



# ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL Alumni Association

P.O. Box 152578 • Arlington, Texas 76015  
www.ahscolts-alumni.org



Volume 21, Issue 2

Spring 2017

## SAVE THE DATE

**THE 20TH ANNUAL ALUMNI OPEN HOUSE**  
**Saturday • June 10, 9:00 - 12:00 • AHS Cafeteria**

- **Parking Available at Mosaic Church across Park Row**
- **Curbside dropoff in front of AHS**
- **Special Guests: the Golden Anniversary Class of 1967**
- **2017 Distinguished Colt Alumni • 2017 Alumni Scholars**
- **Alumni Choir • Special Guest Conductor • Alumni Band**
- **Reunions for '57, '62, '72 • You and Your friends**
- **MAC\* open for touring at noon**

\* See Page 3

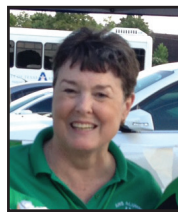
## Spotlight On...

Two of our longest serving Board members agreed to answer these questions: What activities interested you at AHS? What made you want to serve on the Board? What are the differences and/or similarities between alumni from the older and the younger classes? What challenges the Association going forward?



**P**aul Swartz, '59, shown here with his able assistant and spouse Betty, says "Key Club was most important for me because Coach Malone took me under his wing and helped me realize the importance of being involved and helping others. This has helped me all through my life. Volunteering is what I still do—AHS Alumni, Lions Club, veterans organizations. With the call to help start an alumni group for AHS, I raised my hand. More than 16 years later, what a great feeling it is to have been a part of our unbelievable accomplishments. The younger classes are busy making a living and raising kids. Someday they will realize the spirit, pride, tradition of Arlington High has informed their lives. We are ready to involve those younger alumni in our Association, by

increasing our membership and bringing them into the leadership fold. They will be ready to raise funds for scholarships and support AHS teachers as they uphold high standards at AHS. And just in case you have forgotten: *HOW SWEET IT IS TO BE IN COLT COUNTRY!*"



**S**harron Chapman Merrill, '61, says "I got hooked on music as a grade school kid at West Side (now Swift) when Miss Ellis and the Choraliers performed there and grabbed me big time. They had so much fun I couldn't wait to get to high school hoping I would be good enough to sing with them. After I made it for my junior year, my dad was transferred to the nowhere town of Midland. At "that other school," since no one wanted to accompany

continued on page 2

## Milestones

**Passings:** Gary Cartwright, '51, February...LaNeda Anne Burch Walker, '53, February...Jo Ann McQueany Hart, '54, February...John Dickerson, '59, November 2016...Jean Swafford Galbreath, '59, February...Golden Keyes Parsons, '59, February...Brad Nelson, '62, February...Bob Patrick, '62, February...Bobby Ray Davis, '64, March...Nancy Kay Thompson Maxie, '65, February...Perry Seeley, '65, February...Chris Campbell, '67, April...Brad Rogers, '76, March...Marilyn Davis Baker-Russell, '80, March...Arnold Heibert, '80, February...Pete Howell, '80, February...Jennifer Brown Lemin, '99, March...Clayton Winkles, '17, March...(all dates 2017 unless noted)

**Congratulations:** Joe Gordon, '92, has left the Colt Football coaching staff to take the head coach position at AISD's Seguin High School ...Karen Bailey Meacham, '90, on schedule to graduate in 2018 from Texas Women's University with double majors in nutrition and English (and a possible third major in chemistry) has been named president-elect of the Texas Universities Nutrition Association...Duff Elementary and Arlington High School received grants for innovative curriculum from the Arlington ISD Education Foundation. Grants are named for donors who make significant contributions to the Foundation's grant program.



**Hurrah for Duff Elementary** which was awarded the **Arlington High School Alumni Association** grant this year. Our Association's annual gift to the

AISD Education Foundation is earmarked for grants to teacher's from AHS or its feeder schools. All students at Duff are future Colts.

- Name of Grant: High Techy Makey-Makey
- Description: The Duff Library Program expands this semester to include a makerspace.
- Amount of Grant: \$2,527
- Teacher: Stacie Farr
- Principal: **Cindy Bowman Harbison, '86**

**Arlington High School** received its grant from Reliable Paving. We appreciate all donors who fund grants at AHS.



- Name of Grant: Individualized Math Practice That Feels Like Play!
- Description: Students gain access to IXL—an immersive, online learning experience which provides comprehensive, standards-aligned content for math practice.
- Amount of Grant: \$5,400
- Teacher: Elise Morris
- Principal: Shaveer Dhalla

Pictured with teachers and principals are AHS Alumni Board and AISD Education Foundation Board members.

## Spotlight On...

(continued from page 1)

the choir, I got the job. I could sight read, but I never worked so hard in my life at playing piano! The love of music continues for me with playing handbells and singing in my church choir. I wanted to serve on the Board because I was asked and I have a problem saying no! Kids today are so aware of the world in general. My generation usually didn't have jobs. We were a cohesive bunch of friends just concerned with passing classes, having a little fun, and not so terribly worried about what we would do in the future. I see many Colts of today who are as

tight as friends were in my day. The Association needs to bring in more of those 'youngsters' who graduated in the '70s and '80s! Since some of our board members are in their senior years, we need younger Colts to carry on this organization. Our challenge is to spread our membership roster throughout all classes. We want to keep giving more scholarships and greater support to the faculty and staff to keep the traditions of AHS going. I may not have actually graduated from AHS, but my uncles, aunts, mother and children did. I'm only sorry none of my grands or great-grands are here to attend *my* school."



## The MAC (Multi-Purpose Activity Center)



- AISD built a MAC on all six of its high school campuses.
- Thank you, AISD and the citizens of Arlington
- Luke Joeckel, '10, donated money for wooden lockers
- Used by all outdoor athletics, cheerleading, Colt Band
- Weight room large enough for 200 football players at one time
- Coaches' offices, team room for meetings and study hall
- Cold Tub for treatment
- Dividers dropped from ceiling can accommodate three sports practicing at once
- Indoor field of 70 yards
- Open for touring, June 10



## Arlington High Fun Facts

- Arlington High School, corner of Cooper and Abram, opened 1923 separating from South Side
- Former colors: black/gold
- Former mascot: Yellowjackets
- March 23, 1923, student body chose new colors: green/white
- New mascot: Colts
- History teacher Miss Cravens told her class to always remember the day these decisions were made because they were more important than the War of 1812.
- As told by **Bill Bardin, '24**

A real live **Little Arlie**—given to AHS by the late **Tom Vandergriff, '43**—debuted in 1950—shown at left, with trainers **Hugh Ross, '51**, **Bobby Burnett, '51**, and **Dave Hurn, '53**. A naming contest was won by **Reba Davis Walker, '53**. The prize? \$10.00! A live mascot thrilled the fans for years as he and his trainers led the Colts on to the field. Once artificial turf was installed on the field, the hoofs of the living **Little Arlie** were no longer allowed. This led to the two-legged **Little Arlie** we have today.



Thank you, **Jannette Workman, '54**, for the fun facts and photo on the Arlie story.



## Membership

## MEMORIAL MEMBERSHIPS

Tye Barnett, '64, by Dianne Key Barnett  
 Flora Havins Becknal, '49 } by Gaye Becknal Wilson  
 Paul Becknal, '69 }  
 Gary Cartwright, '51, by Charles Robinson  
 Donny Coker, '64  
 Dwight Coker, '69 } by Ron Coker  
 Sharon Moore Godwin, '63 }  
 Roy Patridge, '63 }

## Welcome, New Members

\*Jerri Puryear Bartos, '77 Cheryl Henson Ribble, '63  
 Debbie Crenshaw, '71 \*Kathie Seale, '62  
 \*Randy & Susan Heard Mack, '63/'63

## Donations

Scholarship Fund: David & Marci Agee  
 General Fund: Joe Henderson, Lorie Hightower White,  
 Gene & Maudie Lam, Gary & Juanice Young

## MEMBERSHIP POP QUIZ

- Which class has the most members of the Alumni Association?
- How many of that class have joined?
- Which class from the 1940s forward has zero members in the Association?
- Which class having its reunion this summer has the most members? (Hint: see page 7)
- How can Life Members increase their class roster in the Association?

## ANSWERS

- the class roster forever.
- \*A \$35 gift in memory places a person's name on Membership\*
- Ask classmates to join/Nag/Give a Memorial
- 1962
- member of the Association
- Zero! 1938 is the "youngest" class without a
- 118
- 1963



## AHS Alumni Association New Member Form

S2017

Join online at: [www.ahscolts-alumni.org](http://www.ahscolts-alumni.org)

SCHOLARSHIP FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_ GENERAL FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERSHIP FEES \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## ANNUAL

Individual = \$25 with \$15 annual renewal

Household = \$35 with \$15 annual renewal

## LIFE

Individual = \$125 paid once

Household = \$175 paid once

## MEMORIAL FOR DECEASED

\$35 paid once

Payable To: AHS ALUMNI \* P.O. Box 152578 \* Arlington, Texas 76015 \* 817.879.7162 \* [ahs\\_alumni@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ahs_alumni@sbcglobal.net)Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (FIRST) (LAST) (MAIDEN)Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (STREET)\_\_\_\_\_  
 (CITY) (STATE) (ZIP) (PHONE)E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Form of Payment: ☐ CASH ☐ CHECKCheck your preference: ☐ Newsletter by U.S. Mail ☐ by email notification

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Membership \$35: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (one time only fee for deceased classmate) (NAME) (CLASS)



## \$\$ Money Matters \$\$

### AHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2017 Budget

#### RECEIPTS

Membership fees	\$ 7,500
Contributions	7,500
Product Sales	1,750
Interest Income	10
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$16,760</b>

#### DISBURSEMENTS

Gifts to organizations	\$ 3,200
Newsletter/Printing	3,200
Office supplies and postage	850
Special events	3,500
Product costs	1,000
Scholarships	5,000
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$16,750</b>

Since the Alumni Association's founding in 1996, our members have supported Arlington High School. By the end of this school year with the awarding of five 2017 scholarships, we will have give over **\$129,000.00\*** to the students and staff of Arlington High School. Take a look and **BE PROUD!**

*\*Amounts are approximations*

71 scholarships =  
**\$70,200**



Education  
Foundation grants =  
**\$34,000**

Teacher Support =  
**\$10,000**



Association Operations/Events  
Alumni Open House, Homecoming Tailgate, Distinguished Colt Alumni, Alumni Choir, Alumni Band, July 4th Parade

Code Green, PTA, Booster Clubs, various gifts =  
**\$15,575**



## Alumni Scholar Update ~ Brittany, Lauren, Ashley, Cynthia



**D**ear Fellow AHS Alumni,  
I graduated Cum Laude from the University of North Texas with an anthropology degree and minors in both chemistry and biology. During my time at UNT, I joined Kappa Delta and served as Panhellenic President. Upon graduation, I was recognized as a Distinguished Honors Student and President of the Year.

I have completed a fellowship with Teach For America, and I have been involved in raising both awareness and funds for multiple causes like the Children's Miracle Network and Prevent Child Abuse America.

Currently, I am enjoying my first year as a law student at the University of Houston Law Center. This summer I plan to work and complete a judicial internship in the Houston area. Whether it's conducting legal research, writing memos, or meeting with clients, many of the skills and values I have today are founded upon the lessons I learned at Arlington High School. No matter the distance or the time, I will never forget my time as an AHS Colt or the meaning of *Spirit, Pride, Tradition*.

Best,

*Brittany Lok, AHS 2012*

**L**auren Beard, '15, on her early semesters of college, tells us, "I feel I was prepared because the teachers at AHS told us what they expected of us and did not let us cut any corners. I had to work hard in high school to excel, and I have to do the same now at the University of Texas."

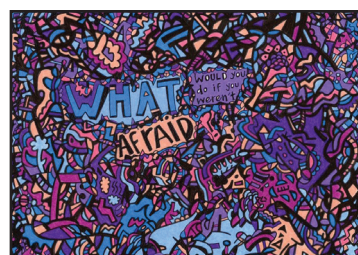
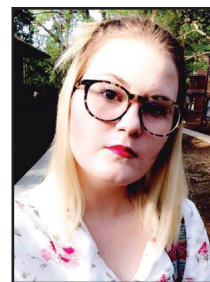


"My biggest piece of advice for the AHS Class of 2017 would be to do what makes you happy. I was on the volleyball team at UT for two years, but I realized my happiness was suffering from stress. I made a change and am so glad I did because now I get to experience more of what UT has to offer. Another piece of advice that I have for the Class of 2017 is to never lose sight of your ultimate goal. For everyone it's different, and it can change, but a lot of things can cause you to doubt yourself. Always remember what makes you—you—and what you are working toward."

"I have changed my major. Entering my freshman year I was a Radio-Television-Film major and a Spanish minor. I wanted to go into sports broadcasting. However, after my first semester of college, I realized that just was not the route I wanted to go anymore. I changed my major to government and am still keeping the Spanish minor. After undergrad I plan to go to law school. Right now I am an

intern for House Representative Matt Krause of the Texas Legislature. It has been a great opportunity. I am looking forward to seeing where this experience takes me."

**A**shley Lewis, '11, told our readers in the Fall 2011 newsletter that she would major in criminal justice, advertising, theater or "something new I discover." Well, she discovered something new. Four and half years later she graduated from Oklahoma University with a degree in Human Relations. Today she is a case manager for Child and Family services in Norman. "Basically I work with struggling families and help connect them



to resources. I am also an artist and have had a few art shows in my area." Here is one of Ashley's paintings. Congratulations, Ashley, on your graduation, your career and your art!

**Cynthia Thorne, '12**, writes, I graduated last May from Oklahoma City University with a degree in dance performance. This past summer I worked and danced for Fort Worth Ballet Concerto, as well as at the Mary Kay National Seminar. In September, I received a contract

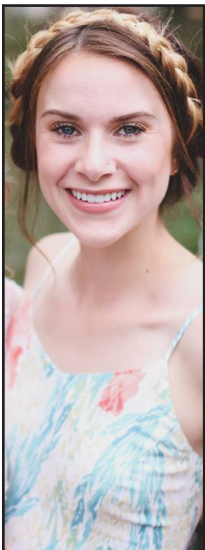


## Reunions

- Class of 1957 (37)** · June 9 & 10 · Friday: Candlelight Inn · Saturday: Alumni Open House · **Paula Richey Crossman**, [crossman6@yahoo.com](mailto:crossman6@yahoo.com) · **Robert Miles**, 682.712.3888 · **Martin Ross**, 817.586.6167
- Class of 1962 (89)** · June 10 · Alumni Open House · Evening at The White Room · **Bonnie Beebe Watkins**, [gore25@tx.rr.com](mailto:gore25@tx.rr.com), 817.994.6186, 817.261.2439
- Class of 1967 (51)** · June 9 & 10 · Reunited and It Feels So Good—50 years later! · Friday: JGilligans, 7:00pm · Saturday: Open House · Shady Valley, 6:30pm · Neta Morse, 817.312.2629
- Class of 1972 (19)** · June 10 · Gilligans Brew House, 4:00 - 8:00pm · Other classes are welcome to join in · **Patti Noyes Jones** on Facebook or [patti.n.jones@gmail.com](mailto:patti.n.jones@gmail.com)
- Class of 1977 (9)** · Had their 40th in April
- Class of 1982 (7)** · No information on reunion plans
- Class of 1987 (8)** · To Be Determined
- Class of 1992 (6)** · No 25th, but planning underway for the 30th in 2022! · Facebook group: [arlington high school class of 1992 \(arlington, texas\)](#)
- Class of 1997 (5)** · Probably September 15 (Homecoming) & 16 · Facebook: **AHS Class of 1997 (Arlington, TX)** · [www.AHS97Reunion.com](http://www.AHS97Reunion.com)
- Class of 2002 (8)** · No information on reunion plans
- Class of 2007 (2)** · September 15 & 16

**All reunion groups attending Open House will have reserved seating near the podium. Numbers in parenthesis indicate how many in the class support Arlington High School through its Alumni Association. The Association says “Thank You” and hopes you encourage more of your classmates to join our efforts. If every reunion group added 10 more members...**

to go on tour with *Disney Live!*—an exciting stage show which visits many popular Disney stories. I portray Cinderella and Jessie the Cowgirl. We did a national tour September - December touring the entire east coast. Currently, we are almost two months into the first leg of our Japan tour!” Cynthia appears here in character.



**YOUR** membership, **YOUR** gifts, **YOUR** bringing friends into the Alumni Association have benefitted these four successful young women and the other 61 recipients of our Alumni scholarships from 2003 through 2016. The more members we have the more students we help.

## COLTS ROUND-UP 2017

To see who and how many of your class have joined the herd of loyal Colts in the Arlington High School Alumni Association, go to [www.ahscolts-alumni.org](http://www.ahscolts-alumni.org). Click on Membership Roster and scroll down to your class. What would it take to lengthen your list? A contact from you? A gift membership for a friend? A memorial membership for one you want to remember? You can join online or use the New Member form on page 4. Mail it along with your check to:

AHS Alumni · PO Box 152578 · Arlington, TX 76015

### DECADE LEADERS

Class of 1948 · Class of 1959 · Class of 1963 ·  
Class of 1974 · Class of 1981 · Class of 1990 and 1995  
· Class of 2001 · Class of 2016

*What are you waiting for?  
Join now for yourself or for a friend.*

## Class of 1977 ~ 40th Reunion

Shady Valley

April 22, 2017



Back Row: **Kathy Graves Coffee, Amy Gnadt, Annie French Glasgow, Kim Carter Murphy, Cathy Spivy Molsberry**  
Front Row: **Georgann Johnston Price, Kimberley Kay Menge Wright, Isabelle Priddy, Lisa Garrett Sledge**

### Alumni Association Board of Directors

#### OFFICERS

President: Debbie Koehl Ericson, '68  
Vice-President: Blake Wade, '06  
Secretary: Bonnie Beebe Watkins, '62  
Treasurer: Verne Hargrave, '68

#### CHAIRPERSONS

Membership: Sharron Chapman Merrill, '61  
Corresponding Secretary: Karen Giorgio Logos, '68  
Webmaster: Mac Martin, '61  
Social Media: Heather McMillen, '90  
Reunions: **We are recruiting for this position!**

Product Sales: Paul Swartz, '59  
Assistant: Linda Garner Gipson, '61  
Distinguished Colts: Jerrell Womble, '71  
Special Events: Erin Hawkes Chaney, '64  
Newsletter: Michelle Barlen, CBC  
Editor: Cathy Bontley Brown, '63  
Scholarship: Peggy Martin, '66  
July 4th Parade: Kathy Einhaus, '68  
Archives: Leslie Cox Recine, '81  
Alumni Band: Tanya Terrell-Weidemann, '81  
Member-at-large: Mike Enger, '74  
Past President: Ana Pettit, '74

The AHS Alumni Association thanks **Doris Collard Whitlock, '59**, for faithfully serving since 2011 as Reunion Representative.

Fundraiser at Chop House in April.



**Blake** (in coat and tie) with **Debbie** on his right visit AHS Student Council. Debbie reports, "Such a fun visit. We talked about our days at AHS; how we still support our school through the Alumni Association; what the Association has to offer them as members. We had them look through yearbooks to identify the changes over the years, as well as the traditions which have remained unchanged."

