



The ORANGE & BLUE

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. • SPRING 2015

Columbus High Takes Gold!

Columbus High did it again! Making the Columbus area proud, CHS ranked third in the state among all high schools. The gold medalist school also ranks 85th in the country, as reported by *U.S. News and World Report*.

Achieving this honor is no easy feat. Schools are ranked based on their academics, test scores and Advance Placement courses. No other Columbus or surrounding area school received the honor of gold medalist.

Join the CHS Alumni Association in celebration of our alma mater and the past and present students who made this possible.

Go Blue Devils!

Handshakes and Applause

A big CHS congratulations to these students and alumni! "We are, as always, Columbus High!"

- **Cory Aycock '15** signed to play soccer at LaGrange College
- Congratulations to alumnus **Jimmy Beck** who made it through the qualifying round for the US Open. Beck shot a four under par 68 at Legends at Chatuea Elan and placed second. Additionally, Beck was named Atlantic Sun Conference Scholar-Athlete of the Year for the second year in a row.
- **Nancy Hatcher '15** signed to play volleyball at Reinhardt College
- **Alex Head '15** signed to play softball at Georgia Regents University
- **Karl Ivey '15** signed to play basketball at Point University
- **Al Jones '15** signed to play baseball at Vanderbilt University
- **Blake Konans '15** signed to play soccer at LaGrange College
- **Khayla Lloyd '15** signed to play basketball at College of Coastal Georgia
- **Jazmine McIntosh '15** signed to play basketball at Valdosta State University
- **Stanton Schorr '15** signed to play golf at Mercer University
- **Mary Catherine Smith '15** signed to play softball at Young Harris University
- **Lexie Stohr '15** signed to play softball at Armstrong State University
- **Dale Williams '15** signed to play football at Point University

Class of 1965 celebrates 50 years!

A Good Time Was Had By All!



The Class of 1965 enjoyed a fun-filled weekend of fellowship, reminiscing and laughs. They look forward to their 55th reunion in 2020.

Another record CHS 50th reunion took place April 24 and 25. The Class of 1965 celebrated 50 years with 188 classmates from all over the country. With spouses included, the number attended reached nearly 300, making it one of the largest reunions to date.

Thanks to the Reunion Committee, led by **Patty Kimbrough Taylor '65**, reunion events stretched through the entire weekend.

The Friday night social was held at the Country Club of Columbus and included an amazing buffet dinner. Attendees mingled and engaged in fellowship while reminiscing with classmates many hadn't seen in 50 years.

CHS hosted tours led by Judy and Randy Whitt on Saturday morning. More than 60 alumni and their guests walked through halls of Columbus High recounting memories of their experiences. Meanwhile, 83 ladies attended the Ladies Luncheon at the River Club, and over 50 attended the tour of the Infantry Museum hosted by **Leslie Cohn '65**.

Inclement weather could have disrupted the Historic Columbus tour, but thankfully 21 people attended and had an excellent time.

Saturday night brought an evening of dinner and dancing at the Green Island Club. Between the trips down memory lane and the dance

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Class of '65

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songs, **Burton Hewitt '65** announced over \$17,000 was raised by the Class of 1965 to provide scholarships for 2015 CHS seniors!

In addition to the impressive and generous amount raised by the entire class, a special scholarship of \$2,000 was announced in honor of **Patty Kimbrough Taylor '65** for her continued service. Patty organized every reunion held by the Class of 1965 to date. Her dedication to others was the perfect gateway to a scholarship in her honor, which will be known as the "Patty Kimbrough Taylor Leadership Award."



Tommy Boyter '65, Burton Hewitt '65 and Leslie Cohn '65 celebrate 50 years together.



Many articles published during 1965 were reprinted and displayed throughout the Saturday night social.

A Note from Jan Carter

Dear CHS Alumni,

I cannot thank you enough for the overwhelming alumni response to participate as a Columbus High History Unit interviewee. Columbus High's 335 freshmen are discussing their experiences with the revised CHS History Unit. The vast general consensus is this year's interviews were the best!

A special thanks for all who volunteered to interview via Skype. We hope to implement that as an option next year.

Thank you to the following alumni for volunteering and being interviewed:

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Cathy Bickerstaff '65 | Madden Hatcher '55 | Susan Peters '66 |
| Cecil Calhoun '52 | Burton Hewitt '65 | Carol Stotser '76 |
| Ken Crumpler '61 | C. B. Hewitt '38 | Susan Weir |
| Tammy Foster '82 | Jean Kent '46 | Laurie Wolfe '79 |
| Debbie Garrett '71 | Pat Hill Lane '64 | Betsey Zachry '70 |

I could not have done this without your support. Again, thank you!

Jan Carter, CHS Media Specialist

Alumni Spotlight: Bootsie Mayfield '66



Bootsie Mayfield

Miss Columbus. Musician. Teacher. Author. **Bootsie Mayfield '66** is many things - but motivated is what best describes her. Overcoming a major knee handicap to become a renowned concert artist and successful musician, Bootsie never let an obstacle stand in her way. "Being handicapped in any way was not a part of my vocabulary and something I never accepted," Bootsie recalls. It is that attitude, the support of her family and her experience at Columbus High that led her down the road of success.

In 1960, John Kendrick, Bootsie's father, joined Columbus High School's family as the Director of Band. Bootsie moved to Columbus, but shortly after began experiencing pain and debilitating issues from her bilateral knee disease. Her knees continued to collapse on a regular basis. She experienced multiple surgeries, hospitalizations, confinement to a wheelchair and to her own bed for many months. She reached for a distraction - that distraction became the flute.

John Kendrick and Bootsie both developed a quick love and admiration for Columbus. Bootsie attributes Columbus High to much of her success in overcoming her handicap. "I received the help from my teachers to allow

me to work from home at times with them assisting me with my homework, assignments and more. Most importantly Columbus is a town of family values and I received the love and support of the entire community. For this, I will always remain grateful."

At the young age of 16, Bootsie was selected to perform with the Columbus Symphony. Shortly after, she won the title of Miss Columbus and finished as a semi-finalist in the Miss Georgia pageant. Her experiences on stage helped mold her for a lifetime of performing. She went on to become a celebrated flute and piccolo teacher, an author of several publications, owning her own private studio and contracting and recording agency, serving on Auburn University's faculty and, last but not least, a highly regarded and demanded concert flutist.

Beyond the exposure to live performance, Bootsie was immersed in something even more valuable: a sense of community. Her high school memories are loving, positive and heart-felt, and she knows it is all due to her classmates, teachers and community leaders. Bootsie remarked, "Most important of all were the special people from Columbus who played such a pivotal role in my life. Jac Rothschild, George Corradino, Bob Barr, Robert Eakle, Art Colliani and all of my special teachers and friends at Columbus High School. We

had great times together filled with fun and wonderful school events. CHS had a wonderful school spirit and we were all excited to be a part of such a great school and school community. I am so proud to be an alumna of Columbus High School!"

With her humble nature, it is easy to see how she is regarded as "The People's Flutist." To read more about Bootsie, her story and her success, please visit her website: www.bootsiemayfield.com.

CHS Alumni Association, Inc. Leadership

OFFICERS/TRUSTEES

President

Burton Hewitt '65

Vice Presidents

Cecil Calhoun '52
Ken Crumpler '61
Vickie Logan Rounsaville '66
Judy Whitt

Treasurer

Jimmy Self '54
Michael Autry '74

Webmaster

Tuesday Pritchett '99

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Morton Harris '52

Trustees

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Ken Broda '87
Onetha Huling '82
Gloria Jones Dodds Johnson '62
Jean Kent '46
Emily Parker Miles '59
Josh Orlich '00
Carl Rhodes '04
Joyce Fillon Walsh '65
Pat Weekly '66
Judy Whitt - Friend
Melania Takemoto - Friend

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From the Desk of Our President...



Burton Hewitt '65

What a great year it has been! First, let me thank all of the alumni and friends who have contributed both time and money to the success of the association. Without you, none of our accomplishments would be possible.

Our first annual giving campaign was successful and raised almost \$29,000 from 193 alumni. This generosity exceeded our expectations but proves how dedicated our alumni are to CHS. Our Endowment Fund Balance was \$527,145 as of March 24, 2015. The \$62,000 increase since the end of 2013 is phenomenal! All funds are processed by our partners at OmegaFi and the Community Foundation.

Since 2014 was so successful, it is obvious we can expect nothing less from 2015. We will soon kick off 2015's annual campaign to raise money for the students at Columbus High. More information will be disseminated soon, but you are able to visit the website and be one of the first to make *your* annual gift.

I want to say a special thank you to our original donors, who we refer to as Lifetime Donors. Without you, our association would not have a leg to stand on. We appreciate you providing the seed funds to get the association started. Although our efforts slightly shifted and now focus more on annual giving, you will always hold the recognition as the original investors in this highly regarded association.

As you can see from the *Columbus High Alumni Association by Numbers* graph on

page four, 2014 was a great year. Between the \$22,000 the association granted students for their use to improve and advance their education, the one-time \$2,000 Patty Kimbrough Taylor scholarship and the \$17,000 raised by the Class of 1965, we are making a difference in students' lives and their futures. I couldn't be more proud.

In other news, CHS Alumni Association rolled out a new and improved website, www.ColumbusHighAlumni.com, and Facebook page. Many thanks to our Webmaster, **Tuesday Pritchett '99**, who maintains the website and **Josh Orlich '00**, who maintains the Facebook site. Using these outlets allows the association to get the word out about our events, the events of the high school and various community activities.

Our communication is stronger than ever. In 2014, over 30,000 emails were sent to alumni and the community. Many were in support of teachers' requests for alumni volunteers, community activities, progress on our students' activities and sports and more. A big thanks to **Cecil Calhoun '52**, who does a great job coordinating with CHS and the community to keep us all informed and connected.

Another area to draw your attention to is the numbers for our alumni database. We can only contact 17% of our alumni through mail and 12% via email. It is imperative we beef up our data - especially email addresses. Postage adds up quickly for a nonprofit organization - but email is free! It is the fastest and easiest way to keep you informed.

Visit www.ColumbusHighAlumni.com today and verify your email address. While you are there, be sure to review other alumni information and update it if you can. We do not share these addresses with anyone else.

If 2014 taught us anything, it is we are so much more than a funding source for CHS. Through our many efforts and communication tools, we are a link between CHS and the wide network of alumni. We created an improved network of alumni to alumni and we are truly fulfilling our mission statement. Special thanks to **Vickie Rounsaville '66** for working to publish our alumni newsletter, which keeps our alumni informed and up-to-date on CHS and the Association activities.

Lastly, many thanks go to **Jean Kent '46**, for promptly getting thank-you letters out on all memorials and honorariums. Jean recently announced her retirement. We greatly appreciate all of the work she has done. If you are interested in volunteering for this role, please contact me.

Again, thank you for your support. Without it none of this would be possible. I trust you will continue to support the Association and CHS with your contributions of both time and money. If you have any ideas or suggestions, do not hesitate to contact me at chsalum2014@gmail.com.

"We are, as always, Columbus High."

Burton Hewitt
President CHS Alumni Association
Class '65

2015 Senior Board Night

Each year Columbus High seniors spend the majority of their last year preparing for their Senior Board project. This labor intensive and highly demanding senior project must be completed in order for students to graduate.

Using the topic they selected during their junior year, students spend 100 hours or more researching, developing and producing a portfolio which is later presented to a panel of judges. In addition to the preparation time, the student must spend 25 hours with a mentor who is considered an expert in the field of study the student chose.

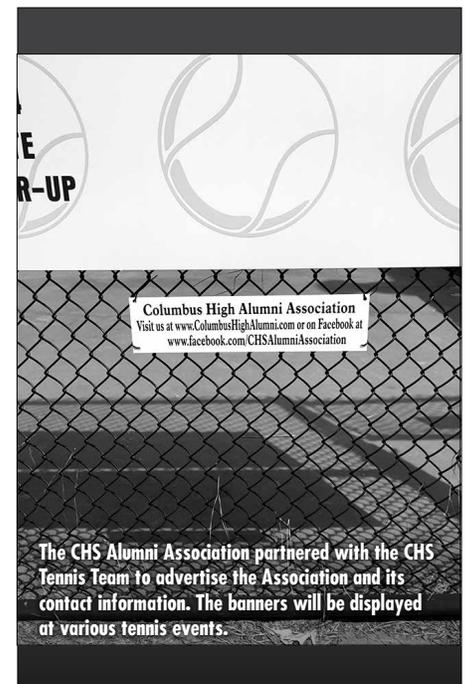
On April 23, 2015 numerous CHS alumni participated as judges for this year's Senior Board. Some of this year's projects included architecture, aviation, iBook publication, knife making and application development.

Many thanks to all alumni who volunteered their time to this noteworthy event. Next year's Senior Board night should be just as impressive.

Our Mission Statement

- To serve as a liaison between alumni, friends of education and Columbus High School
- To promote loyalty, knowledge and support of Columbus High, its programs and its continued educational excellence
- To encourage alumni association growth, camaraderie and spirit through unity of purpose

**"We are, as always,
Columbus High"**





CHS Alumni Association, Inc. #2072
PO Box 2187
Columbus, GA 31902-2187

Help us keep our records up-to-date! Edit your profile online at www.ColumbusHighAlumni.com or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to: CHS Alumni Association, Inc. #2072, PO Box 2187, Columbus, GA 31902.

Name _____

Graduation Year _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Columbus High Alumni Association by Numbers

A Quick Glance at Our Figures

\$527,145 (as of March 24, 2015)

The amount raised for the Endowment for Excellence

\$28,995

Amount raised in the 2014 Annual Fund

\$22,000+

The amount made available to CHS to improve and advance the education of students, not including the recent scholarship fund from the Class of 1965 or the 2014 Annual Fund contribution.

\$17,000+

Amount given by the Class of 1965 for scholarships

\$2,000

The Patty Kimbrough Taylor Leadership Award Scholarship

17,499*

The number of alumni listed in the CHS alumni database

2,039*

The number of accurate email addresses on file

2,581*

The number of accurate mailing addresses on file

Scholarships

The following CHS Seniors received scholarships from the Class of 1965. These scholarships were presented at CHS Honors night on May 19, 2015 by Burton Hewitt '65, Patty Kimbrough Taylor '65 and Cathy Zimmerman Bickerstaff '65.

Ekta Parab - \$2,000

Tucker Oliver - \$1,500

Michael Toole - \$1,500

Rebecca Gemes - \$1,000

Erin Edenfield - \$1,000

Helly Shah - \$1,000

Melissa Ruthann Tincher - \$1,000

Michelina Restaino - \$1,000

Chrystla Nicole Hodge - \$1,000

Cory Alexander Aycock - \$1,000

Ashley Waters - \$1,000

Daniel Najera - Alas - \$1,000

Alishba Arshad - \$1,000

J'haria Dallas - \$1,000

Mykianna Young - \$1,000

Columbus High Alumni Association looks forward to the difference we can make in 2015!

*Verify YOUR information is correct by visiting: www.ColumbusHighAlumni.com and viewing the Alumni Search page. While you're there, consider reviewing other alumni information for accuracy.

Several years of CHS alumni data is missing and your assistance is needed. If you are interested in helping expand the database and gather contact information from your classmates, please contact **Gene Abernathy '58** at (706) 566-9522 or eabernathy2@earthlink.net.

Save the Following Date:

Class of 1966 50th Reunion: July 29 and 30, 2016

Connect With Us: Email: chsalum@gmail.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/CHSAlumniAssociation Website: www.ColumbusHighAlumni.com