



**HIGH SCHOOL
REUNION**



THE PHILLIPS BRICKS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (PBAA)
AND
THE NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION
OF BLACK HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI (NCABHSA)
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO ATTEND A

GREAT GATHERING REUNION PICNIC

*FOR CLASSMATES, SCHOOLMATES, TEACHERS AND FRIENDS
IN REMEMBRANCE OF*

BLACK HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY

- ◆ Location: THE FRANKLINTON CENTER AT BRICKS
281 Southbend Ln, Highway 301, Whitakers, NC 27891
 - ◆ Date/Time: SATURDAY MAY 26, 2018, 12 noon TO 6pm
 - ◆ FOOD, DJ, MUSIC, DANCING, GAMES, ACTIVITIES, DESERT BAKE OFF*
**Enter your favorite desert and win a prize!! Desert Entries will be served to attendees!*
 - ◆ *Bring your tents, chairs, picnic food / baskets, deserts, drinks ** and join us for a time of Black High School Alumni Fellowship and Fun! **No Alcoholic Beverages Are Allowed!
All are Welcomed!*
 - ◆ *Hot dogs, Hamburgers, Chips and Drinks will be available for those who*
- RSVP and Register by May 16, 2018 ~~~~~ RSVP AND CONTACT PERSONS BELOW:**

William Knight (NCABHSA) Chairman - 252-314-5486 / bkni@msn.com

Committee: Mary Knight (PBAA) 252-977-6861 / Mnightm48@suddenlink.net

Brenda Asbury (NCABHAS/PBAA) - 919-632-3004/bpasbury@aol.com

Willie Harrison (PBAA) 252-459-4155, h273@aol.com

and at NCABHSA@gmail.com or phillipsbricksalumni@yahoo.com



**North Carolina Association of
Black High School Alumni**

NCABHSA

**Post Office Box 264
Battleboro, NC 27809**

2016-17 Officers

President: Varnell Kinnin
(Pattillo High School)

Vice President: Open

Secretary: Catherine Blackwell
(Booker T. Washington HS)

Assistant Secretary: Leah S. Vines
(George Washington Carver High
School)

Treasurer: William Knight
(Swift Creek High School)

Assistant Treasurer: Jesse Hinton
(Nash Central High School)

Financial Secretary: Brenda P. Asbury
(Phillips High School)

Parliamentary: Jordan Sills -
(Gethsemane High School)

Sergeant-at-Arms: James Collins
(George Washington Carver High
School)

Historian: Morris Roberson
(Nash Central High School)



January 12, 2018

Dear Friends,

Attached is a flyer extending an invitation to you to our very first **Great Gathering Picnic at Bricks** organized by the **North Carolina Association of Black High School Alumni (NCABHSA)** and the **Phillips Bricks Alumni Association (PBAA)**. The event is being held on Saturday, May 26, 2018 at 12 pm on the grounds of the Franklinton Center (Formerly Bricks School) located off Highway 301 between Enfield and Whitakers, NC.

The purpose of this gathering is to extend a hand of fellowship with fellow Black High School Alumni and come together to share and celebrate our histories and pride in our educational roots, teachers, schools and friends.

The event will be a picnic gathering where you are encouraged to bring your tents, chairs, picnic baskets, food and drinks and just have a good time of fellowship in a lovely, peaceful, tree-shaded area filled with educational history for Blacks. There will be hot dogs, hamburgers with all the trimmings available for those who register by May 1, 2018. We will have a desert contest with a \$50 prize awarded by a panel of tasters and which will later be served to attendees.

Other highlights will include lots of music, a DJ, raffles and games to fill the afternoon. Those attending are invited to wear their school colors and/or alumni tee shirts. A photographer will be on site for pictures. Schools may bring any materials for a display table that will be setup in the dining hall for attendees to view.

Attached is a summary about the NCABHSA organization letting you know who we are as well as an informational brochure to share with your alumni group. We look forward to seeing you and please share the invitation with your alumni members as soon as possible so they can save the date and register by May 1, 2018.

Best Regards,

William Knight

William Knight, Chairman

NCAHBA Treasurer

Alumnus of Swift Creek High School

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF BLACK HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI (NCABHSA)

Most of the former African-American high schools in North Carolina, including those located in Edgecombe, Nash and surrounding counties, closed their doors between 1969 and 1973 in response to the desegregation plan set forth by the state of North Carolina. Shortly after that time, active alumni groups of those schools were established and have existed since the early to mid 1970s. These alumni associations are well organized and strong in their determination to stay connected, to make a difference among our youth and to keep the history and memory of their schools alive within the communities.

The schools listed below were among the many affected by the closures and are the charter schools of the North Carolina Association of Black High School Alumni (NCABHSA) established July 2008. Although Brick School was not a part of the state's action at that time, it holds a special place in the African American educational history of the state. Brick School was the forerunner of several area high schools including Phillips in Edgecombe County, Swift Creek in Nash County and Inborden in Halifax County.

NCABHSA CHARTER SCHOOLS

Edgecombe County____

Phillips High School - Battleboro

Booker T. Washington High School - Rocky Mount

W.A. Pattillo High School - Tarboro

Conetoe High School - Conetoe

George Washington Carver High School - Pinetops

Nash County

Nash County Training School/Nash Central High School -

Nashville

Swift Creek High School - Whitakers

C.C. Spaulding High School - Spring Hope

Brick School, a private institution funded by the American Missionary Association, was among one of the earliest of the secondary schools that served the African-American community in Edgecombe and surrounding counties in Eastern North Carolina. Brick School originated in 1895 with 54 students attending thru grade four. In 1926 it became a junior college and was the only place

NCABHSA MEMBERS/SCHOOLS

Edgecombe County

B. T. Washington High School - Rocky Mount
Conetoe High School - Conetoe
G.W. Carver High School - Pinetops
North Edgecombe High School - Leggett
Phillips High School - Battleboro
W.A. Pattillo High School - Tarboro

Nash County

C.C. Spaulding High School - Spring Hope
Nash County Training School/Nash Central
High School - Nashville
Swift Creek High School - Whitakers

Pitt County

Bethel Union High School - Bethel

Franklin County

Gethsemane High School - Bunn
Franklin County Training School/
Riverside High School - Louisburg

Wilson County

C. H. Darden High School - Wilson
Springfield High School - Lucama

Wake County

James E. Shepherd High School - Zebulon



Sankofa Bird

*...a West African Symbol meaning
"go back and get what you forgot"*

January, 2016 - December, 2018 Elected Officers

President: Joan Jackson-Barnes - C. H. Darden
Vice President: Varnell Kinnin - Pattillo
Secretary: Catherine Blackwell - Booker T. Washington
Treasurer: William Knight - Swift Creek
Assistant Treasurer: Jesse Hinton - Nash Central
Parliamentarian: Jordan Sills - Gethsemane
Assistant Secretary: Leah Vines - G.W. Carver
Sergeant-at-Arms: James Collins - G.W. Carver
Financial Secretary: Brenda Asbury - Phillips
Historian: Morris Roberson - Nash Central

Committee Chairs

Budget/Finance: William Knight/Brenda Asbury
Bylaws/Policies: Jordan Sill
Civic Community: Brenda Foster
Social/Hospitality: Catherine Blackwell
Membership: Brenda Foster
Marketing/PR: Hilda Morris
Historian: Morris Roberson
Nominations: Irma Bailey

PURPOSE

~~To gather and share the history of
our high schools
To support organizations that reflect our
educational and mentoring ideas for our youth ~~

CONTACT INFORMATION:

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF BLACK HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI
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**NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION
OF BLACK HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI**



*Established
July 2008*

An Approved 501(c) (3) Organization

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF BLACK HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI (NCABHSA)

Eight of the former African-American high schools of Edgecombe and Nash County closed their doors between 1969 and 1973 in response to the desegregation plans set forth by the state of North Carolina. Shortly after that time, active alumni groups of those schools were established and have existed since the mid-seventies. These alumni associations are well organized and strong in their determination to stay connected, make a difference among youth and to keep the history and memory of their schools alive within their communities. These eight are the charter members of the North Carolina Association of Black High School Alumni (NCABHSA).

Although Brick School was not a part of the state's desegregation action at that time, having been closed in 1933 as a school, it holds a special place in the area's African American educational history. Brick was the forerunner of several of these high schools, including Phillips in Edgecombe County, Swift Creek in Nash County and Inborden in Halifax County.

Brick School, a private institution funded by the American Missionary Association and the philanthropy of Mrs. Julia Brick, was among one of the earliest secondary schools that served the African-American community in Edgecombe and surrounding counties in Eastern North Carolina. It originated in 1895 with 54 students attending through grade four. At one time it had as many as 490 students. In 1926, it became a junior college and was the only place African Americans could get a secondary education in the area. It was the first accredited secondary school for African Americans in North Carolina.

Unfortunately, Brick was forced to close in 1933 due to the economic hardships of the great depression.

Shortly after the closure of Brick, the AMA transferred its school building to the three surrounding county boards of education in Edgecombe, Nash and Halifax for use as a public high school known as the Tri-County High School. In 1946, the building housing high school students on the campus was destroyed by a fire resulting from a boiler malfunction. The Tri-County high school students who were attending Brick continued their schooling in local African American churches until Phillips High School was constructed in 1949 in Battleboro. Less than a year later, Swift Creek (1950) and Inborden (1950) high schools were opened to accommodate the Nash and Halifax county students. Other schools in Nash County built for African Americans included Nash County Training School and C.C. Spaulding. Edgecombe County's Conetoe had actually been built for white students in that area but was turned over to African Americans living in the southern end of the county in 1948 due to its dwindling enrollment of whites. Public schools, Booker T. Washington and W.A. Pattillo had been established in the early 1920's and served African Americans living within the city limits of Rocky Mount and Tarboro, respectively. G.W. Carver, located in Pinetops, was built in 1941 serving Edgecombe County African American students in the northwest county area.

After closure, each of these high schools formed an alumni association or alumni organization with numbers ranging from less than a hundred to over 400 members. They meet regularly to conduct business, to fellowship, and to structure projects that will support the college endeavors of graduating seniors and the success of other school children. Many of those projects have involved contributing and raising money for scholarships, donating school supplies, library books, sports uniforms, fieldtrips and mentoring. Many scholarships are awarded during annual school reunions which are generally held at various times of the year from May to November. These annual reunions have spurred

even greater connections with more individual class reunions, newsletters, websites, email accounts, Facebook pages and recently, the formation of the NCABHSA (North Carolina Association of Black High School Alumni) in July 2008.

The purpose of NCABHSA is to link Black high school alumni association members, graduates, teachers and attendees for the purpose of carrying out its mission "to preserve the history of Black high schools in the state of North Carolina, to engage in educational partnerships that will promote and distribute support to our youth".

The original eight charter schools of the organization (listed below) continue to be joined by new member schools each year from counties surrounding Edgecombe and Nash. The hope of the organization is to expand its future membership to include as many of the once 249 former Black high schools as possible that once existed throughout the state of North Carolina. – *NCABHSA History Committee*

Charter Members of NCABHSA

Edgecombe County

Booker T. Washington High School—Rocky Mount
Conetoe High School — Conetoe
Phillips High School—Battleboro
W.A. Pattillo High School—Tarboro
George Washington Carver High School—Pinetops

Nash County

C. C. Spaulding High School—Spring Hope
Nash County Training School/Nash Central High School—Nashville
Swift Creek High School - Whitakers