

# Mid-the-Hills

## Fall—2008 Newsletter

A publication of the Chillicothe Education Foundation and the Chillicothe High School Alumni Association  
www.chillicothealumni.com

### Alumni News

Two new CEF board members have been appointed, Joy Cox, class of 1960 and Carolyn Ault, class of 1961. Carolyn recently stepped down as Director of the Alumni Association and is being replaced by Jan Steele class of 1958. Linda Hill, class of 1969, is the new CEF Chairman. Other board members currently include Gary Seitz, Greg Smith, Matt Schmidt, Kay Hall and Ann Brenning (Treasurer). If you would like to serve on the board of trustees please contact Linda Hill at lshill@horizonview.net.

Bob Strausbaugh, class of 1933, is featured in an article on page two. And we wish to welcome Jon Saxton, a former Chillicothe student, as the new assistant superintendant for Chillicothe schools. His bio and letter of introduction appear on page four and a special message to alumni concerning the Chillicothe school systems goal of achieving excellence, written by Jon, is on page five.

### Chillicothe Education Foundation Financial Report

Ann Brenning, '58 Treasurer

As of October 31, 2008

Alumni Association General Fund	\$ 4,541.84
Paver Account Funds	4,960.98
Chillicothe Edu. Foundation Gen. Fund	3,608.00
Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund	\$379,909.00

### Send in Your Dues

Annual dues are currently not billed. Renewal of your alumni association membership is on the honor system. This saves us considerable expense in mailing dues statements; however, it means that we have to rely on your willingness to send in your dues along with any changes in your address, phone number or email. Please take time to send in your 2009 annual dues payment. We cannot operate without your support. Dues revenue pays the administrative costs of operating the alumni office and the expenses associated with the newsletter. If you are a life member because of your donation to the Library Fund, please consider making an annual donation.

### Alumni President's letter

Dear Class Mates:

There was a meeting of class representatives on October 28, 2008 and it was decided that it is too soon for another All Class Reunion. We are going to meet again in January 2009 and try to get some committees together to create "New Goals" for the Alumni Association. Anyone interested in being on a committee or wanting to share ideas please contact me and I will add you on the list to be contacted after the holidays.

Please do not forget bricks can still be purchased for the Alumni Wall. If your membership fees are due, we need your support; this is how we get the newsletter out to you. Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions you may have.

Toni Lewis Harris, Alumni Association President  
Class of 1968  
harrisrt@roadrunner.com  
740-772-4229

### 1947 Grad Honors Memory of Classmate

1947 graduate, Emery I. Reeves, recently sent a donation to the Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund in memory of his classmate John Street. In his correspondence he noted that John "represented the best of everything that was going on". Emery mentioned that he wanted to help finance scholarships because scholarships made it possible for him to attend college. He graduated from Yale in 1951 with a BE with high honor and from MIT in 1954 with an MS degree. While at Yale, he earned varsity letters in track and cross country.

Emery retired in 1985 from TRW as Vice President and General Manager, Spacecraft Engineering Division. Prior to his service at TRW, he was a Naval officer from 1955-1958. After retirement from TRW, he served as a professor of Space systems engineering at the Air Force Academy and was a consulting professor at Stanford University. In 2003 he was elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering for pioneering contributions to the design and development of spacecraft and ballistic missile attitude-control and navigation systems.



L-R, Supt. Roger Crago, Athletic Director Ray Bradley, Class of 1934 alum Bob Strausbaugh, Principal John Payne and Glenn Chester. Photo by Linda Byers Hill, Class of 1969.

### **Bob Strausbaugh, Class of 1933, Crosses the Goal Line one More time**

For 94 year old Bob Strausbaugh, CHS Class of 1933, crossing the goal line one more time was pretty high on his personal bucket list. Bob was a running back for the Chillicothe football team in the fall of 1932. His brother Jim (Class of 1936), who went on to star for the Ohio State Buckeyes, was the quarterback on that team and he was the guy handing the ball off to Bob when his number was called. According to Bob, he was married while in high school and in the huddle Jim would say “we’re going to let the old married man carry the ball this time”. Bob also related the story of how he had to quit his summer job early with the CCC out in the Dakota’s in order to get back to Chillicothe for “two-a-days”. He had taken the summer job with the Civilian Conservation Corp because there were no jobs in Chillicothe for high school kids during the depression, and being married, he needed to work. He said he only had enough money for bus fare as far as Chicago and from there he rode the rails the rest of the way home.

Bob is now a resident of Traditions and became acquainted with Glenn Chester, retired elementary principal in Chillicothe, while Glenn was visiting his mother-in-law also a resident at Traditions. Bob mentioned to Glenn that he played running back for Chillicothe High School in the 30’s, when the mascot name was the “Vikings”. He said it would be nice to carry the ball across the goal line one more time for Chillicothe. Glenn said, “You know Bob, I’ll bet that could be arranged.” Glenn took the subject up with superintendent Roger Crago who in-turn discussed it with Ray Bradley, AD, and Principal John Payne. Roger and Ray made a visit to Traditions and talked to Bob and a plan was set in motion for Bob to cross the goal line starting from the 20 yard line before the start of the Ironton game this past October. The school made arrangements for Bob to have a special Cavalier jersey and cap and after a visit to the locker room to meet the team and coaches, Bob appeared on the field and carried the ball, “one more time,” across the goal line. What a thrill for Bob and all fans of Cavalier football!

A special thanks to Glenn, Roger, Ray and John for giving Bob Strausbaugh the opportunity to carry the ball “one more time”.

## 2009 All Class Reunion Canceled

*Carolyn Ault, Class of 1964*

After the 2007 all-class reunion classmates were asking, “When is the next one?” Suggestions were made to have one in 2009, within two years.

The committee of class representatives decided to hold another all-class so soon for the following reasons: The classes ending in 4 and 9 had not had an all-class reunion on their anniversaries.

Having an all-class reunion on your anniversary makes it a little different. You don’t want classmates coming home twice if you pick a date other than the all-class date and you want to support the all-class. The 4 and 9 classes were the only ones not affected by the previous all-class reunions.

Second, 2009 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first graduating class to complete a four year course at the school. We thought celebrating 150 years of education for the high school would be a time to visit the new high school and middle school just completed in the last two years.

And another idea that was floating around and we wanted to help introduce was the talk of having a capital funds campaign to build a new athletic complex.

Those were the reasons to hold the reunion. But we did not have the manpower or enthusiasm to get these ideas off the ground. It was voted at the last class representative meeting on October 28 to not hold an all-class reunion in 2009.

The class representatives are looking for new direction and hope someone will step forward to volunteer to organize another class reunion in the near future. At this time no year has been set to hold another all-class reunion.

## Message for the Class of 1969 From Linda Byers Hill

I need to hear from you! Would you like for me to forge ahead with plans for a 40th reunion? If so, when and where? Help, please!! Thanks. Contact me at [lshill@horizonview.net](mailto:lshill@horizonview.net)

## CHS Yearbooks

The Alumni Association has a library of past yearbooks. Other locations that keep yearbooks are the CHS Library and Ross County Historical Society. We are missing a few years especially the early 80’s and 90’s. If you have extra yearbooks we would be glad to accept them. If you are looking to buy a yearbook or if you graduated in the late 90’s, we will sell the yearbooks if we have duplicates of them. The charge will be a membership in the Alumni Association.

Donations of yearbooks are very much appreciated. We use the yearbooks frequently to look for past alumni.

Contact the Alumni Office if you want information regarding a special year.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Roger Crago ‘63

Dear Fellow Alumnus,

Another school year is rapidly passing by. The Chillicothe City School District staff and students are working very hard to achieve an academic “Excellent” Rating on the State Report Card.

We have achieved an Effective Rating the passed several years but the staff and students feel there is always room for improvement.

The District and Board of Education not only feel that Excellence should be shown in our academic areas, but also in the areas of arts, vocal and instrumental music, technology, drama, vocational programs and athletics.

On the facility side the Board has discussed the Second Phase of our building project. The first phase included the additions and renovations of the High/Middle school – a 34 million dollar project. In order to move forward on Phase II we would have to pass a bond issue to fund the project.

As an alumnus, I hope you are proud of your Alma Mater. As it did in the past, it still continues to provide an opportunity for the best possible education.

But as in the past, it is people who make an organization function properly. Your support is always appreciated and hopefully will continue

Sincerely,

Roger W. Crago  
Superintendent

## **A Note to the Alumni Association**

*Jon Saxton, Chillicothe Schools Assistant*

After twenty five years away from the Chillicothe City School system, it has been my pleasure and honor to return to the system as your Assistant Superintendent. Some members of the Alumni Association may remember me as a student in the system as I attended Worthington, Smith Middle School, and Chillicothe High School from 1972-1983. I am the son of two Chillicothe Alumnae and am proud to return to the school that provided me with so many positive role models and instructors. Clearly, I have returned to the system in a much different era than when I left many years ago.

I thought I might share some observations with you as I attempt to reintroduce myself to you. When I left in 1983 Chillicothe City Schools was a much larger system than it is today. Accountability was different, the city's economy was different; it was a different time in so many ways. One thing that I can see that has stayed the same is the commitment to excellence within the district. It isn't hard for me to see that the teachers and administrators in the system are no less driven than they were when I left. In spite of mounting challenges our teachers are clearly committed to doing whatever it takes to be excellent. I am confident that good times lay ahead of us and with the help and support of the community I know that we can achieve unprecedented success.

After leaving Chillicothe, I graduated from Logan Elm High School and later Capital University with a Bachelor's Degree in Comprehensive Social Studies Education. I returned to Logan Elm where I taught for nine years and became an administrator ten years ago at Amanda-Clearcreek High School. With twenty years as an educator, one thing I can tell you that has not changed is the student. Kids are still kids and while many believe that "kids today are (fill in the blank)", it has been my observation that kids are the same as always. Granted the world is much different than ours was when we were their age, but for the most part kids still look up to their teachers and want to please the adults whom they know.

While the challenges in this era are great, so are the opportunities. I believe if we continue to focus our energy on student learning, and if we operate with high expectations, integrity and passion we can empower our students to be successful both in school and beyond.

Our board of education and administrators have made a commitment to excellence to continue to be the best district in the county. I know that as an Alumni association you too have made a commitment. I look forward to serving your organization and am thankful for all the contributions you have made, are currently making, and will make in the future. Go Cavs!

## **Class of 1958 Celebrates 50th**

*Submitted by Becky Leasure Detty*

Ninety-five classmates of the Chillicothe High School graduating class of 1958 shared memories, tall tales, laughter and life events at their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion the weekend of October 10-11. Friends and spouses swelled the gathering to one hundred seventy individuals. Two teachers, Max Baughman and Graham Thompson also attended. Committee chair, Sonja Crow Detty, and co chair, Peggy Falco Oyer, put together an enthusiastic complement of classmates who raised money through yard sales, bake sales, sales of refreshments at the Gus Macker, raffles, Cavalier ornament sales, '58 DAY at Buffalo Wild Wings and donations to fund the once-in-a-lifetime celebration.

Classmate Gene Bryan used his close association with Phil Dirt and the Dozers to provide a Saturday night entertainment that had the crowd on their feet twisting the night away as their favorite band played that special music for which they are noted.

Larry Lump, assisted by Barbara Goshorn Pocock, created a book featuring each class member as they appeared in 1958. Many sent current pictures and updates of their lives which were included. Larry also put together a video in memory of members who are deceased.

Mementos were provided by artist, John Wilson in the form of mouse pads with John's original painting of the building from which the class graduated, now known as Smith Middle School. Centerpieces were original framed art by artist and classmate, Joan Ebenhack Foster.

The two-night golden jubilee was the result of five years of planning. Each one who attended was delighted and grateful for the opportunity and anticipates the next reunion eagerly.

## Towards Excellence in the Chillicothe City Schools System

*Jon Saxton, Asst. Supt., Chillicothe Schools*

*The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn.*

*Alvin Toffler*

One doesn't need the State Report Card system to identify the Chillicothe City School system as an "excellent" district. It is our goal however, to validate what many of us have known for years, by achieving an excellent rating on the next state report card. The expectation is for our district to establish a methodology for achieving this rating and to maintain excellence in the years to come.

At the September 22 Board Meeting a plan was described that is expected to lead to this desired outcome. For the past ten years the Ohio Department of Education has given ratings to Ohio's schools to measure them against state standards and other schools. The ratings range from Academic Emergency to Excellent. The past several report cards have indicated that Chillicothe is an "Effective" district, one level below the "Excellent" rating. The Chillicothe Board of Education has made it clear that the expectation is for us to achieve an "Excellent" rating as our excellent children deserve excellent schools.

The entire plan can be summarized in 4 C's: Commitment, Consistency, Communication, and Collaboration. The administrative team members have shared their goals with the board and are in the process of implementing the changes. The thinking among the board and administration is if we do what we've always done, we'll get what we've always gotten. Our focus this year is on trying new strategies that will bring success.

Specifically the plan calls for the following actions steps to be taken by building principals and staff members:

1. Common Planning – Build Collegial Relationships in Buildings – plan vertically & horizontally (regular Grade & Dept. Meetings)
2. Targeted Intervention for At-Risk pupils and progress monitoring
3. Raise Expectations for ourselves and our students
4. Utilize Technology Better
5. Establish & Maintain appropriate school environments

These specific strategies are aligned with our Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) and will be measured throughout the school year. It is our hope that these strategies, quite simplistic in nature, will result in higher achievement and an Excellent report card rating.

With the opening of school in 2008-2009 there is a renewed energy in the Chillicothe City Schools. We know what areas we must improve in to achieve an excellent rating. Intervention programs, new technology applications, and a focus on improved instruction are earmarks of these efforts. It is critical for building administrators and teachers to have the support of parents in order to achieve our goals. Improvements to the school's website and an automated calling system have been installed in an attempt to increase communication between school and home. Teachers now utilize an electronic gradebook program known as ProgressBook which allows parents to keep tabs on how their child is doing in school.

Clearly the 4 C's will light the path to Excellence for the Chillicothe City Schools. By building on our storied traditions and focusing on innovative new strategies and programs, it is our belief that we can achieve this goal. Should any Alumni ever wish to become involved in supporting our efforts with donations of time, resources, or funds, you are welcome and encouraged to contact Jon Saxton, Assistant Superintendent.

Jon Saxton, Assistant Superintendent  
235 Cherry Street  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601  
jsaxton@mail.gsn.k12.oh.us

## Alumni Author's Corner

Have you written a book of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, historical, biographical or etc.? If so, we'd like to include it in the Alumni Author's Corner at the CHS Alumni Library. A special bookcase and a plaque identify the Author's Corner. Over twenty alumni authors have sent us copies of their books that they have published. The Alumni Association continues to accept gifts from alumni authors. We ask you to autograph the inside front cover and include your class year. You can mail the books to the CHS Alumni Office, 421 Yoctangee Pkwy., Chillicothe, OH 45601.

**MEMORIALS FROM June 2008 to November 2008**

Contributions by LaVersa Motes and Carolyn Ault

**Class of 1933**

Evelyn Wells Eisnaugle Squire, died 6-24-2008.

**Class of 1933**

Leah Schreiber Van Gundy, died 9-14-2008

**Class of 1934**

Mary E. Bierley, died 10/11/2008

**Class of 1935**

Judith Ebenhack Van Schaick, died 7/21/2008

**Class of 1936**

Elmer N. McCarty, died 5/31/2008

**Class of 1938**

Marion Ousley Covel, died 02/2002

**Class of 1941**

William Henson, died 5/22/2008

**Class of 1942**

Bonnie Royer Wolf, died 11/07/2008

**Class of 1944**

Charles Crowe, died 11/15/2008

Marvin H. Kyer, died 7/03/2008

**Class of 1946**

Kathleen Terflinger Weiderman, died 5/22/2008

**Class of 1947**

Marilyn Rinehart Grubb 09/03/2008

Robert W. Tuvell, died 08/13/2008

Mary Ann Bohn Bailey, died 5/20/2008

Virginia Clark Jenkins Riley, died 11/2008

**Class of 1950**

Donald E. Bowman, died 10/14/2008

Kenneth Hines, died 3/18/2008

Dolores Dennis Frey, died 9/05/2008

**Class of 1951**

Robert Drummond, died 2/17/2008

Ron L. Brown, died 6/10/2008

**Class of 1952**

Juanita Robbins Longbrake, 07/28/2008

**Class of 1955**

Carolyn Brown Groves

Sharon Brooks Kellogg

David "Beanie" Weiderman, died 07/27/2008

**Class of 1958**

Winnie Hill Oakes, died 08/13, 2008

Howard O'Dell, died 11/29/2008

**Class of 1960**

David G. Mischal, died 7/07/2008

**Class of 1961**

Donald E. Haubeil, died 10/23/2008

Harold N. Ward, died 10/27/3008

**Class of 1962**

Dixie Lee Landrum Polen, died 7/04/2008

**Class of 1964**

**Class of 1970**

Gary McCleese, died 6/15/2008

**Class of 1974**

Jeffrey Castle, died 6/07/2008

**Class of 1977**

James S. Strawser, died 6/25/2008

**Teachers and Friends**

Clayton Steen, retired drama teacher, died 5/06/2008

Joyce Leach, died 07/10/2008

Ruth Minshall, died 08/12/2008

Shirley Formm Hayhow, died 10/10/2008

**Distinguished Alumni in the News**

**Dr. Carl Alexander, Class of 1946** - Carl was featured in a Columbus Dispatch article on October 8, 2008. After five decades of working on spaceships, nuclear fuels and such, the Battelle scientist says he'll retire — in a couple of years. Carl, 79, is chief scientist for Battelle's National Security Division. He has developed nuclear fuels and found the best ways to use and store them. He has helped create technology used on spaceships and has built flares that jets use to throw off heat-seeking missiles. Almost every spaceship NASA has launched since the 1970s carries a nuclear heating system that Alexander helped design. He is currently investigating ways to neutralize the effects of weapons of mass destruction, including missiles that carry chemical or biological warheads.

Carl was inducted as a CHS distinguished grad in 2007. After CHS he received both his bachelors and masters from Ohio U. and his PhD from OSU. He joined Battelle following a stint in the Navy. He also taught at OSU.

**Susan Quinn Jacobs, Class of 1958** - Distinguished alum Susan Quinn Jacobs (class of 1958) has published another book, "Furious Improvisation". The book, which took four years to research and write and was released in July 2008, is the story of how the WPA and a cast of thousands made high art out of the desperate times of the great depression.

This is Susan's fifth book. She graduated from Oberlin College and began her career as a newspaper reporter for a suburban Cleveland daily. In 1967 she published her first book, a nonfiction account of the making of a Broadway play called *On Stage*. She has written articles for numerous magazines and received many awards for her biographies and non-fiction books. In 2000 she was honored with a Doctorate of humane Letters by the University of Wisconsin at Stout. She is married to Daniel Jacobs, has two children and four grandchildren and is a resident of Brookline, MA.

2009 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership dues help publish and mail the newsletter and cover other office expenses. Will you please join by completing the application and forwarding to your Alumni Association? We need your help.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS YEAR \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST MIDDLE LAST Maiden Name  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
WEB SITE \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

Individual - \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Blue & White \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Cavalier - \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CHILLICOTHE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Send to CHILLICOTHE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
421 YOCTANGEE PKWY  
CHILLICOTHE, OH 45601

ALUMNI DATABASE

We would like to build our database by having more selections to access if the interest arises such as alumni band, cheerleaders, football players, track members, etc. Please fill out the following PERSONAL INFORMATION SHEET and **RETURN WITH YOUR DUES**. You can copy the form and pass on to other alumni that might not receive the newsletter.

If you participated in any extracurricular activities not listed PLEASE add them.

MEN'S  Football  Basketball  Golf WOMEN'S  Basketball  Tennis  Soccer  Softball  
 Tennis  Soccer  Track  Track  Volleyball  Cross Country  
 Cross Country  Wrestling  Baseball  Cheerleader  Homecoming Queen/Court  
 Cavalettes  
CO-ED:  Choir  Glee Club  Band  Orchestra  Drama  Revue  Cavalites  
 Nat'l Honor Society  Language Club  Club \_\_\_\_\_  Hi-Y  Tri-hi-Y  AFS  
 Journalism, year book, newspaper  Other \_\_\_\_\_

CHILLICOTHE CONTACT PERSON (PARENT, SIBLING, RELATION, NEIGHBOR) WHO WILL KNOW YOUR WHEREABOUTS FOR CORRECT ADDRESS CONFIRMATION.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ RELATION \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

# MID THE HILLS

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**FALL**  
**November 2008**

## ANNIVERSARY REUNIONS FOR 2009

Please send us your class reunion information to publish in the next issue of Mid-the-Hills and to place on the alumni web site. You may send the information to the alumni office at the high school or email at the address below.

The Alumni Office has a database of all class representatives. If you need a contact person for other years, contact the Alumni Office or [harrisrt@roadrunner.com](mailto:harrisrt@roadrunner.com).

**CONNECT TO THE WEB PAGE** – [www.chillicothealumni.com](http://www.chillicothealumni.com) -**FOR UPDATES ON YOUR REUNION.**  
As plans are made and finalized for your Class Reunion, it will be posted on our web site.

**Send reunion information to us at [contactus@chillicothealumni.com](mailto:contactus@chillicothealumni.com)**

**Jan Brown Steele**  
**CHS Alumni Director**