



The ORANGE & BLUE

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. • SPRING 2014

Message from Association President Morton Harris '52



Morton Harris

It has been an exciting and challenging four years since the formal establishment of the Columbus High Alumni Association in March of 2009 when our Association was incorporated. During the prior year, several alumni had gotten together to help sponsor the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Columbus - Jordan football game which included a special ceremony during the game at Memorial Stadium and a weekend of alumni events.

Following the celebration, the group stayed together and organized the CHS Alumni Association and, among other things, helped with the renovation of an alumni memorabilia room at CHS and held an alumni event for all past graduates. The leaders during this formative year were **Cecil Calhoun '52, Betty Brinson Bush '53, Milton Jones '54, Margie Alexander Drury '59, Ken Crumpler '61, Gloria Jones Dodds '62, Pat Hill Lane '64, Vickie Logan Rounsaville '66** and **Judy Whitt** who was then Assistant Principal (soon to become Principal) at CHS. Many others were also involved.

During this time, Cecil recruited me to the Association with a request to form a charitable non-profit corporation for the purpose of providing financial support to enable all deserving students at CHS to fully participate in the school's many cultural, leadership and academic opportunities and to enhance the already outstanding academic achievements at Columbus High. After incorporation, the Association applied to the Internal Revenue Service for a ruling that our Association be designated a public charity under Section

501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code so that all contributions to the Association would be tax deductible and all earnings on our investments would be tax-free. A favorable ruling was received on June 6, 2009.

In March of 2009, the first CHS alumni newsletter (later to become *The Orange & Blue*) was published which featured the highlights of the Columbus - Jordan festivities and also contained information about the Association.

In 2010, we began helping students with their participation in various academic, cultural and leadership activities by providing funds to cover certain student expenses. We also initiated the first "Dream Trip" and financed a deserving student's visit to mainland China.

In December of 2010, we created a permanent endowment to be known as the CHS Endowment for Excellence and entered into an agreement with the Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley for the Community Foundation to serve as custodian of our Endowment funds and manage its investments. The income from the Endowment Fund is transferred by the Community Foundation to our Association. With these funds and additional monies from member dues and contributions, our Trustees (after determining the areas of student priority needs with input from the CHS principal) transfer funds to be used in support of students in each identified area. Some of these areas of student support have included paying the costs for taking Advanced Placement tests, participating in field trips and the costs associated with the school's personal development and etiquette program. We have also continued our support of one or more students selected by the faculty to take part

in the Dream trip visits to foreign countries along with other students.

Throughout 2011 and 2012, we solicited the initial funds for our Endowment and by March of 2013, through generous contributions from numerous alumni and friends of education, the Endowment received over \$360,000. A plaque memorializing our Founding Donors was formally dedicated in the courtyard at CHS on March 26, 2013. Almost immediately after the Dedication Ceremony, an already generous alumnus called me to offer a matching pledge of \$70,000; and during the next few months, we were successful in raising an additional \$70,000 in a matching fund campaign. Today, the CHS Endowment for Excellence has over \$500,000 in investible funds and several remaining pledges, all of which are current.

During these past years, we continued our support of CHS and expanded the membership of our Association including the creation and funding of the Spirit Award in 2012 - funded and implemented by Judy Whitt and her husband, Randy, to recognize outstanding teachers at CHS. Since the beginning, our Association has sponsored alumni social events each year, where alumni and friends have met to renew old friendships and make new ones. In 2013, we began developing a mentoring program for students involving community leaders who meet with students at the school and describe their particular business or profession and answer the students' questions about their future careers. Thanks to Cecil Calhoun for developing the program and to **Ken Broda '87** and **Carl Rhodes '75** who are bringing it to fruition. Also during this past year, we began to improve our website and connected

continued on page 3



From left: Barry Mitchell, Donnie Baggett and Ken Crumpler



From left: Donnie Baggett, Gloria Jones Dodds and Pete Rounsaville

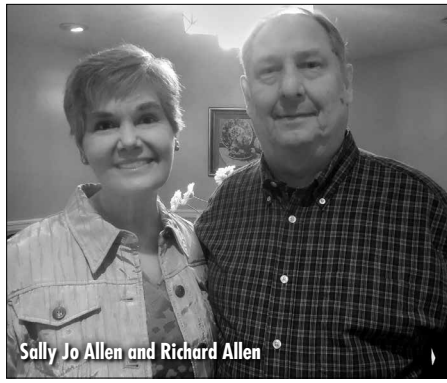
CHS Alumni Association

ANNUAL EVENTS
(Social & Golf)

To be held in fall of 2014



Mike Taylor and Karen Taylor



Sally Jo Allen and Richard Allen



Lynn Hunter Griley and Polly Phillips Berry

Lifetime Members Successfully Launch the Alumni Association

By Burton Hewitt '65, Association Vice President

We wish to thank the 311 Lifetime Members for their financial support in getting the Alumni Association off to a tremendous start. The Lifetime Member designation was frozen as of March 1, 2014. These contributors are the foundation of the Association and will be forever enshrined in the Alumni Room at CHS. This group of alumni and friends allowed the association to be up and running quickly and with their efforts, along with many other financial supporters, Board members and friends, the Association has raised an Endowment Fund valued at over \$450,000 not including additional pledges of almost \$100,000.

Our goal is to increase the Endowment Fund to \$1 million by the end of 2015. To sustain the Fund's future growth and the continued operation of the CHS Alumni Association, the Board of Trustees decided to revise its annual dues into an 'annual giving campaign.' This allows alumni and friends to donate annually, provide memorials and honors to others and make contributions in recognition of the importance of continuing to support CHS. You will receive a letter from

the Association in the coming weeks outlining the details of the program.

To date, the Association has contributed \$30,999 directly to CHS. These funds provide students in need with numerous opportunities that, otherwise, would not have been possible. These opportunities include:

- Social fees and field trip fees
- Supplement Freshmen Lunch and Learn where Freshmen are introduced to the CHS Manners/Etiquette program
- Partial Dream Trip Scholarships
- Advanced Placement for students who otherwise could not afford to take the exams
- Supplement costs for Academic competitions including Debate Team, Math Team, Academic Decathlon, Literary Meet, Model UN, Odyssey of the Mind, Science Olympiad and FLAG

In closing, we, the Board of Trustees and CHS, thank you for your past support and sincerely hope you will offer the same generous support in the future.

Thanks again for all you have done and continue to do for CHS!

We are, as always, "Columbus High."

WHAT IS CHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.?

Columbus High School Alumni Association, Inc. was formed in 2009 as a non-profit Georgia corporation with 501(c)(3) charitable status affording tax exempt benefit for **all** contributions to its annual giving campaign and Endowment Fund.

WHO CAN CONTRIBUTE?

Anyone who attended or graduated from Columbus High School and anyone (including parents of CHS students and children of CHS alumni) who wants to assist and promote CHS and its students.

WHY SHOULD I CONTRIBUTE?

To unite with others who support a nationally recognized, high quality liberal arts high school program.

To be a part of a large group of people who appreciate Columbus High and the positive influence on its students and the community for 122 years.

WHAT PROJECTS ARE CURRENTLY UNDERWAY?

The CHS Endowment for Excellence was established in 2010. The Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley manages the Endowment Funds. The income from the invested funds is being distributed to Columbus High School to help provide educational opportunities for students, both inside and outside the classroom for academic-related requirements such as field trips, school wide annual formal dinner, funding of Advanced Placement course exams for which students can receive college credit and other assistance to deserving students.

Alumni Association Dream Trip program that sponsors deserving students on summer faculty led study trips abroad. One student was sponsored on a trip to China in 2010. During the summer of 2011, one student was awarded a trip to Greece and another student a trip to Spain and Morocco.

Columbus High School Alumni Association, Inc.

2014 ANNUAL FUND

I am contributing as:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alumni, Class of _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty of CHS | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend of CHS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Freshman Level | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Junior Level | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Graduate of CHS Level |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Sophomore Level | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Senior Level | |

Name: First, Middle, Last, Maiden

Spouse's Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Work Phone

Email

Graduation Year

Mail application and check to CHS Alumni Association, Inc., PO Box 2187, Columbus, GA 31902.

All contributions to the annual fund are tax deductible.

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www.ColumbusHighAlumni.com

with OmegaFi to better enable our members to participate in financially supporting CHS.

In 2014, we are considering adding to our areas of support by helping fund student visits to several colleges in the Southeast for those who would otherwise not be able to do so. Thanks again to Cecil Calhoun for suggesting this project.

CHS continues to maintain its top class reputation for academic excellence, having been named the number one public high school in the State of Georgia during the 2012-2013 school year. During the past decade, Columbus High School has consistently been ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top public schools in the United States, and has had more of its students receive scholarships to top universities throughout the country than almost any public school in the state of Georgia. During the past few years, more students from Columbus High School have attended MIT than from any other public school in Georgia.

A special activity at CHS for which all alumni can be proud is its Robotics Program, which has for several years worked with the robotics section at Ft. Benning and has competed successfully in international robotics competition. In 2013, the CHS team was recognized as one of the top achievers in a worldwide robotic competition and is expected to do even better this year. There is also another group of dedicated students at CHS who for several years have been associated with NASA in building and experimenting with space rockets under the guidance of an inspiring physics teacher, Luther Richardson.

I could not finish my last message as President of the Association without recognizing and thanking my assistant, Mary Ray, for all of her valuable support during these past four years and the many things she has done to help our Association and its leadership.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation for the privilege and honor of serving with so many enthusiastic and committed people in our efforts to make a positive impact on the lives of dedicated and bright young students who attend Columbus High, many of whom will become the future leaders in our community. My sincere thanks go to all of those who have given so generously of their time and efforts and financial support on behalf of our Association and to those special people for making my past four years as President so enjoyable and meaningful.

Go Devils!



Jim Walton and Ann Walton

News Worth Knowing



Frank Thomas '86

Our very own **Frank Thomas '86** has been selected to the Baseball Hall of Fame. From his early days in Peach Little League he was a stand out. His coach Jack Key knew he had potential for greatness, but

nothing like this. Over 18,000 people have played professional baseball, but less than one percent have been selected into the Hall of Fame.

Frank Baird, his Auburn Baseball Coach said, "He was the best baseball player Auburn ever had and I think Frank is the only player to reach the Hall of Fame from the Southeastern Conference."

Bobby Howard, his Columbus High School Coach said, "All the glory goes to Frank and well it should."

Frank Thomas wanted to be the best hitter in Major League Baseball and his record exemplifies it. He played 56 percent of his games as a designated hitter and is the first Hall of Famer to have played a majority of games at the designated hitter position.

Frank Thomas was inducted into the Georgia Hall of Fame on February 22, 2014. He has also been inducted into the state sports halls in Illinois and Alabama. He is to be inducted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY on July 27, 2014.

We've attained many heights in many areas over the years at Columbus High School, but none greater than our own Frank Thomas.

CHS Alumni Association, Inc. Leadership

Officers

President

Morton Harris '52

Vice Presidents

Cecil Calhoun '52

Ken Crumpler '61

Burton Hewitt '65

Vickie Logan Rounsaville '66

Judy Whitt

Treasurer

Jimmy Self '54

Assistant Treasurer

Michael Autry '74

Recording Secretary

Bianka Huling '07

Corresponding Secretary

Jean Kiralfy Kent '46

Trustees

Gene Abernathy '58

Lon Alexander '53

Ken Broda '87

Gloria Jones Dodds '62

Frank Etheridge '64

Onetha Huling '82

Emily Parker Myers '59

Josh Orlich '00

Lee Pierson '68

Tuesday Marvets

Pritchett '99

Carl Rhodes '04

Philip Schley '49

Bob Wadkins '63

Jimmy Walton '61

Robert Wilson '70

Advisory Board

Daniel Amos '69

Cathy Zimmerman

Bickerstaff '65

James Blanchard '59

Kathy Dykes Bruer '77

Nancy Sullivan Burgin '75

Betty Brinson Bush '53

Cecil Cheves '67

Gail Cohn '61

Margie Alexander Drury '59

Johnny H. Flakes, III '74

John Flournoy '58

J. Madden Hatcher, Jr. '55

Elizabeth D. Heard '53

A.J. Jain '82

Paul Kilpatrick '59

Pat Hill Lane '64

George M. McClusky Jr. '48

Heidt Neal '56

Betsy Butler Ramsay '61

Otis Scarborough '63

Charles Sheffield

Richard Saunders '67

Julie Lucas Strupe '75

Renee Sturkie

Joe Taylor '52

Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr. '64

Elinor Brandt Winn '57

Communication support provided by:
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omegafi.com

CHS Class Coordinators

1939 - Richard Hecht

1940 - Nell Turner Spettell

1944 - Hooper Turner

1946 - Erie Sue Buck

1947 - Ruth Cliatt Gilbert

1950 - Red McDaniel

1951 - Lorraine Jarrell

1952 - Cecil Calhoun

1953 - Betty B. Bush

1954 - Milton Jones

1955 - Bill Cliatt

1956 - Neil Heidt

1957 - Elinor B. Winn

1958 - Judy Boyce

1959 - Margie A. Drury

1960 - Alice Douglas

1961 - Ken Crumpler

1962 - Gloria Dodds

1964 - Pat Lane

1965 - Cathy Z. Bickerstaff/

Patty Taylor

1966 - Vickie L. Rounsaville

1967 - Lynda Brocato

1968 - Lee Pierson

1970 - Pat Batastini Jones

1971 - Perry Buck

1972 - Libby Housand

1973 - Phyllis Nix Johnson

1975 - Nancy S. Burgin/

Julie Strupe

1979 - Laurie Wolfe

1980 - Mark Magoni

1982 - Teresa Pope Young

1984 - Wendy Lewis

1985 - Traci Wilson

1987 - Christy B. Jones

1992 - Beth Wilheit Carlisle

1994 - Karen McNally White

2000 - Josh Orlich

We are missing several years and need your assistance. If you are interested in helping expand our database and gather contact information from your classmates, please contact **Gene Abernathy '58** at (706) 566-9522 or eaberthany2@earthlink.net.



CHS Alumni Association, Inc. #2072
PO Box 2187
Columbus, GA 31902-2187

Help us keep our records up-to-date! Edit your profile online at www.ColumbusHighAlumni.com or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to: CHS Alumni Association, Inc. #2072, PO Box 2187, Columbus, GA 31902.

Name _____

Graduation Year _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Class of 1964 50th Reunion - May 16-17

Friday, May 16

Casual dinner at Chattahoochee River Club, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 17

Light breakfast and student led tours of CHS, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Golf outing at Bull Creek, early afternoon tee time

Dinner and dancing at the Columbus Country Club, 7:00 p.m.

For more information: chsga64alumni@gmail.com



From left: Nancy Dodds Breedlove, Kirkland Clason Williams, Lamar Johnson and Gloria Jones Dodds

**Support the
Columbus High
Alumni Association**

www.ColumbusHighAlumni.com



Connect With Us

Email: chsalum@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CHSAlumniAssociation

Website: www.ColumbusHighAlumni.com



From left: From left: Joe Young, Billie Jennings and Mike Jennings



Ernie Pratt and Mary Pratt