

ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL Alumni Association

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



Volume 21, Issue 1

Winter 2017

Spotlight On...



At AHS, **Debbie Koehl Ericson, '68**, was *involved*: Student Council (“I ran for secretary and lost!”), Honor Society, grunt work on play productions, building Homecoming floats “and winning every year.” She would have graduated 10th in her class but broke her arm playing powder puff football and “couldn’t write fast enough to finish my Civics test!” She remembers Miss Amos and Mrs. Baker and her “classmates whom I hold dear.”

Debbie’s son **Eric Walker, '09**, (Fielder Award, Homecoming King nominee, captain on football team) guaranteed she was “lucky enough to start all over again.” Even a generation later, she saw the “Spirit, Pride, and Tradition remained the same.” In Debbie’s day Eddie Peach coached the baseball team to State; in Eric’s day Scott Peach, Eddie’s son, coached the Colts to the regional playoffs. The big difference over 31 years was the size of the building. In the sixties, there were only A and B halls and just one gym!

Debbie and Eric joined the Association at Alumni Open House in 2009. That’s when she began helping out at Alumni events which led to serving as secretary and now president. Debbie says the Alumni Association—a viable part of our cluster community—unites all who share a common bond with Arlington High. Communicating our importance to the younger generation, and spurring them to join in our support of AHS challenges us the most. Looking to the future ensures our existence and encourages alumni of all ages to participate. As for the Board of Directors, “I can’t say enough good things about these folks. I look forward to working together to serve the school and the community we love so much.”

Debbie and Eric joined the Association at Alumni Open House in 2009. That’s when she began helping out at Alumni events which led to serving as secretary and now president.

Debbie says the Alumni Association—a viable part of our cluster community—unites all who share a common bond with Arlington High. Communicating our importance to the younger generation, and spurring them to join in our support of AHS challenges us the most. Looking to the future ensures our existence and encourages alumni of all ages to participate. As for the Board of Directors, “I can’t say enough good things about these folks. I look forward to working together to serve the school and the community we love so much.”

Verne Hargrave, '68: Extra time during AHS days were spent primarily at the *Citizen-Journal*. His plan for earning money to “find a girlfriend” worked. “That girl, **Karen, '69**, is my wife...still!”



One thing Verne has noticed about AHS over the years is “the Colt tradition is just as strong, and growing stronger.”

His three older sisters “embedded in him at an early age a love for the history and tradition of our school.” To continue the work of his sister **Phyllis Forehand**—famed journalism

teacher for 25 years, a charter member of the Association, and a Distinguished Colt—Verne agreed to serve as our treasurer.

Since he specializes in his accounting work with tax exempt organizations, sharing his experience “with an organization I am invested in” appealed to him. For the future, he wants the Association to attract younger members and to develop a planned giving campaign for the scholarship fund. He is hopeful that his **Class of '68** will add to their 28 members as they plan for their 50th reunion next year.

Bonnie Beebe Watkins, '62: Two great memories Bonnie has of her days at AHS include “varsity cheerleading for the fabulous Colts! (Or more often “FAB”—big part of our vocabulary back then.)” The other happened when “Miss Ellis asked me to dance the sequence of George and the Angel in *The King and I*. To this day when I see Miss Ellis, she points at me and says *The King and I*.” Now that’s special!



Bonnie wanted to serve on the board to see what she could do to help this “vibrant and active Alumni Association. Truth be told, I’m still a cheerleader at heart!” My hope for our very special alumni group is to provide more funding for scholarships (which means we need more memberships) and to continue to support the AHS teachers.

Bonnie attributes the continuing closeness of the **Class of 1962**—with 90 members in our Association—to growing up when Arlington was small and “we were the only high school in town!” Beyond that, she says the loss of “some of our classmates during our time at AHS drew us closer together. The Alumni Association continues that camaraderie. Besides, we love to sing “Sons of the white and green...”

INSIDE

Distinguished Colts	2
Alumni Scholar Update	3
Homecoming	4 - 5
Milestones, Members	6
Reunions	7
Board of Directors	8

Nominations Open for 2017 Distinguished Colt Alumni

Honorees are alumni who typify the spirit, pride and tradition of Arlington High School through tireless efforts to “give back” to our school, or are those who have brought honor to Arlington High through their significant career accomplishments. **Attention Nominators:** Remember that the Alumni Board members who select the honorees may not know your nominees. Be specific in listing the ways your nominees have supported AHS or have burnished the reputation of AHS in their professional lives.

Use nomination form on website or send to our PO Box. WRITE TO IMPRESS!

DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2017



The Wages escorted by Megan Brett, Noah Morgan.

Beth escorted by Grant.



~ 2016 DCA HONOREES ~
**JIMMY RAY GLASGOW, '75, BETH HENTZE OWENS, '85,
 LEE SWEENEY, '71, JACK AND DELOURIS
 MCCARRELL WAGES, BOTH '56**



Jack, Delouris, Principal Dhalla, President Ana Pettit, Beth, the late Jimmy Ray's wife Annie and son Jeff, Beth's son Grant.



Annie French Glasgow, '77 and son Jeff, '09, stood in for the late Jimmy Ray Glasgow.

Dr. Lee Sweeney was in France for a conference and unable to attend.

Distinguished Colt Roll Call ~ 1997 - 2016

James Adams, CBC
 Alan Austin, '69
Margie Austin, CBC
 Jim Ball, '59
Bill Bardin, '24
 James “Brad” Bradley, '39
 Cathy Bontley Brown, '63
 Tillie Lester Burgin, '54
 Erin Hawkes Chaney, '64
 Kent Cherry, '52
William Connor, '36
 Cari Fitzgerald Cook, '70
 *Dean Corey, CBC
 Tom Craven, '60
 Jeff Dalton, '80
 Tom DeFrank, '63
 James Ditto, '48
Michael Ditto, '55
 Jane Robin Ellis, CBC

Mike Enger, '74
 **Robert Fielder, '25*
 Randy Ford, '67
Phyllis Hargrave Forehand, '51
 Greg Friess, '71
 Jane Crews Friess, '71
 John Gardner, '57
 *Jimmy Ray Glasgow, '75
 Stevie Campbell Hansen, '62
 Bowie Hogg, '96
 Buddie Hrabal, '64
Bill Hughes, '48
Owen Ivie, '43
 Fran Ditto Jennings, '48
 *Col. Neel Kearby, '28
 *Charlie Key, '59
 Barbara Nash Kight, '57
 Carl Knox, '40
 Doland Maner, '40

Charles Marshall, '51
 Wanda Roberson Marshall, '49
 Gary Martin, '53
 Mac Martin, '61
 Peggy Wood Martin, '66
 Don Mebus, '62
 Dinah Dalton Menger, '77
 Ross Menger, '67
 Robert Miles, '57
 Geraldine Nash Mills, '59
 *Lt. Perry Mills, '59
 Alvin Moseley, '65
 Martha Wiggins Moseley, '66
 Beth Hentze Owens, '85
Natalee Davis Parr, '28
 Ben Pierce, '72
 Dorothy Thornton Rencurrel, '49
 Beverly Bohannon Reynolds, '48
 Jennifer Hilton Sampson, '88

Anne Ross Berg Seldon, '53
Phillip Stork, '49
Gene Schrickel, '44
Frank Smith, '43
 Kathleen Bradford Smith, '51
 Paul Swartz, '59
 Lee Sweeney, '71
Barton Thompson, '51
 Mike Wade, '76
 Delouris McCarrell Wages, '56
 Jack Wages, '56
John Webb, CBC
 Tanya Terrell-Weideman, '81
Ernest Wilemon, '43
 Kathryn Taylor Wilemon, '55
 Jannette Workman, '54
Tom Vandergriff, '43
Anna Waynette Smith
Vandergriff, '44

* awarded posthumously *Italics indicate Alumni who died after receiving this honor*

Alumni Scholar Update

Our Fall 2016 newsletter had its usual short bios of the graduates who received \$1,000 scholarships from our Association. That issue also contained an insert sharing the heartbreaking news that Alumni Scholar **Rebecca Read** had lost her life in an automobile accident in July. Since Rebecca's bio can still be read on our web version of the newsletter, you can read what Arlington High meant to her. Here we share more we have learned about her since that tragic day.



From Reverend Brenda Beaver, Trinity United Methodist Church: "Rebecca worked with me on a mission project here at Trinity which qualified her to receive the Girl Scout Gold Award. Rebecca placed blue receptacles in all of Trinity's women's restrooms to receive donations of hygiene products for giving to Safe Haven, a local shelter from domestic violence. Rebecca reasoned since some residents of Safe Haven were unable to provide these products for themselves, having them available would give them the confidence in their appearance when they were sent out on job interviews. Not only were an abundance of products donated, but an individual also gave \$1,000 to Rebecca's cause! In addition to the products, Rebecca gave a cash donation to the shelter. I'll never forget the joy on Rebecca's face when she loaded her car on her way to Safe Haven. She was such a kind and compassionate young lady. I understand from her parents that Rebecca was an organ donor, and as a result, many others will benefit from her beautiful life."

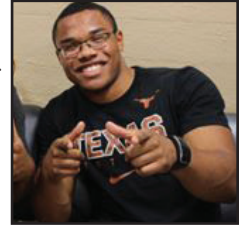
In a matter of days following the accident, Rebecca's parents, Henry and Julianne, urged the Association to give her scholarship to another student. The Board waited until the spring semester to do so. His bio follows. To honor Rebecca's memory, she will be a memorial member in perpetuity of our Association. In addition, a 2017 Alumni Scholar will receive the Rebecca Read Memorial Scholarship.

ALAN BRAXTON

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

RADIO TELEVISION-FILM/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

One of **Alan Braxton's** best days at AHS happened the week he was nominated as WFAA's Player of the Week in football. People all around the school took to Twitter, Instagram and Facebook to vote for him. Teachers allotted a couple of minutes at the end of class for students to vote. Alan says, "I was overwhelmed by all the support I received from my school. Sadly, another nominee hacked the vote total and no one was crowned that week. Even though I didn't receive the award, the support I received made me tremendously proud to be a Colt."



The application asks seniors to capture the essence of Arlington High with three adjectives. Alan submitted two which are frequently cited, "amiable" and "traditional." Alan's third choice, "competitive," was new. Since competing athletically was obvious, he chose to mention "the competitive nature of the clubs and the student body." As an officer in Key Club, he saw, "my fellow officers work diligently to ensure our participation numbers and service activities were on par with or exceeded Arlington's other high schools." As far as Colts competing with one another, Alan says he loved the competition over class ranking because it meant "my peers were compelled to truly learn the material which will make the transition into college much easier."

On his admission to UT, Alan was accepted into the Moody College of Communications with an eye on a career either in the video game industry or law. Moody College sponsors the UT Los Angeles Program which will allow Alan to spend a semester there on an internship with an animator in the video game business.

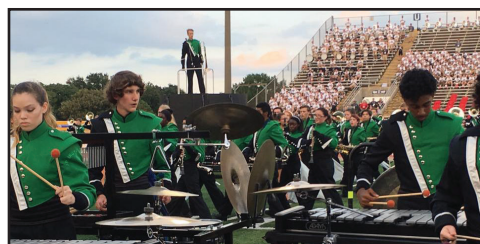
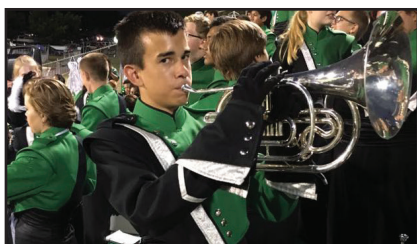
"AHS prepared me for the difficult pace of college by having amazing faculty who taught me the material I needed to know, as well as challenging me every day. My teachers at AHS also prepared me by constantly encouraging me to stay ambitious and chase after my dreams! To the **Class of 2017**: college will definitely be challenging, but comparing yourself to others will make it 100 times more difficult. Stick to the study habits most beneficial to you; don't be afraid to stay in on Friday nights; get the amount of sleep your body and mind need. I am still majoring in Music Education. I am so thankful for the Alumni Scholarship and the fact that the AHS community still invests in their students even after we graduate. Thank you for your care and support!" ~ **Caroline Caves, '16**

A Horned Frog trio of clarinetists: Caroline is flanked by new friends, Annie Marie Hatton, Rachel Miltzer





Colt Spirit, Pride, Tradition ~ On Display



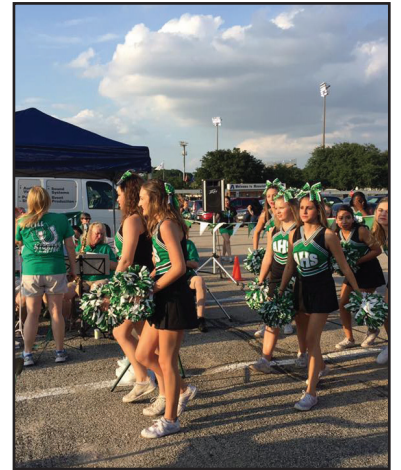
Cheerleaders, Band, Kickers, Arlie, Team, Fans, Nominees, Alumni



Far left: **David Bailey, Ann Harris Patrick, Sharron Chapman Merrill, Charlene Wise Mahan, all '61, Butch Mahan, '59**

Molly Hoelscher, '26, Pru Vader Brett, '61, Caroline Hoelscher, '26, Megan Brett, '18

Homecoming photos by
Kathy Einhaus, Kristina Halley, Charlene Mahan, Peggy Martin, Leslie Recine, AHS Journalism



Tailgate 2016



Row 1: Don, '61, Brenda Ford Gordon, '64; Linda Garner Gipson, Ed Camp, both '61; AHS Cheerleaders

Row 2: the Tailgate crowd: Leslie Cox Recine, Betsy Smith Stephens, Bryce Reed, Tanya Terrell-Weideman, all '81; Charlene Wise Mahan, '61, Brenda Ford Gordon, '64, Shirley Strain Soto, '70

Row 3: Kay King, '62, Josie Bird O'Quinn, '56, Carol Sawyer Boring, '56; Paul Swartz, '59, with buyer of Alumni products

Row 4: Principal Shaveer Dhalla, Jannette Workman, '54, Allen Averitt—Colts #1 fan; Karen Giorgio Logos, Debbie Koehl Ericson, both '68, Jo Colliflower McGovern, '66



Milestones

Passings: Lois Herbert Alexander, '38, August...Julette Hyden Hiett, '38, October...Novella Kendall Lam, '39, January... Jean Stevenson McCown, '41, January...Mary Lou Almon Ledbetter, '44, September...Margaret Waller Moore, '47, January...Ray Martin, '50, September...Sue Roberson Crouch, '52, October...Jim Harris, '52, December...Helen Petty Bridges, '53, September...Doug Palmer, CBC ('53), October...Arthur Bird, '54, October...Charles Denson, '54, September...Bill Hall, '55, December...Mary Jane Troth Funk, '56, September... Charles Blair, '59, October...John Elliott, '61, January...JoAnn Harris Heflin, '61, September...Steve Jackson, '61, January...Kenneth Kautz, '62, July...Sonny Wooten, '62, August...Steve Huffman, '63, December...Bill Reeves, '64, August...Don Brown, '65, December...Vincent Dannis, '65, September...Ronald Smith, '67, August...Howard Hollimon, '69, September...Cherilyn Grimm, '74, October...Tom Poston, '77, June...Diane Leighton Starrett, '80, November...Tom Rainone, '81, November...Sean Klase, '84, July... Jeff Lemonds, '88, January...Tanner McCaskey, '16, December...Rebecca Read, '16, July...Charlese Duff, Colt By Choice, and former teacher, September

Celebration: The Nation family—one with a long and storied history at Arlington High School—sembled for this grand photo. In our Spring 2015 issue, the family was featured. You can check it out at www.ahscolts-alumni.org. As the clan gathered to honor the memory of Captain William Nation, '36, they decided to do so by collecting donations to fund a scholarship for an AHS ROTC student. Their effort will support the \$1,000 Captain Nation Memorial Scholarship for three years. We are so proud to be AHS Alumni along with so many of these generous people.



Honors: Superintendent Marcello Cavazos, Trustees, Kecia Mays and Distinguished Colt Bowie Hogg, '96, visited the Alumni Board at their October meeting. They presented to the Arlington High School Alumni Association, the AISD's "Community Engaged For Excellence Recognition Award." (See photo back cover.) Dr. Cavazos graciously thanked the Alumni for being a tremendously reliable, loyal support group which sets examples for young people, and for continuously showing our support and spirit for Arlington High School. He continued, "Your presence and existence make such a positive impact for our school system." In turn, the Board thanks each and every member whose connection to the Association—and to AHS—makes this support possible.

To prove the point, in December the Board helped host and serve the teachers at their annual Christmas luncheon. In October, it felt good to be appreciated by AISD. In December, it felt good to appreciate AHS staff in return!

New Members

*Kristina Ekstrand Anderson, '81	Jan McDaniel, '68
Sarah Arditti, '06	Arturo Obregon, '09
*Paul David Burnett, '81	Sheila Paschal Scott, '66
Emily Crider, '16	Jana Jordan Shaw, '78
Steven & Karen Bishop Davis, '87/'87	*Carla Becker Walker, '91
Rudy Garth, '71	Bettye Usher Wilson, '60
Joe Gordon, '92	Susanne York, '78
Michele Harmon, '88	
*Carmen Anderson Holmes, '91	Upgrade to Life
Ronnie Lethcoe, '72	*Erica & Tyler Crosley, '95/CBC
Melissa Moxley Mahan, '67	*Dennis Johnson, '62

MEMORIAL MEMBERSHIPS

Art Bird, '54—Thornton Family
John Elliott, '61—Sharron Merrill
Steve Jackson, '61—Sharron Merrill
Sonny Wooten, '62—Cathy Brown, Ann Conklin, Darryl & Joyce Cremer, Charles Jobe, Al & Joyce Preisser, Norma Scheidecker, Ada Starrett, Rusty & Margaret Workman, Nancy York

Reunions



The Class of 1996 is supporting the Alumni Association with a donation of \$1,400. The 20th reunion attendees last year chose to make this donation in order to bring 100% of the faculty and staff into our membership. Since the Board assists Principal Dhalla with his faculty Christmas luncheon by serving, buying Christmas gifts for each staff member, and supplying the food for lunch, AISD trustee **Bowie Hogg, '96**, saw this as the perfect event for presenting the class gift to incoming president **Debbie Ericson**. It's unusual enough for a high school to have an alumni association, but 100% participation by the faculty/staff whether AHS grads or Colts By Choice has got to be unique. That membership money—like all our dues, donations and gifts—will underwrite our budget and scholarships. Thanks you, **Class of 1996**.

Over the years, other classes have given leftover reunion funds to the Association. The **Classes of 1961, 1968, and 2006** have all supported us this way. The **Class of 1959** even had an auction specifically to benefit this organization where they raised \$3,000. (See the story online, Fall 2014). Such gifts supplement our dues from new and renewing members which allow the Association to give more scholarships and greater support to AHS and its thousands of exes.



Class of 1996 20th Reunion

Barbara and Principal James Adams flank Allison Bennett Irion and Amy Ruth Eck; at right: Jeff Cheek, Matt Beckner, Jill Laman Peavy, Megan Colby McCavit, James Adams



Class of 1981 35th Reunion

Bruce Rohne, Tanya Terrell-Weidemann, Andrew Underwood; Julie Todd, Holly McKissack, Misty Shatto; Kelly Ross, Lee Ann Mallory, Kay Keith Cole, Tracy Jaynes, Julie Fuller, Lisa Smith Clark, Kelly Whiteside

Reunions on Tap

Class of 1957 · June 9 - 10 · Friday, Candlight Inn, maybe Gilligans after that · Alumni Open House · Contacts: **Robert Miles**, 682.712.3888 · **Martin Ross**, 817.586.6167 · **Paula Richey Crossman**, crossman6@yahoo.com
Class of 1962 · June 10th · Alumni Open House · The White House in Pantego, 6-10pm · No event Friday

ODDS AND ENDS

- Please post reunion dates for your class on our Facebook page. This will help us help you!
- Spring newsletter out in May.
- Let us know if your class has a group attending Alumni Open House so we can have reserve seating for you on June 10.
- Renewal notices have been sent. Send in your Dues!



Caroline Caves, '16,
with parents (Rusty, Cindy),
sister Katy, AHS '19



July teacher luncheon



Class of '65 after 51 years!

Photo Album ~ 2016



Cole Enger, '13, serving staff at
Christmas luncheon in Gym B



AHS Stage Band entertaining



Chaney/Crosley clan
at Tailgate



See Milestones, page 6

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

Growth & Development: Heather McMillen, '90

Webmaster: Mac Martin, '61

Product Sales: Paul Swartz, '59

Assistant: Linda Garner Gipson, '61

Reunions: Doris Collard Whitlock, '59

Distinguished Colts: Jerrell Womble, '71

Special Events: Erin Hawkes Chaney, '64

Sound Engineer: Buddie Hrabal, '64

Scholarship: Peggy Martin, '66

July 4th Parade: Kathy Einhaus, '69

Newsletter: Michelle Barlen, CBC

Editor: Cathy Bontley Brown, '63

Archives: Leslie Cox Recine, '81

Alumni Band: Tanya Terrell-Weidemann, '81

Member-at-large: Mike Enger, '74

Past President: Ana Pettit, '74

*Are you interested in assisting in
any of these areas? Contact us.
We will share the fun!*