

Dear Kendrick Relatives:

It has been some time since the "Clan" reunion at Salado last August and I apologize for the lateness of this first opiate from your new slate of officers.

For those of you who were unable to attend the reunion last August, I and my family, as newcomers to the reunion, thought that it was a tremendous success and were impressed by the number who attended as well as by the arrangements and activities which had been planned so well. If you will excuse me waxing philosophical for a moment, I think the idea of families coming together in reunion is perhaps the greatest tribute we can pay to our forebears and is an indication of the reverence we have for them. Through such association we are bound to develop a closer fellowship with our kinmen and establish a greater understanding of our heritage.

To the many of you who participated and did so much to make it a success, our most sincere appreciation for your efforts. In this connection, I feel that each of us, not only those who attended, but the membership as a whole, owe a real debt of gratitude to Jim who has so capably led the association for the first our years of its existence. Although forced to observe activities from a distance during this time by reason of my military service, I have the feeling that Jim has been the driving force behind the association. In saying this, I take nothing away from the many of you who have devoted so much of your time and effort to its activities. And, of course, we cannot fail to mention Elaine, for as we say in the Army, "Behind every successful officer, there is an understanding and helpful wife."

In assuming the duties of President, I want to assure each of you that we will all attempt to follow the pattern which has been set, thought I fully realize that this will not be easy because of the high standards set by my predecessor. The fine slate of officers (announced in the last news letter) will assist tremendously.

Perhaps some of you who I have not had the privilege of meeting - I hope it won't be too long before I do - may be interested in my background, so herewith a brief resume.

I am the son of Bruce Bond Kendrick whose father was James Marcellus Kendrick. My uncle, James H. Kendrick, Jr., deceased, father of our first president, whetted my appetite for the military at an early age and was instrumental in my attending Citizens Military Training at Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis in the 1920's. Subsequently I received a reserve commission in Field Artillery and prior to W.W.II was assigned to OOC duty in East Texas. Upon the outbreak of W.W.II, I was called to active duty and served in Africa, Sicily, and Europe. Soon thereafter I was integrated into the Regular Army and have served at Ft. Sill, Ft. Leavenworth, Korea, the Pentagon, Germany, Norfolk, Vietnam and now at Ft. Hood (close to home and Salado).

My family consists of my wife Hilda, who has been with me in my travels whenever the situation permitted, Wallace M. Jr. (Mac) a sophomore at Texas A&M, daughter Karolyn who is graduation from Kilian High School and was recently informed that she has been selected as a U. S. Army National Merit scholar, and George Bruce, 11, attending school on the post.

My service in the U. S. Army has been extremely interesting with many pleasant associations, but retirement looms in the not too distant future, and I may decide to retire early, but as yet, don't know exactly where we want to settle down to go at civilian life. I'm sure, however, that being a civilian again will be as interesting as the military.