



CHSAA NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 2

"Nothing Succeeds Like Success"

MAY 2021

GREETINGS FROM CHSAA's OFFICERS

Please continue to stay safe in this COVID-19 pandemic season. Take your **SHOT** so we can all gather in person to celebrate CHSAA 50/51st Reunion rescheduled for 2022.

Save the Date:
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
Friday, May 27 – Sunday, May 29, 2022

SHIRLEY PITT-FREEMAN
President
919-796-1977

AUGUSTUS EXUM, JR.
Vice President
252-452-3126

VACANT
Secretary

WAMESE KNIGHT-JONES
Assistant Secretary
252-446-0370

JOHN BRYANT
Treasurer
817-455-0632

LULA H. COUNCIL
Assistant Treasurer
252-795-4615

ELBERT POWELL
Sergeant-at-Arms
252-823-8639

DOLORES JONES-FAISON
Parliamentarian
910-340-0158

LEVY DICKENS
Assistant Parliamentarian
252-641-1733

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**Webmaster: Elizabeth Ruffin Miller**  
**Website: [www.conetoe.org](http://www.conetoe.org)**  
**Email: [conetoe@conetoe.org](mailto:conetoe@conetoe.org)**

## CHSAA STANDING COMMITTEES

Our committees are developing with motivated and ideological members who strive to maintain and carry on **Conetoe High School's** Legacy. We are still in need of a **Secretary** and people to lead as **Class Representatives**. We also need members to join committees. We invite you to join us. You may find details of our standing committees, committee members and our mission and goals on our website at: [www.conetoe.org](http://www.conetoe.org).

### BENEVOLENCE

**Mattie Anderson-Powell, Chair**  
252-883-6811 (Class of 1971)  
[lap1102@embarqmail.com](mailto:lap1102@embarqmail.com)

**Annie Barnes-Morning, Co-Chair**  
252-883-8699 (Class of 1963)

### CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

**Shirley Pitt-Freeman, Chair**  
919-796-1977 (Class of 1970)  
[fshirley574@bellsouth.net](mailto:fshirley574@bellsouth.net)

**Rev. Mary Everette-Higgs, Co-Chair**  
704-919-0137 (Class of 1965)  
[higgs66chosen@aol.com](mailto:higgs66chosen@aol.com)

### COMMUNICATIONS

**Elizabeth Ruffin Miller, Chair**  
757-466-8554 (Class of 1964)  
[lizm11@cox.net](mailto:lizm11@cox.net)

**John Bryant**  
817-455-0632 (Class of 1970)  
[jrlsbryant@msn.com](mailto:jrlsbryant@msn.com)

**Shirley Pitt-Freeman**  
919-796-1977 (Class of 1970)  
[fshirley574@bellsouth.net](mailto:fshirley574@bellsouth.net)

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

**Adopt-A-Highway Project**  
**Fostina Cobb Lynch, Coordinator**  
252-907-8306 (Class of 1968)

**Dorothy Brown Roberson, Coordinator**  
252-558-7205 (Class of 1966)  
[dot1210r@gmail.com](mailto:dot1210r@gmail.com)

**Health Awareness**  
**Rosa Joyner Williams, Correspondence Distribution**  
252-885-5374 (Class of 1968)  
[thornsgarden@gmail.com](mailto:thornsgarden@gmail.com)

*Continued on Page 2*

## **HISTORICAL**

**Barbara Powell, Chair**  
202-578-8614 (Class of 1975)  
[barbarapowell233@gmail.com](mailto:barbarapowell233@gmail.com)

## **MEMBERSHIP ENCHANCEMENT**

**John Bryant, Chair**  
817-455-0632 (Class of 1968)  
[jrlsbryant@msn.com](mailto:jrlsbryant@msn.com)

**Leroy Jones, Co-Chair**  
240-461-8202 (Class of 1967)  
[ljones55@verizon.net](mailto:ljones55@verizon.net)

## **POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

**Yvonne Harris Lewis, Chair**  
404-210-6075 (Class of 1963)  
[lew3045@yahoo.com](mailto:lew3045@yahoo.com)

**Shirley Pitt-Freeman, Co-Chair**  
919-796-1977 (Class of 1970)  
[fshirley574@bellsouth.net](mailto:fshirley574@bellsouth.net)

## **SCHOLARSHIP**

**Ethel V. Ruffin-Collier, Chair**  
252-813-4504 (Class of 1961)  
[ethelcollier@embarqmail.com](mailto:ethelcollier@embarqmail.com)

**Ruby Johnson Howell, Co-Chair**  
631-637-0583 (Class of 1963)

## **SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

**Evelyn Exum-Graves, Chair**  
336-214-1279 (Class of 1974)  
[evelyngraves@att.net](mailto:evelyngraves@att.net)

**Rosetta Pitt-Williams, Co-Chair**  
347-534-7690 (Class of 1974)  
[rosetta2014pitt@gmail.com](mailto:rosetta2014pitt@gmail.com)

## **SOCIAL**

**Shirley Pitt-Freeman, Chair**  
919-796-1977 (Class of 1970)  
[fshirley574@bellsouth.net](mailto:fshirley574@bellsouth.net)

## **NEWS: OUR STATUS AS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION**

We are celebrating organizational news that we are officially the **Conetoe High School Alumni Association, Inc.** incorporated in the state of North Carolina as a nonprofit corporation. Our 501(c)(3) IRS tax exempt application is pending. We are extremely grateful to **Yvonne Harris Lewis** for her dedicated work which was instrumental in accomplishing this status. With our new status, we are also introducing our CHSAA Board Members.

### **OUR CHSAA BOARD MEMBERS ARE:**

Shirley Pitt-Freeman, Augustus Exum, Ernestine Alston, Wamese Knight-Jones, John Bryant, Lula Harper-Council, Dolores Jones-Faison, Lewis Higgs, Yvonne Harris-Lewis, Rev. Mary Everette-Higgs, Elizabeth Ruffin Miller, Barbara Powell, Leroy Jones & Ethel Ruffin-Collier.

## **CLASS REPRESENTATIVES**

Welcome new \*representatives and thanks to all representatives for outstanding work and decisions to continue in the role. If there are questions for classes that do not have an assigned Representative or if you would like to volunteer as a Class Representative, contact **Shirley Pitt-Freeman** at 919-796-1977 or email her at: [fshirley574@bellsouth.net](mailto:fshirley574@bellsouth.net).

### **\*new Class Representative**

**1949-Ethel R. Collier (252) 823-6517**  
[ethelcollier@embarqmail.com](mailto:ethelcollier@embarqmail.com)

**1950- Unassigned**

**1951- Unassigned**

**1952- Unassigned**

**1953- Unassigned**

**1954- Unassigned**

**1955- Unassigned**

**1956-Ernestine Alston, 336-275-0338**

**1957-Lula H. Council, 252-717-3986, [lhccouncil@yahoo.com](mailto:lhccouncil@yahoo.com)**

**1958- Unassigned**

**1959- Unassigned**

**1960-Winston M. Knight, 410-263-0590**

**[wknight564@verizon.net](mailto:wknight564@verizon.net)**

**1961-Ethel Collier, 252-823-6517**

**[ethelcollier@embarqmail.com](mailto:ethelcollier@embarqmail.com)**

**1962-Annie M. Barnes-Harrison**

**252-823-1219, [harrison0331@yahoo.com](mailto:harrison0331@yahoo.com)**

**1963-Ruby J. Howell, 631-637-0583**

**1964-Paul Jones, 301-292-3090, [pauljones6814@gmail.com](mailto:pauljones6814@gmail.com)**

**1965- Rev. Mary Higgs, 704-919-0137**

**[higgs66chosen@aol.com](mailto:higgs66chosen@aol.com)**

**1966-Levon Harrison, 252-823-7192**

**[lharrison1@centurylink.net](mailto:lharrison1@centurylink.net)**

**1966-Lewis Higgs, 252-567-2547**

**1967-Rev. Shirley E. Hill, 252-641-4140**

**[learningstones@aol.com](mailto:learningstones@aol.com)**

**1967-Vertie Morning-Higgs**

**252-823-3254, [vertiehiggs@gmail.com](mailto:vertiehiggs@gmail.com)**

**1968-John Bryant, 919-728-8447, [jrlsbryant@msn.com](mailto:jrlsbryant@msn.com)**

**1969-Milton Higgs, 252-567-5514, [higgsme@suddenlink.net](mailto:higgsme@suddenlink.net)**

**1970-Dolores J. Faison, 252-823-6931**

**[djfaison1985@gmail.com](mailto:djfaison1985@gmail.com)**

**1971-Unassigned**

**1972-Unassigned**

**1973-Eddie Jackson, 252-751-7293**

**[jacksonglenda96@yahoo.com](mailto:jacksonglenda96@yahoo.com)**

**1974- Isabelle P. Andrews, 252-885-6886**

**[ipandrews275@gmail.com](mailto:ipandrews275@gmail.com)**

**1975-Debra Lynch-Martin, 252-907-0217**

**[Lynchdebra195@gmail.com](mailto:Lynchdebra195@gmail.com)**

**1976- Unassigned**

**K-1982- Jeannette Ellison-Fuller, 301-938-6621,**

**[Mrskluv@gmail.com](mailto:Mrskluv@gmail.com)**



# SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER INITIATIVE

Our first scholarship fundraiser was extraordinary! Thanks to the Class Representatives, Alumni Classmates and Friends for the invaluable contributions and support. We recognize and celebrate the classes and classmates' participation in the Class Fundraiser Initiative.

## Class of 1949 (\$25)

Josephine Pate-Johnson

## Class of 1950 (\$200)

In Memory of Wm. Ester Stephens-Bachelor

In Honor of Rev. Asbury Collins Batchelor

## Class of 1954 (\$370)

Mabelle Lawrence

In Memory of Moses H. Stephens

Dorothy Jones-Adkins

## Class of 1955 (\$50)

Matthew H. Knight

## Class of 1956 (\$75)

Selma Ernestine Alston

William Howell

## Class of 1957 (\$200)

Tenna V. Gray

Lula Harper-Council

## Class of 1958 (\$35)

Dorothy Denice Lawrence

Anonymous

## Class of 1959 (\$150)

Russell Howell

Dorothy Ree Jones-Byrd

Minnie Ruth Ruffin

## Class of 1960 (\$5,130.30)

Voneree (Von) DeLoatch,

Brigadier General, Retired

Winston M. Knight

Mary Louella Staton-Carmack

## Class of 1961 (\$762)

Levy Dickens

Lucille Dickens-Bannister

Luke Howell Jr.

James Carlton Kearney

Shernell Knight-Williams

Helen Pettaway-Frederick

Charlie Pope

Ethel Vines Ruffin-Collier

## Class of 1962 (\$450)

Annie Barnes-Harrison

James Bell

Rosa Corey-Exum

Eddie Harper

James Howell

Lottie Staton Crowell

Ernestine Wilkins-Lee

## Class of 1963 (\$1,330)

Annie Barnes-Morning

Mattie Brown-Williams

Thomas Cofield

Jesse DeLoatch

Ernestine Dickens-Staton

Magella Howell-Bryant

Viola Cooper Hill

Ruby Johnson-Howell

James Walter Jones

Delois Jones-Hayes

Barbara Jones-Williams

Yvonne Harris-Lewis

Robert Vines

Eula M. White-Mizzelle

## Class of 1964 (\$500)

Reatha Howell-Morris

Paul L. Jones

Clara Manning-Odom

Elizabeth Ruffin Miller

Maggie Stanley

Mittie Sherrod-Staton

Ethel Smith-Williams

Burrell Staton, Jr.

Moses Williams

## Class of 1965 (\$3,075)

Roosevelt Armfield

Benjamin Arnold, Jr.

Milton Armston

Martin Luther Barnes,

Barbara Black

Bobby Clark

Daisy Clark-Kearney

Willie F. Cofield

Mary Frances Cooper

Nathaniel Cooper

Joseph Dancy

Mary Everett-Higgs

Annie Carol Exum-Flippen

Reta M. Exum

Janie Gardner-Pippen

Russell Harris

Pearl Haywood

Thurman L. Higgs

Mary Calvin Hopkins-Jones

Carrie Jackson

Mary Johnson-Roberson

James Earl Jones

Roberta Jones-Mercer

Senora Jones-Powell

Mary Walston-Knight

Shirley Knight-Person

## Class of 1965 (continued)

Augusta Malone

Milton Morning

Curtis McDowell

Annie Hill-Pippen

Minnie Pearl Pippen

James Pittman

Melvin Roberts

Dorothy Roberson

Elnora Ruffin-Griffin

Wilbert Shaw

Lenora Sherrod

Edna Smith-Dancy

James Spruill

Shirley Sutton-Whitaker

Earl Clayton Taylor

Shirley Vines-Charles

Mary Ward-Whitakers

Milton Whitehead

Rosa Wilkins

## Class of 1966 (\$1,700)

Lester Anderson

Shirley Cobb-Powell

Columbus Cofield

Gladys Cooper

James Corey

Brenda Exum-Carroll

David Gray

Jean Harrison-Battle

Levon Harrison

Lewis Higgs

Doris Jones-Evans

Johnny Ray Jones

Williams Jones

Sammy Knight

Oscar Lathan

Alonza Lawrence

Leroy Jones

Yvonne Jones-Lyons

Elbert Ray Powell

Sylvia Shields-Hanson

Annie Mae Stanley

James Staton

Barbara Tillery

Shirley Vines-Charles

Vivian Wilkins-Haynes

Thurston Worship

## Class of 1967 (\$2,100)

Verna Arnold-Worsley

Donnie Black

Milton Bridgers

## Class of 1967 (continued)

Patricia Brown

Dorothy DeLoatch-Maybury

Martha Dickens-Lathan

Rev. Shirley Everett-Hill

Johnny Melvin Gray

Janie Jones

Leroy Jones

Sandra Joseph-Dickens

Verneal Mallory

Vertie Morning-Higgs

Eva Powell-Lewis

Ernest Shaw

Luther Ward

Myra White-Young

Curtis Whitehead

Barbara Wishop-Evans

Benjamin Worsley

## Class of 1968 (\$3,525)

Linda Anderson-Staton

Robert Lee Arnold

Lucinda Barnes-Staton

Jacqueline Barnes-Corey

Lucinda Barnes-Staton

Clifton Earl Black

John Bryant

Milton Earl Cephus

Fostina Cobb-Lynch

Ora Mae Council

William Edwards Cox

Eraine Farmer

Cassandra Knight-Hart

Jacqueline Yvonne Heath

Jannie Howell

Gloria Williams-Howell

Florence Jackson

Mary Jacobs-Denning

Rosa Joyner-Williams

Martha Brown-Lancaster

Glenwood Malone

Murray Morning

Fannie Mae Peele

Leathea Spencer-Powell

William Ruffin

Juanita Staton-Shaw

William Suggs

Mary Carney Walls-Downing

Annie Slade-Wilkins

Harvey Lee White

William White

Ella Lynch-White

Phyllis Wilkins-Bonds

Cassandra McDowell-Wishop



# SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER INITIATIVE

(continued from Page 3)

## Class of 1969 (\$820)

Dora Anderson-Cox  
Howard Andrews  
Selma Carney-Lewis  
Frances Cephus-Sutton  
Milton Higgs  
Edna J. Johnson  
Nettie Johnson-Watts  
Geraldine Jones-Powell  
Curtis Jordan  
Mary J. Lucas  
James Smith  
Marie Shields-Wynder  
William Staton  
Annie Vines-Charles  
Dennis Williams  
Barbara S. Williams

## Class of 1970 (\$900)

Phyllis Baker-James  
Rev. James Brown  
Elnora Chance  
Mary Chance-Best  
Delnora Chance-Johnson  
William Cherry  
Evanion Dancy-Lyons  
Augustus Exum, Jr.  
Carl Harrison  
Joyce Howell-Whitehead  
Dexter Jones  
Dolores Jones-Faison  
Frank Knight  
Lonnie Parker  
Alton Powell  
Shirley Phippen-Taylor  
Shirley Pitt-Freeman  
Vernell Sherrod-Jordon  
Thomas Walston  
Carolyn White-Williams  
Joyce Worsley-Pugh

## Class of 1971 (\$100)

Gladys Exum-Huggins

## Class of 1972 (\$70)

Linda Joyner  
Gladys Staton

## Class of 1973 (\$300)

Eddie Jackson  
Nathaniel Powell  
Paul Powell  
Brenda Thigpen-Cameron  
Bedy Wilkins

## Class of 1974 (\$265)

Alice Albritton  
Patricia Harris  
Hilda Higgs-Morris  
Brenda Palmer-Griggs  
Rosetta Pitt-Williams  
Isabelle Purvis-Andrews  
Delois Shields-Hyman

## Class of 1975 (\$325)

Shelia Andrews  
Phyllis Howell  
David Jenkins  
Cynthia Knight  
Debra Lynch-Martin  
Carlton Sherrod  
Nonnie Sherrod-Roberts  
Patricia Staton-Johnson  
Lena Suggs  
Debbie Vick  
Lerna Wishop-Jones  
Shelia Worsley-Lyons  
**Class of 1976 (\$50)**  
Gloria Council-Cooper

## K-1982 (\$105)

Jeannette Ellison-Fuller

## IN MEMORIAM

### Class of 1965

Mederia Best  
Annie Belle Brinson  
Marian Allen Brown  
Willie Jasper Brown  
William Caine  
Bettye Jean Cherry  
Samuel Lee Cobb  
David Cooper  
Mildred Council  
Joyce L. Deloatch  
Ruby Neal Dickens  
Rudolph Dickens  
Pearlie Gray Everett  
Lucille Geddies  
Delois Hyman  
Julia Mae Jones  
Lorell Lozeat Mallory  
Lois McDowell  
Theodore Redmond  
Maggie Lee Ruffin  
Annie Mary Smith  
Linda Spencer  
Carolyn Juanita Suggs  
Calvin Thigpen  
David Lee White  
Bennie Louise Wilkins  
Gaynell Worsley

## "IN HONOR" & "IN MEMORY" SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

- Mary & Antonio Stephens donated in the memory of husband and father Moses Stephens Class of '54.
- James Kearney Class of '61 donated in the memory of his wife Ester Graham-Kearney.
- Minnie Ruffin Class of '59, Elizabeth Ruffin Miller Class of '64 & Elnora Ruffin Griffin Class of '65 donated in memory of their parents George & Minnie Ruffin.
- Winston Knight Class of '60 donated in memory of Elder Jennie & Sister Alvanie Knight, William Earl & James I. Knight.
- Jackie Barnes-Corey Class of '68, Barnes-Bonds Family donated in memory of William Felton "Bill" Barnes Class of '67
- Diane Land donated in memory of her mother, Mrs. William Stephens Batchelor and in honor of her father, Rev. Asbury Collins Batchelor, both in class of 1950.
- Harvey White Class of '68 donated in memory his sisters - Peggy White and Mamie White.
- John Bryant Class of '68, and daughters Janice Bryant and Deetra Bryant-Watson donated in memory of wife and mother Lena Staton-Bryant Class of '70. Established a Scholarship Award for student attending Elizabeth City State University (ECSU), NC.
- Jesse Deloatch Class of '63 donated in memory of his parents Chester and Maude Deloatch. Established a Scholarship award for student attending A&T State University, Greensboro, NC.
- Teena Gray Class of '57 donated in memory of Rev. Lucy Gray Class of '53.
- Juanita Staton-Shaw Class of '68 donated in memory of son Ervin Tyrone Shaw and mother, Lottie Carney Staton
- Jeannette Ellison-Fuller Class of K-1982 donated in honor of her mother Hattie Savage Ellison.
- Shirley Pitt-Freeman Class of '70 & Rosetta Pitt-Williams Class of '74 donated in memory of their parents Arthur Lee Pitt & Claretha Jones-Pitt and brother Arthur "Ray Boy" Pitt Class of '72.
- Isabelle Purvis-Andrews Class of '74 donated in memory of her parents Elder Cleveland Purvis and Marybelle Savage-Purvis.
- Paul Hussey donated in memory of his wife Shirley Mae Brown-Hussey Class of '70.
- Alton Powell Class of '70 donated in memory of his mother, Geneva Powell.

## CONETOE HIGH SCHOOL ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY PROJECT

We are asking alumnus and community friends in the local area surrounding of Thigpen Road, Conetoe NC to support the CHS Adopt-A-Highway cleanup project. To preserve "Conetoe High School 1948 Eagles 1971" highway segments and signs placed on the shoulders facing traffic announcing the existence of CHS legacy. We must comply to a four times per year trash and litter cleanup. The Committee designated the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in June, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in September and the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, December 28th. The December date was selected as recognition and celebration of Kwanzaa unity and culture. **Mark your calendars!**

Encourage youth to participate. They will be able to obtain credits as a civic/community service. Parents/guardians of minor children between the ages of twelve through seventeen —signatures required on "Youth Participation Release Form" authorizing youth to participate. Please contact Coordinators, **Fostina Cobb Lynch**, 252-907-8306 or **Dorothy Brown Roberson**, 252-558-7205 for any questions or if you would like to volunteer to assist with the cleanup.

# Celebrating Our Alumni

What Have You Been Doing Since Leaving High School?  
**We Want To Celebrate You!**

CHSAA Celebrated **Black History Month 2021** honoring our own trailblazers. We honored our trailblazers by sharing their historical footprint via our CHSAA website with images created by our Webmaster, **Elizabeth Ruffin Miller**. In addition, our **President, Shirley Pitt-Freeman** posted these images to CHSAA's Facebook Page and also distributed them via email. Although, February is the month that spotlights Black History, CHSAA will continue to honor and celebrate our trailblazers throughout the year as they are made known to us. For a list of our celebrated trailblazers, visit our Facebook Page or our website.

Since Black History is made everyday, we are now interested in celebrating our Alumni throughout the year. We are certain that there are classmates who are quite interested in what you have been doing since leaving Conetoe High School. We want to highlight you and yours on our website so that your kids, grandkids, friends and family will be able to read about you and your life for many generations to come. **We all have a story and we want to tell yours.**

## LIST OF ALUMNI CELEBRATED

- ~ **Ernestine Alston** (Class of 1956)
- ~ Judge **Veronica Higgs-Cope** (Daughter of **Nathan Lee Higgs** (Class of 1963) and the late **Stella Higgs** (Class of 1966); also niece of **Thurman L. Higgs** (Class of 1965)
- ~ Reverend **Mary Everett Higgs** (Class of 1965)
- ~ Dr. **Velma P. Scantlebury, M.D.** wife of **Harvey White** (Class of 1968)
- ~ **Marty L. Miller**, Husband of **Elizabeth Ruffin Miller** (Class of 1964)
- ~ Dr. **Harvey L. White** (Class of 1968)
- ~ Brigadier General (Ret.) **Voneree Deloatch** (Class of 1960)
- ~ **Carol Allen White** (Class of 1975)
- ~ The Late **Joe Willie Dickens, Jr.** (Class of 1971)
- ~ Senior Executive **Adarryl Roberts** son of **Perry Roberts** (Class of 1972) and **Nonnie Sherrod-Roberts** (Class of 1975)
- ~ **Lewis Higgs** (Class of 1966) and **David Gray** (Class of 1966) 24 Years of Service as CHSAA President & Vice President ~ 1996 to 2020

**WE INVITE YOU TO TELL US YOUR STORY!!!**

**Email your story and pictures to: Elizabeth Ruffin at: [lizmil1@cox.net](mailto:lizmil1@cox.net)**

## From the Treasurer

A Big "Thank You" to everyone who participated in either the Scholarship Drive and / or purchased Raffle Tickets. The two programs have been and continue to be a tremendous success. The Scholarship Program is in the best financial position ever with monies available for 2021/22 applicants. We have sold enough raffle tickets to secure the 65" Smart TV and there is an adequate amount in the general funds to cover this newsletter mailing. So, the state of CHSAA banking account is sufficient to cover current expenditures. However, without a banquet in 2020 or 2021 the general fund is trending downward. Securing 501(c)(3) status will prove to be a big plus for the **Association's** fundraising capabilities. Thanks to our **President, Shirley Pitt-Freeman** and the team, especially **Yvonne Harris**, for their efforts in securing non-profit status for CHSAA.

John Bryant, Treasurer

## MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT CORNER

The Membership Enhancement (MEC) Team are 12 dedicated alumni members committed to serving Conetoe High School Graduates by enhancing their experiences through communications, engagement, and involvement.

**What are we doing?** We are in the process of verbally contacting as many members as possible with a courtesy call. To date we have spoken to over 150 graduates starting with classes of 1949 through 1966. Most alumni welcome our call and are delighted someone from the Alumni Association was calling just to keep in touch; and appreciated the opportunity to talk about Conetoe. Most are very appreciative of the call particularly checking on them during COVID-19. In some cases, some are a little hesitant to talk but after some conversation and establishing mutual connections with Conetoe we have had good conversations. Some shared stories of classmates and their efforts over the years to stay in touch.

In some cases, new information was provided to alumni such as reunion dates being canceled, options for receiving the newsletter and information on ongoing programs.

**What are we trying to accomplish?** Initially, we wanted to contact as many alumni as possible before the 2021 reunion/banquet. Especially ALL ALUMNI who have not been active or participated in the past reunions. We wanted to establish a network of communications using the telephone and email, updating current mailing addresses etc. and providing alumni an opportunity to offer suggestions / feedback

to the alumni association officers.

**How do we measure success?** Feedback, returned telephone calls, correcting, and updating contact information, and reaching alumni who have been out of touch.

**What do we do with the information?** A database is compiled with information collected and passed on to the alumni president for use with the CHSAA Board and other committees where appropriate.

**When will you hear from us?** We hope to have reached all alumni by August 2021. If you are reading this and have changed your phone number or address and have not shared updated information with the committee, we ask that you please do so. You can call **919-728-8447** or **919-796-1977**.

**What else are we doing?** 1) MEC Trivia Challenge – We hope those who participated enjoyed brainstorming with others to answer questions. Winners will be announced May 29, 2021. 2) 65" Smart TV Raffle – Response to the raffle has been great. The last date to purchase tickets is May 15, 2021. Drawing is May 29, 2021. Stay tuned for the next MEC event coming in the third quarter. We encourage you to get involved and participate.

John Bryant, MEC Chairperson

## CHSAA & CLASS OF 1971 CELEBRATING 50 YEARS!

**Congratulations Class of 1971:** Congratulations Class of 1971 on celebrating your 50<sup>th</sup> High School Graduation Anniversary. We wish you a successful virtual celebration **Memorial Day Weekend, May 28 – May 31, 2021**. Contact **Rev. Roosevelt Higgs** for details on the virtual celebration at **252-907-8311**.

### *Alumni Virtual Gathering!*

We are planning a virtual gathering Labor Day Weekend, **Saturday, September 4, 2021**. Individual classes start hello sessions and practicing zoom meetings with your classmates so you will be ready to participate in the September 4<sup>th</sup> virtual gathering. **More details forthcoming via email, website, Facebook and text messaging.**

### SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS COMMITTEE

The Conetoe High School Alumni **Scholarship Recipients Committee** will start contacting Alumni affiliates and scholarship recipients on **June 28, 2021**. The plan is to locate recipients in time to encourage them to participate in the next **CHSAA Reunion 50/51st celebration, Memorial Day Weekend, May 28, 2022**. We are looking forward to talking with you soon. For any information, questions or concerns, please contact the **Scholarship Recipients Committee:** Chair, **Evelyn Exum-Graves (336) 214-1279** or Co-Chair, **Rosetta Pitt-Williams (347) 534-7690**.



**MEMORIAL DAY**

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED