing friendships, and - of course - telling a lot of stories. Some have traveled from as far away as Nevada, Florida, South Carolina, California, and Arizona to attend. Activities have included golf tournaments, local sightseeing, bag toss and horseshoe tournaments, fishing, and special dinners each night.

woodworking and furniture building as hobbies.

Congratulations to Dr. Busch on your many outstanding recognitions for your writing. We are proud that you are an alumnus of Glenville State College and proud to recognize you in this week's Alumni Spotlight.

Four years ago the group began funding a \$1,000 Hidden Promise Scholarship presented on behalf of the 'Old Friends from the 60s' to a student at GSC who exhibits economic need and is the first in their family to attend college. The 'old friends' note their reunion wasn't a fund raising event, but the idea resonated with many of them who had experienced the struggle of little or no financial help to get to college and then stay there.



THE GIVING CORNER

Click the gift icon to make a donation of your own and join the Giving Corner.

Mariana (McFerrin) Griffith '66 - \$1,000 for the Glenville High School Alumni Scholarship Fund

John D. Gainer - \$500 for the Glenville High School Alumni Scholarship Fund

Judy (Ellison) Cornelison - \$500 for the Glenville High School Alumni Scholarship Fund

Dr. David S. '59 and Mary Jane (Cleavenger) Hall '59 - \$300 for the Glenville High School Alumni Scholarship Fund

Louie Heater - \$250 for the Glenville High School Alumni Scholarship Fund

Beverly (Clark) Haywood - \$200 for the Glenville High School Alumni Scholarship Fund

Maisie (Hughes) Somerville '55 - \$100 for the Glenville High School Alumni Scholarship Fund

Tonabell (Jones) Turner '57 - \$100 for the Glenville High School Alumni Scholarship Fund

Larry Wolfe '66 - \$100 for the Glenville High School Alumni Scholarship Fund



Brittany McGuire '15, second from left, with members of The Parachute Brigade

Music Education Alumna to Perform at Mountain Stage

Brittany McGuire '15 will perform this Sunday, July 15, at the West Virginia Culture Center Theater on Mountain Stage with her fellow band members, [The Parachute Brigade](#). The show begins at 7:00 p.m.

She became involved with the band a few years ago after Eric Robbins, one of the co-founders of the group and a former high school classmate of McGuire's, invited her to join them for a few songs. The Parachute Brigade now consists of five members who describe their sound as indie-roots with rock and pop covers in their repertoire. They released their debut EP, [The Gold EP](#), in May 2018. The album is available on all digital platforms.

When Brittany isn't playing and recording music with the band, she is a music teacher in the Raleigh County School System.

Mountain Stage is produced by West Virginia Public Broadcasting and distributed by NPR Music. It can be heard every week on more than 240 stations across America, and around the world via NPR Music and mountainstage.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[GSC Night at Power Park](#)

Monday, July 16 at 7:00 PM

Appalachian Power Park in Charleston, WV

If you're in the Glenville area and want to ride the Pioneer charter bus to Charleston for free, [click here](#) or call (304) 462-6381. Seating on the bus will be first come, first served.

For tickets, [click here](#) or call (304) 414-4117.

[Roane County Alumni & Friends Event](#)

Thursday, July 19 from 6:00-8:00 PM

Chestnut Ridge Winery in Spencer, WV

Will include finger foods, refreshments, and a silent auction with proceeds benefiting the Pioneer Athletic Club.

For more information contact Kate Williams at katherinej2010@yahoo.com or David Hutchison by calling (304) 462-6381.



Rees' AMI Metals Inc. Wins Fifth Award

Bernie Rees '91 (pictured here, second from left) is the Vice President at AMI Metals, Inc. in Brentwood, Tennessee. His company, which is a full service cut-to-size metal service center, providing aluminum plate, sheet, bar, and extruded profiles for the aerospace industry, was honored earlier this year with a Supplier of the Year award from Gulfstream. This was their fifth award from Gulfstream and is in addition to being selected as Supplier of the Year for Boeing three of the last ten

years.

Pioneer sports fans will remember Bernie as a four-year letterman in Basketball and a three-year letterman in Track. He was captain of his basketball team during his junior and senior years and All Conference his junior year. Bernie lead the WVIAC for 3 point field goal percentage and was second in the Nation in 3 point field goal percentage his sophomore year. He remains #1 in three point percentage in a season at GSC, #4 in three point goals among career leaders with 195, and #4 in three point percentage among career leaders with 43%. Rees continues to hold the record for most consecutive 3 point field goals at GSC (8-8). An excellent splinter, Bernie was also Three Time All Conference in Track and Conference Champion High Jump and Long Jump all three years. At one time, Rees was record holder in long jump at GSC.



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