



The ORANGE & BLUE

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. • FALL 2022

Our Commitment to Columbus High | Meet Your Board of Trustees

There are several reasons I have remained active in the CHS Alumni Association since a group of us got together in 2008 at the suggestion of Judy Whitt, the assistant principal at Columbus High. Attending activities at the school has brought back some



The new portrait of former CHS President Dr. John Deason.

great memories, given old friends a way to work together for the good of the current Blue Devils, and provided opportunities to make a difference. While attending the dedication of the refurbished auditorium to Morton Harris, who had led the association as it was being formed, I studied the portraits hanging in the front hall of former principals and Dean of Girls Miss Mary Alice Arnold. Looking around, I noticed that there was no portrait of Dr. John Deason, the principal during my years at Columbus High. I mentioned it to a group of alumni and got a positive response about correcting this omission.

After collecting some pictures from various annuals, conducting a successful fundraising campaign, and commissioning local artist Garry Pound to paint a portrait, the project came to fruition. A ceremony was held to dedicate the portrait, to which two of Dr. Deason's three children traveled from North Carolina to attend. They expressed pride and immense gratitude that his portrait has now joined the others in its rightful place in the halls of Columbus High School.

CHSAA exists because its members care about Columbus High—about their lasting memories and experiences as well as the continued success of its students. For this issue, we asked a few members of the board of trustees to share what CHS means to them. Rest assured, our alma mater is in good hands!

As always,
Gloria Jones Johnson '62

President
gloriadoddsjohnson@gmail.com



Onetha Huling '82

Member

"I am a proud 1982 graduate of Columbus High School. I am also a parent of two graduates and have many more family members who have graduated from this illustrious institution. I joined the board because I have extensive knowledge of the school and its programs. While my children were in school, I was a part of the PTSA, helped put together a scholarship booklet for the students, and was very involved in the organizations my children participated in. I believe in what the organization stands for and how it wishes to help the students who currently attend. In addition, I believe that our board should reflect the diverse population of the school, and I believe I bring diverse ideas (as well as background) to the committee. I love to represent our school and often help others with getting their children to apply and be prepared for their tests. I love our school and love everything that it represents."



Ken Broda '87

Member

"I have been on the board of trustees for nine years. One reason I wanted to be part of this organization is my personal and family history of involvement with CHS. I am a third-generation graduate and am currently finishing my 26th year of teaching at CHS. My family and I have been invested in CHS for generations. We have offered support in various ways over the years. Personally, I work every day to help the students and help make CHS the best possible school it can be. Hopefully, through working with the Alumni Association, I can continue to help CHS and its students even after my retirement."

Patricia Allen Weekley '66

Secretary

"Attending and graduating from Columbus High School was an honor and privilege. It was the college preparatory school when I graduated in 1966,



and today it ranks as one of the top 10 high schools in the nation. How awesome is that! I received a firm foundation for future educational endeavors as well as skills to live life. I currently serve on the executive board and board of trustees for the Alumni Association; what an honor to have a part in giving back to such a great institution! Go Blue Devils—we are, as always, Columbus High."

C. Burton Hewitt III '65

Treasurer

"In 2010, when **Ken Crumpler '61** asked me to join the CHS Alumni Association, I thought, 'Why not?' I had some time on my hands and had never really done any community service, and I thought it might be a good way to get out of the house. After all, CHS had been pretty good to me and my family. My dad graduated in 1938, my aunt in 1946, me and my two sisters in the 1960s and '70s, and my daughter in 2004. I married a CHS graduate, **Shirley Dodelin '64**. I felt CHS had given us a good education and prepped us for life in the real world. So why not give back? It can't be much work, I thought.



Boy, was I wrong. Getting involved with **Morton Harris '52**, Ken, and other great CHS alumni, seeing their passion and helping spread that passion, has been very exciting. We have raised money, judged senior projects, visited with freshmen, attended Christmas socials, volunteered for the CHS Shark Tank, learned what was going on, and supported the robotics team. We supported various other activities at CHS, gave scholarships in honor of Morton Harris (and in conjunction with several class reunions) and provided opportunities for alumni to meet and exchange ideas and experiences they had at CHS.

Thank you, CHS, for giving me and my family wonderful experiences and a great education. I am proud I can give back to CHS for all they have given me."

Keep CHSAA in Mind When Making Your Donations

The Columbus High Alumni Association depends on donations to further our mission of promoting loyalty, knowledge, and support of Columbus High, its programs, and its continued educational excellence.

As you consider your charitable donations, we hope you will include us in your plans. CHSAA is a 501(c)(3), so your gifts will be tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. **Donations of any amount are appreciated.**

Here's how you can donate to the CHSAA and be confident your donation goes to your desired the project/account. Please follow one of these two preferred methods to ensure your contribution is acknowledged, with tax letter sent, then placed in the proper place per your wishes.

1

Send a check directly to the Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley.

Make check payable to: Columbus High School Endowment Fund

Mail to:
Community Foundation of the
Chattahoochee Valley, Inc.
1340 13th Street
Columbus, GA 31901-2345

The funds will be deposited into the Endowment Fund managed by Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley, from which they distribute a grant annually to the CHSAA for their use for CHS.

The CFCV will provide letters of acknowledgement and year-end tax letters to these donors.

2

Send a check directly to the Columbus High School Alumni Association.

Make check payable to: CHSAA or Columbus High School Alumni Association

In the "for" or "memo" line in lower left of check, please note which bucket/project you would like your contribution to be credited.

Mail checks to:
Columbus High Alumni Association
c/o OmegaFi
P.O. Box 2187
Columbus, GA 31902

Currently, our projects are:

- Columbus High School Endowment Fund – managed by CFCV (same as #1 on the left).
- General Fund – projects as requested by CHS and/or approved by the Board of Trustees.
- Special Projects – in coordination with CHS administration or school-sponsored activities (powderpuff volleyball, bake sale, etc.).
- Lastly, we also have our Alumni Wall/Brick Project. The Board is in the process of locating contractors to build the wall and anticipates an update in early 2023. If you want to order a brick on the proposed alumni wall, please go to the website at ColumbusHighAlumni.com and click the "Donate" button to complete a brick form.

OmegaFi and Pennington & Company are our partners in fundraising, and they will provide letters of acknowledgement and year-end tax letters to donors.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

All-American Golfers *Three CHS Alumni Receive Honors*

Three Columbus High alumni earned Academic All-American golf honors in 2022. They are:

- **Ben Carr '18**, Georgia Southern, Div. I
- **Jonathan Parker '19**, Mercer, Div. I
- **Max Shephard '20**, Georgia College and State University, Div. II

To be eligible for a Srixon/Cleveland Golf All-America Scholar nomination, an individual must be a sophomore, junior, or senior both academically and athletically in NCAA Division I, II, III, and NAIA, or receiving their associate degree and in their last year of athletic eligibility in the NJCAA. In addition, they must participate in 50 percent of their team's competitive rounds, have a stroke average under 76.0 in NCAA Division I, under 78.0 in NCAA Division II, under 79.0 in NCAA Division III, under 78.0 in NAIA, and under 77.0 in NJCAA, and maintain a minimum cumulative career grade-point average of 3.2. A recipient must also be of high moral character and be in good standing at his college or university.

In all, 481 NCAA Division I athletes from 169 schools earned 2021-22 Srixon/Cleveland Golf All-America Scholar honors.

Ben Carr also made it to the finals of the U.S. Amateur.

We're proud of all these men!

BECOME A VOLUNTEER!

Do you have a little free time and an interest in helping current and future CHS students?

The Columbus High School Alumni Association needs volunteers for a variety of areas. If you are interested in being a CHSAA volunteer, please contact **Gloria Jones Johnson '62** at gloriadoddsjohnson@gmail.com.

CHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2022-23

President

Gloria Jones Johnson '62
gloriadoddsjohnson@gmail.com

Vice President

Johnny Luse '96
jluse21@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Burton Hewitt '65
burton.hewitt@gmail.com

Secretary

Patricia Allen Weekley '66
paw7540@att.net

Members

Ken Broda '87
Cecil Calhoun '52
Will Cliatt '80
Ken Crumpler '61 – Past President
Judye Harris '54
Onetha Huling '82
Vickie Rounsaville '66 – Alumni
Newsletter Coordinator
Joyce Walsh '65
Judy Whitt

CHS Class Coordinators

1952 - Cecil Calhoun

1954 - Milton Jones

1958 - Judy Boyce

1959 - Margie A. Drury

1960 - Alice Douglas

1961 - Ken Crumpler

1962 - Gloria Jones Johnson

1964 - Pat Lane

1965 - Cathy Z. Bickerstaff / Patty Taylor

1966 - Geraldine Self King

1967 - Lynda Brocato

1968 - Lee Pierson

1970 - Pat Batastini Jones

1971 - Susan Lippmann Batastini

1972 - Libby Housand

1973 - Phyllis Nix Johnson

1975 - Nancy S. Burgin

1976 - 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

If you are a coordinator for your class activities, please let us know by emailing **Gloria Jones Johnson '62** at gloriadoddsjohnson@gmail.com. We would like to know about upcoming reunions and other events.

CHS Students Compete in Robotics World Championship

The CHS robotics team participated in the FIRST Championship for robotics in Houston, Texas, on April 21-23. CHS finished in the semifinals, placing 190th in the world (out of about 3,000 teams).

The robot had technical issues we had not seen at any previous competition, but our pit crew never gave up. They had the robot back to near-100% by the last regular competition round, and our team was chosen for a finals alliance. Our alliance lost in the semifinals for our field, and the alliance that beat us came in second place in the world.

Going into this tournament, CHS was ranked second in **Georgia FIRST** out of nearly 70 teams; only 10 were invited to the World Championship. The team won the Columbus event held at CSU and was undefeated with a record of 21-0. No other team in the history of Georgia FIRST has gone undefeated at a District competition before our team. Although we wish we had gone farther, we're proud of the resilience of this team! Thank you to ALL the alumni who made this trip possible.

Sincerely,

Luther Richardson, Robotics Sponsor

FRC World Championship for Robotics



The CHS robotics team attends the FIRST Championship in Houston, Texas—
with the help of CHSAA!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Tell us what you're up to!

How have you lent a hand in your community lately? Do you have any career highlights or family updates you'd like to share with your fellow alumni? Do you know of a fellow alumnus/alumna who has an interesting story to tell, and would make a great feature article in a future edition of our newsletter? We want to know!

Share your story and it may appear in a future issue of the *Orange and Blue!*

Submissions can be sent to
Gloria Jones Johnson '62 at
gloriadoddsjohnson@gmail.com. with
"Columbus High Spotlight Suggestion"
in the subject line.

Now more than ever it's important to stay connected to our Columbus High alumni community. We hope you have a safe, healthy, and happy rest of the year.



CHS Alumni Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 442100
Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

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Columbus High School 2022 Rankings

Columbus High School is ranked #83 in the U.S. News National Rankings. Schools are ranked based on performance on state-required tests, graduation, and how well they prepare students for college.

(Read more about how U.S. News ranks the best high schools at tinyurl.com/HSNationalRankings.)

All Rankings

#83 in National Rankings

#2 in Georgia High Schools

Read more: tinyurl.com/WTVMCHS

#1 in Columbus Metro Area High Schools

#1 in Muscogee County Public Schools High Schools

CONNECT WITH US!

Email: chsalum@gmail.com

Facebook: facebook.com/CHSAlumniAssociation

Website: ColumbusHighAlumni.com

UPCOMING REUNION

Class of 1966

April 15, 2023

Organizer: **Geraldine Self King '66**

gking1104@yahoo.com

**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

