



The ORANGE & BLUE

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. • SUMMER 2018

From the Desk of Our President



These are exciting times for both the recent graduates and soon-to-be incoming freshmen for our dear old alma mater. I was lucky enough to be a part of two events these last few months that illustrate the accomplishments of both such groups, and that further demonstrate how Columbus High School continues to shine as that beacon of excellence in our community.

On Saturday, February 10, 2018, Columbus High's Math Department, Math Team, and Mu Alpha Theta (the CHS mathematics honor society) hosted more than one hundred elementary students for a math competition. The competition was fierce and fun for the kids, and our teachers and students proctored the competition, provided food for the competitors, and actually met the next round of math whizzes who will be singing the alma mater in a few years. Do you remember what the gym looked like and felt like for your first pep rally as a freshman? That is what this event reminded me of as the gym was packed with parents, competitors, elementary school math team coaches, and spectators like me. I was amazed at the level of math being done by fifth graders in the face of a one-minute time limit for each question. However, I was even more amazed by our CHS family's involvement. We are lucky to have teachers and students willing to give their Saturday to help young people.

In May, I was honored to help our board member, **Ken Crumpler '61**, present the Morton A. Harris Leadership Scholarship to Columbus

High senior, **Garrett Jimmerson '18**. This is a scholarship the Alumni Association designed to reward a senior who embodies the spirit of leadership, excellence, and goodness that my dear friend and mentor, **Morton A. Harris '52**, possessed. The award was presented on Honors Night, in the aptly named Morton A. Harris Auditorium at CHS in front of a packed house of accomplished students and proud family members. The accolades were staggering: two perfect ACT scores, all 14 area Governor Honors Program Award winners were CHS students, multiple military academy appointments, 10% of the full scholarships awarded by Georgia Tech to Georgia residents were from Columbus High, and the list went on for several hours!

Columbus High continues to be ranked one of the best schools in the United States, and the culture of excellence at Columbus High continues to thrive. I cannot help but wonder which of those elementary students who competed at the math competition will be a future Morton A. Harris Leadership Scholarship recipient, or have a perfect ACT score. Through the efforts of our teachers and the current students, the next round of Blue Devils are already beginning to understand the level of excellence and competition at CHS. Let us, as proud alumni, continue to do our part by supporting CHS with our time, areas of expertise, and financial resources.

With many thanks,
Carl Rhodes Jr. '04
CHS Alumni Association President

Morton A. Harris Memorial Leadership Award Winner: Garrett Jimmerson '18

Every year, the Columbus High School Alumni Association honors one student with the Morton A. Harris Memorial Leadership Award. The award recognizes a member of the graduating senior class who demonstrated how their experience at Columbus High School contributed to their development of character, leadership abilities, and to their potential of becoming a better community citizen and leader.

This year, the Columbus High School Alumni Association granted this honor to **Garrett Jimmerson '18**.

When Garrett first arrived at Columbus High School, it was a challenge acclimating to the new environment—a school with more than double the students of his previous school. However, after the initial culture shock, he sought out any opportunity he could and found organizations he

(Continued on page 2)



President of the CHS Alumni Association, Carl Rhodes Jr. '04, presents Garrett Jimmerson with the Morton A. Harris Memorial Leadership Scholarship.

Garrett Jimmerson '18

(Continued from page 1)

knew would mold him into the person he wanted to be. Student Government, Rotary Youth Leadership, and Youth Leadership Columbus were just some of the organizations Garrett participated in to broaden his horizons, develop his leadership ability, and spark his desire to impact his community.

Like many high school students preparing for college, Garrett asked himself, "How am I going to stand out?" With a heart to serve, Student Government was a natural artery into making an impact. During his Student Government career, he was elected class president as a sophomore, junior, and senior, demonstrating not only his leadership ability, but also the trust his fellow students had in him. He learned how to delegate and organize through determining how to best position his colleagues by their strengths and weaknesses and then managing teams to hold many successful fundraisers.

As a sophomore, Garrett was one of two students selected to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. At the forum, he learned the importance of communication and how to develop successful team relationships. He believes communication is the most important skill in working with any kind of team, and he earns the respect of fellow teammates through his ability to communicate effectively.

During his junior year, he participated in the Youth Leadership Columbus program. After being broken into diverse teams, they had to decide which local organization to aid; Garrett's team chose Open Door Community House. The team turned a dormant music program into a fully functioning operation, with an improved practice space and donated instruments. While Garrett was not tasked as the leader of the team, he was the only team member who had a constant dialogue open with the adult leaders, and he also developed the presentation showcasing the final results. This experience taught him that you do not need to be in a leadership position to be a leader. Leadership also means executing the responsibilities tasked to you above and beyond expectation.

During his high school tenure, Garrett has also been involved in many other things, including National Beta Club, ensemble, Mu Alpha Theta, and National English Honor Society. He has also been recognized with other awards highlighting his talents, such as being a literary meet quartet state runner-up and champion, Page One nominee for citizenship, and a Prudential Spirit of Community Distinguished Finalist.

All of these experiences have molded Garrett into the person he is today, and he hopes to take these skills and develop them further in college. With a desire to study biology at the University of Georgia, he hopes to work in the medical field and continue a life of service through leading by healing. This is only more proof that he is a deserving recipient of the Morton A. Harris Memorial Leadership Award.

55th Reunion – Class of 1963



More pictures on page 4.

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"

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A Strong Foundation for Success

Frank Lumpkin IV '17 Shares the Impact of CHS on His Accomplishments

As a junior at CHS, alumnus **Frank Lumpkin IV '17** first began to develop the idea for a major infrastructure project to benefit the Columbus area. During Frank's time with the Chamber of Commerce's Youth Leadership Columbus program, Mayor Teresa Tomlinson attended a meeting and supported Frank's assessment that infrastructure issues (airports, railways, and highways) were "holding Columbus back." This led Frank to focus his senior project on aviation, including a research paper on the Columbus airport; he even earned a private pilot's license in the process. He later began researching interstate issues and determined that this had the largest untapped potential to benefit the community. Now a freshman at the University of Georgia, Frank has founded the Youth Infrastructure Coalition (YIC) to help promote a project bringing Interstate 14 to the area.



Frank is currently a finance/real estate major at UGA. "I grew up going to Georgia football games since before I could speak, so have been poised for Athens from the start," he said. However, with a real estate program that rivals Ivy League schools, UGA proved an excellent place for Frank to seek his professional goals as well. On campus, Frank volunteers with the Student Alumni Council, a group that aims to bridge the gap between UGA's student body and alumni association. As an Eagle Scout, he also works with a local Cub Scout Troop, giving back to another organization that played a defining role in his life.

After graduating, Frank intends to go to graduate school and pursue either a master's in real estate development or a law degree. "Through real estate, I hope to give back to Columbus through revitalization projects that transform neighborhoods into desirable areas for living, shopping, and more." Frank encourages peers and current CHS students to find their passions and look for ways to accomplish relevant goals. "Join meaningful organizations in your areas of interest," he suggested. "This will help you uncover your passions and find the right people to join you. Never be afraid to try something outside of your comfort zone." As a mentor of Frank's put it, "It's better to set your sites high and fall short, than to set them too low and accomplish 100 percent of your goal."

"The Youth Infrastructure Coalition's purpose is to engage young people to solve the problems of today and pave a brighter future through infrastructure projects," Frank said of the organization. The Coalition aims to raise support for connecting the future I-14 highway to the Columbus area. After a plethora of research, the YIC has listed many benefits, such as relieving congestion in nearby cities, aiding economic growth, benefitting impoverished areas, and improving national security by connecting numerous military installations.

Frank believes the project's biggest roadblock is a lack of awareness. "I have spoken to leaders in communities where I-14 will pass through, and the majority don't even know what it is. Our goal is to inform everyone of the benefits and to show them the steps necessary to make it a reality." In recent months, the YIC has built a base on social media, formed a special projects fund with the Chattahoochee Valley Community Foundation, and begun work on video content to help spread the message. The group plans to spend the summer traveling around the area to encourage legislative action.

As for the future of the YIC, Frank is optimistic. "Infrastructure projects tend to be extremely long term, and I-14 is no different," he noted. "For now, we are being careful not to over-divide our resources, but we have set bylaws so that the organization can take on more projects in the future." Potential future projects include advocating for new "Welcome to Georgia" state border signs to replace aging ones, seeking improvements for the Columbus Airport, or looking into a new regional airport altogether.

In addition to his defining moments with Mayor Tomlinson and his research paper, Frank credits his Columbus upbringing and time at CHS with sparking his passion for civic engagement. "Growing up in Columbus and watching it improve significantly within just a few years was extremely inspirational," he said. "It showed me how having a vision and working together can truly transform a community." Frank also learned from his leadership roles at CHS, empowering moments with the cross-country team, and helping found CHS' National Social Studies Honor Society. "All of these moments helped define the person I am today."

In his spare time, Frank likes to read, travel, and spend time outdoors. "While I don't get to fly as often as I would like, that is definitely the most exciting and invigorating activity I have experienced," he said. Frank looks forward to utilizing his license again this summer while visiting a friend in Maryland.

Frank is honored to appear in the alumni newsletter. "I thank the alumni association for their involvement in my education. They do a great service in providing so many opportunities to us as students. With all of the people—students, faculty, staff, and alumni—that make up CHS, it's no wonder we are the number one school in the state."

50th Reunion - Class of 1968





CHS Alumni Association, Inc. (2072)
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1939 - Richard Hecht
1946 - Erie Sue Buck

1947 - Ruth Cliatt Gilbert
1951 - Corrine Jarrell
1952 - Cecil Calhoun
1953 - Betty B. Bush
1954 - Milton Jones
1955 - Bill Cliatt
1956 - Heidt Neil
1957 - Elinor B. Winn
1958 - Judy Boyce
1959 - Margie A. Drury
1960 - Alice Douglas
1961 - Ken Crumpler
1962 - Gloria Dodds Johnson
1964 - Pat Lane
1965 - Cathy Z. Bickerstaff/
Patty Taylor
1966 - Vickie L. Rounsaville
1967 - Lynda Brocato
1968 - Lee Pierson
1970 - Pat Batastini Jones
1971 - Perry Buck
1972 - Libby Housand
1973 - Phyllis Nix Johnson
1975 - Nancy S. Burgin
1976 - Julie Strupe
1979 - Laurie Wolfe
1980 - Mark Magoni
1982 - Teresa Pope Young
1984 - Wendy Lewis
1985 - Traci Wilson
1987 - Christy B. Jones
1992 - Beth Wilheit Carlisle
1994 - Karen McNally White
2000 - Josh Orlich

55th Reunion – Class of 1963

