



# ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL Alumni Association

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



Volume 22 Issue 2

Spring 2018

**21ST ANNUAL ALUMNI OPEN HOUSE • SATURDAY, JUNE 9 •**  
DOORS OPEN AT 9AM • PROGRAM 10 - NOON •  
AHS CAFETERIA • PARKING AT MOSAIC CHURCH ACROSS PARK ROW •  
CURBSIDE DROPOFF IN FRONT •  
SPECIAL GUESTS: REUNION CLASSES • DISTINGUISHED COLT ALUMNI •  
ALUMNI SCHOLARS • ALUMNI CHOIR • ALUMNI BAND • ALUMNI PRODUCTS  
YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS

## *From Our President*



**S**pringtime Greetings to all!  
It has been a busy and exciting year so far for your Alumni Association. I want to share this excitement so hold on to your spring hats and let's get started!

In January, we received from a Texas based foundation a donation for the sum of \$10,000. Yes, that is what I said! The news just blew our minds!!

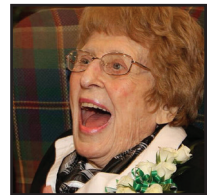
Never before have we received a single donation of this size. Both the foundation and the AHS alum who facilitated the gift wish to remain anonymous. What we do know is the donation honors the **Class of 1963** in recognition of its leadership in supporting the activities of our Association. The Class of '63 has more members of the Association than any other class at 119. In addition, our founder and current newsletter editor **Cathy Bontley Brown** claims '63 as hers. The donor foundation gives to a variety of qualified charitable and service organizations. One of its primary focus areas has always been education. It has provided funding for scholarship programs, dual college credit programs, facilities and technology enhancements for the benefit of numerous schools and students in Texas. For us, this affirms that the scholarship program we have sustained for 15 years is worthy of this generous recognition. What an honor and sense of pride to know that very fact!

The size of this donation allows us to increase each stipend to \$1,250 and to fund eight scholarships this year—more than we have ever awarded in a single year. Needless to say, Principal Dhalla, the teachers, and the seniors were thrilled with the news. **Peggy Wood Martin** and her committee of counselors created quite a buzz for the Class of 2018 when these numbers were publicized. Our ROTC scholarship, funded by the Nation

family and given in memory of Captain William H. Nation, will also be raised to \$1,250.

At the Awards Assembly in May and at Open House in June, we will announce our winners. In addition to the Cathy Bontley Brown scholarship, our other named scholarship will honor **Ms. Jane Ellis**. Hope you will make plans to attend Open House to share in our excitement!

In case you have been living under a rock (just kidding), Ms. Ellis' 100th birthday party was January 21, 2018. I arrived a few minutes before the start time. The receiving line was already winding out the door! This continued for the whole length of the three hour event. (I worried about the flu bug exchange in the packed house, too, since I am a microbiologist by trade.) For more details, go to [www.ahscolts-alumni.org](http://www.ahscolts-alumni.org) and click on the Winter 2018 newsletter. It was absolutely remarkable and understandably so considering whose 100th birthday we were celebrating. Our own Erin Chaney headed up the event with the help of many. What a great job they did!



Thanks to Ms. Ellis, we had roughly 16,000 "likes" on our Facebook post announcing her event. All those folks are now aware we have a Facebook page. You can help increase our

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presence on Facebook by “liking” and “sharing” our posts. The more people we reach, the more will come to know us and our mission. How wonderful it would be if just 10% of Jane’s “likes” would join us as new members!

Next, let’s talk Constant Contact. Special thanks to **Sharron Chapman Merrill** and **Mac Martin** for this jump to better communication with our membership. Constant Contact is a mail contact software by which we can send out notices and info with just the click of the mouse. Be looking for emails to keep us connected and informed.

I just need to say a word about our Arlington Independent School District. February’s excitement was the Grand Opening of the 169,800 sq. ft. **Dan Dipert Career and Tech Center** on the site of the original Sam Houston High School (later Hutcheson Junior High). Funding for the center came from a bond package that was passed in 2014. Director Craig Wright says this center is a “game-changer; it’s not revolutionary but evolutionary.”

Our community will benefit as well. The students working to achieve their certifications in the varied curricula will offer their services as part of their learning experience. You can get your oil changed, your manicure and pedicure; you can order floral arrangements and culinary delights for weddings and events. It is simply jaw dropping what they are bringing

to these students. They can train to be policemen, fireman, welders, plumbers, medical assistants and EMTs. They can study marketing, broadcasting, audio/visual technology, photography, and building construction to name a few. Visit [www.aisd.net](http://www.aisd.net) for more information.

We also want to recognize the recipients of the Arlington Education Foundation grant we sponsored this year. None other than AHS librarian Ms. Maryjane O’Halloran-Beane and Becca Buechele were the award winners! (See page 3.) An innovative TECH LAB will be created in the library to foster innovative learning, collaborative thinking and sharing through materials and technology. Congratulations, ladies and great job!

I have gone on long enough. You can see why we are so excited. Spread the word and see you June 9th!

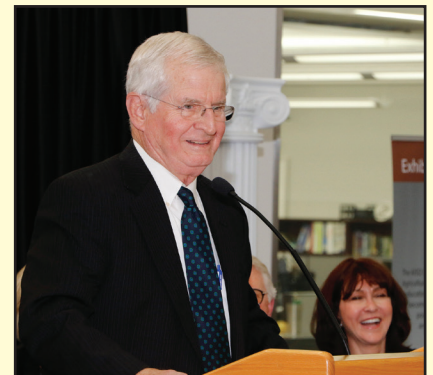


*Kick ‘em Colts!*

*Debbie ~*

*Class of 1968*

## Dipert Career and Technical Center



Center: Alumni get a sneak peak of the Dipert Center broadcast area. Front: **Charlene Mahan, ‘61, Sandra Watkins Greenwood, ‘65, Debbie Ericson, ‘68, Kenneth Watkins, ‘61, Bonnie Watkins, ‘62; Back: Dan Greenwood, Doris Collard Whitlock, ‘59, Butch Mahan, ‘59, Paul Swartz, ‘59**

Surrounding pictures taken at formal dedication, top right: **Tom Cravens, ‘60**





## Milestones

**Passings:** Dorothy Upchurch Betts, '43, February...Bill Middleton, '43, October...Jerry Deering, '45, February...Ethel Faye MacFadin Hinton, '54, February...Byron Burleson, '62...John R. John, '63, February...Bill Sutherland, '64, February...Betty Beaver Whitlow, '65, February...Danna Kay Turner Middleton, '67, February...Barbara Buck Andersen, '73, March...Jon Workman, '96, March...former teachers Melba Roddy McKnight, CBC, February...Patsy Spracklen Ballard, March

**Congratulations:** Arlington High School for receiving *two* grants from the AISD Education Foundation.

Helped by a \$2,500 donation from the AHS Alumni Association, the grant application submitted by librarian Maryjane O'Halloran Beane and English teacher **Becca Dalrymple Buechele, '88**, succeeded.



Titled "Make My Day Makerspace!" the teachers' goals are to empower students to be creators who are lifelong 21st century learners and to foster innovative learning. The AHS Library wants to create a Makerspace, a collaborative lab where students create, think, share, use a variety of materials/technologies. The Education Foundation added the additional funds for the project

**Notable:** Do you know who the valedictorian of the **Class of 1945** was? Does the name **Betsy Rawls** ring any bells? If so, probably not because she was valedictorian of that



class, but because she is one of the all-time winningest professional women golfers! During the war years her family moved to Arlington where she took up golf at 17. After two years at the local junior college—NTAC in those days—she went on to UT Austin where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in physics. She retired from the tour in 1975 and will celebrate 90 years in November...**Chris Martin, '04**, poses at Texas Rangers spring training camp with Kenedy Brown whose dad (**Matt, '95**), aunt



for a total of \$4,129.00. **Bonnie Beebe Watkins** and **Paul Swartz** joined Ms. Beane and Principal Dhalla in the library for the grant presentation.

That same morning, the Foundation delighted AHS English teacher Ashley Thomas with the news that



her grant application also received its funding. With "I'll Be a Starr with IXL," AHS students will gain access to IXL—an immersive online learning experience which provides comprehensive, standards-aligned content for reading and writing practice! Teachers can easily tailor topics to each individual student for specific needs. The amount of this grant totaled \$5,600.00.

(**Meg, '97**), grandmother (**Cathy, '63**) are AHS alumni... Introducing at Open House: new model Alumni caps and a brand new item—mugs!



**Apologies:** to the family of the late **Coach Mayfield Workman**—Colt By Choice—for omitting his name from the Honor Roll of Distinguished Colt Alumni...to the **Class of 1951** for misspelling the last name of Distinguished Colt, the late **Gary Cartwright**...to another Distinguished Colt whose name was misspelled, **Tom Cravens, '60**.

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

Major areas for our financial support of Arlington High School in 2018

### SCHOLARSHIPS

9 scholarships at  
\$1,250 each =

**\$11,250.00**

### SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS, STAFF, ORGANIZATIONS

(Teacher luncheons, donations,  
unexpected needs)

**\$3,000.00+**

### EDUCATION FOUNDATION

#### GRANTS FOR AHS

(See page 3.)

**\$2,500.00**



Our capacity to support Arlington High School grows with our membership and its ability to spread our reach through the decades. From our first year in 1996, when we had little money and less certainty, we can now say with pride we give thousands of dollars to AHS every year. Our total giving in our 22 years is approaching \$150,000. With you in the corral, we can continue to keep...

***AHS ~ First Here, Best Here!***



Association Operations/Events  
Alumni Open House, Homecoming Tailgate, Refreshments, July  
4th Parade, Distinguished Colt Alumni, Printing, Postage,  
Constant Contact, Alumni Products

## AHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2018 Budget

### RECEIPTS

Membership fees	\$ 6,000
Contributions	15,250
Product Sales	2,000
Interest Income	10

**TOTAL RECEIPTS** \$23,260

### DISBURSEMENTS

Gifts to organizations	\$ 3,175
Newsletter/Printing	3,475
Administration	615
Special events	3,425
Equipment*	1,525
Merchandise	1,250
Scholarships	11,250

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS** \$24,715

\*Upgrade for special events



## Alumni Scholar Update



**D**estiny Arriaga, '17, left Arlington soon after graduation to begin work on a veterinary technician degree with her professional goal to be a full-fledged veterinarian. Her thoughts after one semester of post-AHS study: AHS prepared me for college by providing rigorous advanced placement classes. I had established study methods in high school because of the demands of my course load. This was beneficial because I knew how to manage my time in college, and I knew how to handle stressful moments. I was not prepared for how often I would dwell on my current and future life. I tend to wonder how long it will take me to reach my ultimate goal; this is often discouraging. I know that I will pull through though because I am determined and motivated by my passion for animal care. The best thing about college life would be the sense of freedom and self-discovery. It is a cliché, but I love the right amount of independence I currently have in my life. College is helping to mold me into an adult. I hope to rent my first apartment after I finish technical school. The toughest aspect of college would be having to step out of my comfort zone. I am learning to be less shy and to be more involved. I want to meet new people and create lasting friendships. Although I have always struggled with self-confidence, I am learning to appreciate my strengths and weaknesses each day. My advice for 2018 seniors is to enjoy the rest of your last year of high school, and don't be afraid of college. Life only gets better after high school. Stay close with high school friends after graduation, but know that it is ok to make new ones as well. Senior year is not a "blow off" year—grades are important; do not let "senioritis" impact your motivation. All of your hard work will pay off. Live the rest of this school year and the rest of your life to the fullest.

**R**obert Broughton, '06, attended Dallas Baptist University after leaving AHS. Late last year he sent us this note. "I absolutely miss you all and Arlington, too. I'm working full time in insurance for Farmers while working on my second book. I was published awhile ago and have just now started a new



project. I have to say that I miss the community we had at Arlington High. We were a family. We were inclusive and that feeling of belonging helped me understand that there's a place for me in this world. That has given me the confidence not only to believe my success was possible, but also that I could make a valuable contribution in life. The best wisdom upon graduation I received was from Ms. Jannette Workman. She wrote, 'Nothing in the world is owed to you. You must earn all you get.' That has been a constant bit of wisdom I've found useful in everything I do."

**O**n February 20, **Morgan Taylor Fowler, '13**, writes about a very important letter which came in the



mail. "I am so proud to say that I will be attending Texas Women's University this fall to pursue my Master of Fine Arts in Dance. I am so thankful for everyone who has continued to support me, even from afar. Thank you to all of my wonderful dance instructors and professors who helped me grow into the artist I am today. Thank you to my family for financially and

emotionally supporting me throughout my dance and student career. Thank you to my friends and peers who constantly pushed and encouraged me whenever I felt inadequate. Thank you for those who constantly prayed for me as well because, Lord knows, I needed it at times!

**To the AHS Alumni Association:** I graduated from Texas Tech in May of 2017 with a BA in Dance. During my high school days, AHS had a wonderful English program, and AP English is where I learned to write papers so well. Having that knowledge really helped me when writing my statement of interest to the TWU Department of Dance. I feel so overjoyed! My heart is so full!

Morgan (dressed in black) pictured in 2013 with other Alumni Scholars—Alexa, Evette, Cole



## Membership

## New Members

## Upgrades to Life Membership

## Donations

\*Don Atkins & Regina Rousseau, '62/CBC  
 Jimmy Brown, '68  
 \*Keith Buchanan, '69  
 \*David Burk, '80  
 \*Rod Hardman, '78  
 Billy Don Johnson, '66  
 \*Carolyn Price, '73  
 \*Bill Stallworth, '75  
 \*Beth Withrow Stenberg, '68  
 \*Diane Smith Tejada, '76  
 \*Jeffrey White, '76  
 Deborah Sue Mitchell Jackman, '79

\*Bobby & Sandra Cahill, '61/CBC  
 \*Joe & Sharon Moore Hall, '61/'62  
 \*Donna East Hill, '59  
 \*Shirley Lotspeich, '58  
 \*Susan Pepper, '66

\* denotes Life Membership

## GENERAL FUND

Lon Hardey  
 Gene & Maudie Lam  
 Melody Olsen  
 Gary & Juanice Young

## SCHOLARSHIP

Anonymous Foundation (See page 1.)



For the last 50+ years, AHS has graduated between 500 and 1,000 students every year. A reasonable estimate is that we have at least 25,000 Colt alumni as potential members. Who do **YOU** know who hasn't joined us yet in supporting Arlington High School? Round 'em up today!

## Membership Facts

- We have approximately 1,200 members of the Association.
- The Class of 1954 has 50 members of the Association with 31 of them memorial members.
- Our youngest future Colt already enrolled as a life member is **Braeden Gover**, Class of 2023.
- Class of 2005 has only one member, **Kalan Howell**.
- Class of 1989 has three: **Laura Merrill Anz, Matthew Bane, Joe Henderson**.
- GROW, COLTS, GROW!**

## MEMORIAL MEMBERSHIPS

Monnie McKissack Fletcher, '63,  
 by Ron Coker  
 Rusty Gunn, '52, by Wanda  
 Mitchell White and DeLaurice  
 Porter Busbee  
 Rusty Ward, '69,  
 by Martin and Brenda Ross  
 Elizabeth Thomas Williams, '39,  
 by Sharron Merrill



## AHS Alumni Association New Member Form

S2018

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  CHECK

Check 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)

## Reunions

**CLASS OF 1958 (22)** · June 8 · JGilligans, 5:00 til ??? · June 9, Alumni Open House · Ralph Valentine · 817.583.6504 · [ralphvalentine@att.net](mailto:ralphvalentine@att.net)

**CLASS OF 1963 (119)** · June 9 & 10 · Friday: JGilligans · Saturday: Open House · \*Ladies Lunch at Pulidos · \*Candlelight Inn · \*RSVP for Saturday events to Sarah Stephens · [sarahste@swbell.net](mailto:sarahste@swbell.net) · 817.291.4473

**CLASS OF 1968 (30)** · April 28, 2018 · 50th Reunion · Tierra Verde Golf Club in Arlington · No charge for event or dinner for any AHS Class of 1968 Members and their plus one · Contact: Linda Chaney · [chaney.l@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chaney.l@sbcglobal.net) · Diane Pierce · [diane107@sbcglobal.net](mailto:diane107@sbcglobal.net).

**CLASS OF 1978 (21)** · April 27 & 28 · Friday: Legal Draft, 7:30 - 10:30 · Saturday: 6:00 - 11:00 · Arlington Sheraton/Champion Ballroom (Arlington Convention Center) · **Facebook: ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, Arlington, TX - Class of 1978 40th Reunion**

**CLASS OF 1988 (12)** · October 20 · Arlington Hilton · Details—<https://goo.gl/j5B8fM> · Facebook: **Arlington High School Class of '88 (Arlington, TX)**

Let us know if your class will have a group attending Open House on June 9. Even if that is not your reunion weekend, local folks could get a group together. If we know you have a group attending, we will have reserved seating for you up front. **Facebook: The Arlington High School Alumni Association**

Reunion Challenge ~ By the end of reunion weekend get 10 people to sign a pledge to join the Alumni Association. Find a volunteer to send out reminders to those who pledged in order to increase your class participation. We will get brochures to you to facilitate those who wish to join.

**NUMBERS IN RED INDICATE HOW MANY OF THE CLASS HAVE JOINED THE ASSOCIATION.**

*We are still seeking reunion dates for Classes of '73, '83, '93, '98, '08. If you have a clue, please pass it on to us!*



At the **Class of 1997** family picnic—a small sample of the progeny!

Former teacher Juanita Dodgen, holding some of the many cards her students sent to honor her recent 90th birthday!



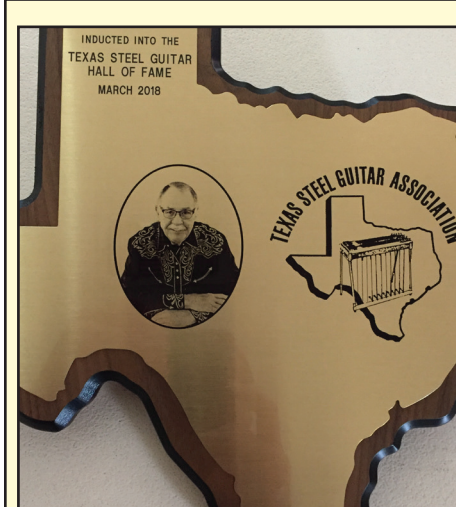
**Clark Kirby, Neta Morse, and Jane Wood Buehler** at AHS Alumni Open House June 2017 (thank you, Clark for the pictures.)

**Class of 1967** celebrates their 50th at Open House and Shady Valley



Above: **Brenda Spraberry Barnes, Glenda Oliver Cantrell, Neta Morse, Pam Williams Miller**, standing, **Pat Smith, Bill & Jane Buehler**, (behind centerpiece!)





Congratulations Buddie and Mac—two Distinguished Colts on our Board who are still garnering accolades!!

**Buddie Hrabal**—our sound man extraordinaire—is pictured on his plaque commemorating his induction into the Texas Steel Guitar Association's Hall of Fame. What a treat at Open House to hear Buddie's rendition of our alma mater on steel guitar!



Past Alumni Association president, current webmaster, and our forever emcee **Mac Martin**, pictured with presenter Terry Quick, was awarded an Emeritus Membership of Creative Event Team—an association of national production companies.

*Way to go, Mac and Buddie!*



Cheerleaders at Disneyland competition 2018

So many people contributed photos for this issue including **Charlene Mahan, Clark Kirby**, Robert Spence, and the unknown person who took this great picture of the Colt cheerleaders. Thanks to all!

~ the editor

**One-time gift of \$35 places a name of a departed Colt on the class list in the Association's membership roster.**

## Alumni Association Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

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

### CHAIRPERSONS

Membership: Sharron Chapman Merrill, '61  
Corresponding Secretary: Karen Giorgio Logos, '68  
Webmaster: Mac Martin, '61  
Reunions: Jerri Puryear Bartos, '77  
Product Sales: Paul Swartz, '59  
Assistant: Linda Garner Gipson, '61  
Distinguished Colts: Jerrell Womble, '71  
Special Events: Erin Hawkes Chaney, '64  
Buddie Hrabal, '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  
Campus Liaison: Micah Green, '01



Front left and around table: **Debbie, Bonnie, Karen, Sharron, Jerrell, Mac, Peggy, Linda, Michelle, Buddie, Paul, Verne** meeting in January.



Mac and Jerrell flank Distinguished Colt **Rex Latham**

Board members set out refreshments for Homecoming Tailgate.

