

THE AGGIE SPIRIT

2017 Fall Newsletter

WCTS-NWHS Alumni & Friends Association, Inc.

October 2017



The National Board meetings are scheduled for the 2nd Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"As Pleased as Punch"

According to *grammarist.com*, "As pleased as Punch means to feel a great sense of delight. The phrase is derived from the *Punch and Judy* puppet shows that were popular during the 1700s and 1800s in Europe and Great Britain and are still occasionally seen. The character of *Punch* has his roots in the puppet Polichinello, created in the sixteenth century by Italian Commedia dell'arte. *Punch* is always depicted as evil. He beats his baby to death, as well as his wife, a policeman, and various other characters. After each of his murders, *Punch* is very pleased with himself and declares 'That's the way to do it!' The original phrase derived from this disturbing puppet show was *as proud as Punch*, in time it evolved into *as pleased as Punch*."

Although, I hope that I am no way as evil or sinister as the character *Punch*, I am indeed very delighted with the results of our 2017 Reunion Weekend. The reason for my joy is you - Aggie Nation - and your support of this annual affair. The turnout was awesome and the spirit was high and very congenial.

Without a doubt, we owe a great deal of thanks to the Class of '67 for setting the tone for this occasion. This was their 50th Anniversary and they worked hard throughout the year to make this occasion memorable. And did they ever accomplish their objective!

Pushing and "egging" them on was the Class of '57. These individuals were celebrating their 60th Anniversary. There was a friendly competition between them and the Class of '67 to see who could outperform the other. As a result of this good natured rivalry, we were all blessed with a very gratifying weekend.

I am not making an earth shaking announcement when I say, "We are not as young as we once were." (There are many ways this point is made plain to each of us every day.) The reason I make this disturbing

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President's Message—continued from page 1

statement is because of something I saw at this past Reunion Weekend that warmed my heart to no end. I witnessed four instances whereby children brought their parents to this event. (I am sure many of you still have vivid memories of driving your children to various functions before they obtained their driver's license. This was that in reverse.) That was very heart-warming in many respects.

It is always good to see family togetherness. It is the fabric that makes us and our communities stronger. For your son or daughter to take time out of their life to make sure you have an opportunity to participate in and enjoy something that is meaningful to you, speaks volumes.

These words are inscribed on New York's James Farley Post Office, "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds". Those words aptly apply to Aggie Nation alums. Despite the ravages of time, the pillage of our physical strength, and the waning of our mental faculties we continue to press on. We continue to show up for Reunion Weekend.

Expect excellence! May God continue to bless and keep you.

Yours in unity

Ben H. Stewart, Jr.
National President



A TRIBUTE TO MABLE LEVONIA HOPKINS-SLADE

Mable Levonia Hopkins-Slade used her spiritual gifts and technical skills that God so richly blessed her with. She was dignified, competent, and dedicated to her family, church, and alumni. From our conversations over the years, the love and care for her two daughters and granddaughters were obvious; and that she loved and adored her sisters and brothers.

Mable and I were members of the Class of 1964. At North Warren High School, she was highly respected and liked by her peers and teachers. She participated in several organizations such as the Drama Guild, Student Council, Science Club, and Math Club as well as other activities.

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A TRIBUTE TO THEOTICE HENDERSON CHEEK

Throughout its existence, our Alumni Association has been blessed with many dedicated, loyal, and hardworking individuals. One of these was Theotice Henderson Cheek.

Theotice was an Aggie on many fronts. Many of you remember her as a classmate of schoolmate. She was a member of the 1957 graduating class from Warren County Training School. Had she lived, I am sure she would have been here with her classmates this past May as they celebrated their 60th anniversary.

Some of you will remember Theotice (Miss Henderson) as a teacher and assistant secretary to Mr. Washington. After graduating from NC Central College in 1961 with a Bachelor of Science

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. HOPKIN-SLADE CONTINUED

Upon graduating from North Warren High School, Mable pursued a career in civil service. After successfully working in her chosen career in the area of business and technology in Hampton and Norfolk, Virginia, Mable retired and returned to Warren County close to family and became an active member in her home church.

It wasn't long after Mable's return to Warren County that I received an email from her expressing an interest in working in the WCTS-NWHS Alumni & Friends Association, Inc. She began attending the monthly alumni meetings. And from that point on, she rolled up her sleeves and began working immediately using her technical skills in informational technology. Mable played a lead role in creating a website and establishing an email address for the alumni association. Some of her other accomplishments in the area of technology include: procuring computers and setting up a computer lab with approximately 6-10 computers for use by the alumni, community, and Summer Enrichment Program. Eventually, she served as the coordinator for the alumni newsletter. Mable took pride in her work as Executive Secretary and Administration/IT Technical Support Person for the association.

It was a pleasure to reconnect with my classmate, Mable, and to work on various activities as members of the alumni association. I am sure that her classmates (Class of 1964) and the alumni members will agree that Mable's life of service will continue to be a perpetual impact upon the alumni association as well as the community at large. For her legacy, work, and memories will live on. The life that Mable lived and the work that she did are worthy of high esteem. She will be truly missed

"Well done, good and faithful servant"

(Matthew 25:23).

Respectfully submitted by, Carrie Hendrick Hill

CHEEK CONTINUED

degree in Business Education, she returned as a faculty member at North Warren. In the days of the typewriter, she and Mrs. Shirley Wilkerson Bullock were awesome.

Some of you will remember her as being married to Charles Alvin Cheek. Charles was the son of the late Rev. Gillis Emmanuel Cheek, the very first principal here at Warren County Training School. After marriage, they relocated to Chicago, IL and Theotice taught at Governors State College and the YMCA Community College.

Some of you will remember Theotice for her work and support of the WCTS-NWHS Alumni and Friend Association, Inc. organization. She moved back to Warren County in 2003 and became very instrumental in the workings of the Alumni Association. She attended many of its meetings and functions; served on many committees and panels; supported numerous fundraising events and paid lots of dues; sponsored many catered meals; and offered a world of insight and wisdom on various thoughts and ideas.

We have loss a schoolmate; a classmate; a teacher; a supporter; and a friend. We have loss a true blue and gold Aggie. We bid you Godspeed Theotice Henderson Cheek.

ADMINISTRATION

Thank you to all the volunteers who assist the Administration Office in getting our bulk mailings done. Your help is greatly appreciated.

If we still do not have your email address to receive our (email bulk mailing) please forward us your Email Address. Also if your email address has changed, please email the correction to: wctsnwhsaluni@embarqmail.com.

Don't forget to check-out the Calendar on our website: www.wcts-nwhs.org to see what is scheduled locally.

CENTURY CLUB 2017

Support the "Blue and Gold" by becoming a member of the 2017 Century Club. The cost for doing this is \$100.00. The funds are used for general operating expenses and the contribution is tax deductible. In recognition for your support, your name will be listed on the Alumni Association's website, in the fall newsletter, and in the program produced for the Gala Dinner. In addition, members receive a personal Christmas card from the president.

To become a member, please make your check payable to: WCTS-NWHS Alumni and Friends Association and mail to: P. O. Box 122, Wise, NC 27594. Below is a list of 2017 members as of 9/30/2027.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Charles Alexander – Class of '52 | 45. John C. Palmer – Class of '66 |
| 2. Joyce Alexander – Class of '57 | 46. Lindell Palmer – Class of '67 |
| 3. Jesse Banks – Class of '53 | 47. Mattie Bell Palmer – Class of '62 |
| 4. Delbert A. Baskerville – Class of '59 | 48. Murrell Palmer – Class of '62 |
| 5. Eugene N. Baskerville, Jr. – Class of '57 | 49. Vera J. Palmer – Class of '69 |
| 6. Jerry Bell – Class of '65 | 50. Prince Parham – Class of '44 |
| 7. Fred Brown – Class of '63 | 51. Samuel Parham – Class of '48 |
| 8. Naomi Shearin Brown – Class of '47 | 52. Charlie A. Patillo – Class of '51 |
| 9. Carrie Hopkins Craddock – Class of '58 | 53. Hattie Plummer Perry -Class of '62 |
| 10. Carolyn Mayfield Davis – Class of '66 | 54. Mildred Juanita Person -Class of '59 |
| 11. Marinda Thrower Davis – Class of '60 | 55. Paul Plummer, Jr. – Norlina High |
| 12. Henry Durham, Jr. – Class of '67 | 56. Vergle Clanton Pope – Class of '50 |
| 13. Ocerline Boyd Fields – Class of '58 | 57. Willie T. Ramey, III – Class of '63 |
| 14. Mamie Lucas Greene – Class of '55 | 58. Naomi Hargrove Robertson -Class of '68 |
| 15. James A. Greene - Class of '64 | 59. Juanita H. Russell-Brown – Class of '49 |
| 16. Richard Greene – Class of '56 | 60. Willie G. Russell – Class of '56 |
| 17. Frank Hargrove – Class of '67 | 61. Gracie Dortch Scott – Class of '67 |
| 18. Geraldine Thrower Hargrove – Class of '56 | 62. Roberta S. Scott - Friend |
| 19. John Hargrove – Class of '56 | 63. John U. Seward – Class of '57 |
| 20. Thomas Harris – Class of '56 | 64. Eva Hall Shaw – Class of '50 |
| 21. Daniel Hawkins – Class of '59 | 65. Ophella Hargrove Shearin – Class of '48 |
| 22. Charles Henderson – Class of '56 | 66. Mable Hopkins Slade – Class of '64 |
| 23. Clara Henderson – Class of '54 | 67. Janet Long Sledge – Class of '65 |
| 24. John Henderson – Class of '67 | 68. Leonard Sledge – Class of '65 |
| 25. Frank Hendrick – Class of '55 | 69. Jeanette Hawkins Somerville – Class of '68 |
| 26. Freddie Hicks – Class of '60 | 70. Larry Somerville – Class of '69 |
| 27. Carrie Hendrick Hill – Class of '64 | 71. Inez Harrison Sprull – Class of '50 |
| 28. Ida Stewart Howell – Class of '54 (2) | 72. Zandra Goode Sprull—Class of '72 |
| 29. Sallie Green Howell – Class of '53 | 73. Ben Stewart, Jr. – Class of '65 |
| 30. Charlie Jefferson – Class of '55 | 74. Norval Stewart – Class of '54 |
| 31. Sadie Dunston Jerman – Class of '50 | 75. Mary Harrison Stinnett – Norlina High |
| 32. Elizabeth Johnson – Class of '66 | 76. Melvin Talley – Class of '60 |
| 33. Jamesanna Shearin Johnson – Class of '46 | 77. Eva Johnson Taylor – Class of '65 |
| 34. H. Kenneth Johnson – Class of '66 | 78. Joseph Taylor – Class of '63 |
| 35. Carter R. Jones – Friend | 79. Esther Alexander Terry – Class of '57 |
| 36. Dock E. Jones – Class of '53 | 80. Emmitt Thomas – Class of '63 |
| 37. Faulkner P. Jones – Class of '52 | 81. Walter Turner – Class of '65 |
| 38. Ann Long Kersey – Class of '67 | 82. Goldie Burnett Walker – Class of '68 |
| 39. Maggie Dunston Klah – Class of '40 | 83. Doris Terry Williams – Class of '69 |
| 40. Vivian Davis Lynch— Class of '55 | 84. Lillian Russell Williams – Class of '47 |
| 41. Laura Plummer Marshall— Class of '57 | 85. Martina Goode Williams – Norlina High |
| 42. Esther Mayfield— Class of '63 | 86. Cynthia Hawkins Woods – Class of '66 |
| 43. Helen M. Mayfield—Class of '60 | 87. Sarah Terry Yasin - Class of '65 |
| 44. Barbara Harrison Palmer—Class of '66 | 88. YOUR NAME SHOULD BE HERE |

Thank you for your support!

100 Years and Counting

Please join us in wishing a belated happy birthday to Niomi Alexander Johnson. On August 23, 2017, Niomi, class of '35 turned 100 years old. She has been a resident of the Wise, NC community for most of her life except for several years she lived in New York City. Mrs. Johnson left school at an early age to help support her family that included her mother, father, and 10 siblings.

Niomi Alexander Johnson is the first cousin of the Alumni Association's first president, Jasper W. Jones.

New School Banner



You may have noticed that the 8' x 4' banner is front of our high school building has seen its better days. Due to the bright sunlight and pouring rain over the years, our sign has faded off into the sunset.

This became readily apparent to Charles Anderson and his 1968 classmates. They meet monthly on our campus to fellowship and conduct class business. Charles approached me with the idea of replacing the banner. I took this to the Executive Committee and we all agreed that this was an outstanding idea. (I tried to take credit for the idea, but everyone knew better.)

As a result of the initiative and thoughtfulness of Charles Anderson and the Class of 1968, we will be unfurling a new, awesome looking banner in front of our school. **Thank you, Class of '68!**

By the way, did I mention that the Class of '68 will be hosting the 2018 Gala and celebrating their 50th anniversary? Yes, they will be and you are in for a treat. Start making plans now to be here in May.

Historic Tax Credits Under Fire?

Historic Tax Credits are important to our plans for renovating our high school building. Recognizing the cost associated with rehabilitating historic buildings, the Historic Tax Credit provides a 20% income tax credit to developers of income producing properties such as office buildings, retail establishments, rental apartments, and others. While we cannot use these tax credits since we are a non-profit organization, we can sell them to investors/businesses that can use them.

There is some concern that the Tax Bill being pushed by the President and his administration could repeal this current law. Below is a letter we received from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. More information is available at: <https://savingplaces.org/historic-tax-credits#.WdP4dbi52vg>

"As anticipated, Republican leadership released a tax reform outline intended to guide House and Senate tax writing committees in their drafting of tax reform legislation.

The framework does not explicitly preserve the historic tax credit and envisions that most business tax credits will be repealed. The federal historic tax credit is the government's primary way of responding to the failure of the market to preserve historic income-producing buildings. Without a federal historic tax credit, the historic fabric of our urban centers, Main Street commercial districts, and small towns nationwide face a much greater risk of economic obsolescence or demolition. **If you care about the future of historic preservation, now is the time to act.**

Urge your Congressional delegation to contact members of the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees with the message that repealing the historic tax credit is bad policy. The need for tax reform is clear, but it must not come at the expense of a program that more than pays for itself and has a proven track record of creating jobs, saving historic buildings, and revitalizing neighborhoods.

Now is the time to speak up for the historic tax credit. Join us in letting Washington know that historic preservation advocates need their voices heard. Our history is too important."

WELCOME MR. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/SECRETARY

Please give a big, rousing, Aggie welcome to Reginald “Reggie” Hinton, our new Executive Director/Secretary. Reggie was elected to the position at our annual National Business Meeting in May. There is a short bio included in this issue that provides some background information on his achievements.

Reggie has been an active member of the Alumni Association for years. Most of you know of the work he has done as our auditor and CPA. He has provided in-kind services to our organization as our internal auditor and tax preparer.

Despite what he may tell you, he is a “handyman deluxe”. Recently, he has patched the roof of our cafeteria; torn down and hauled away the remnants of the walkway that leads to the elementary building; begin replacing the said walkway; and partitioned our storage cabinet in the kitchen such that shared kitchen users will have a secure area to store their supplies.

In addition, he was very instrumental (along with Paul Plummer and Martina Williams) in putting together a cookout designed to recruit new members from among those persons who attended North Warren when it was a middle school. This would include the timeframe from the 1969-1970 school year until the school closed down. Welcome REGGIE!

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/ DIRECTOR BIO

My name is Reginald Hinton and since the WCTS-NWHS Alumni and Friends Association was kind enough to elect me as its Executive Secretary, I thought it would be fitting for me to tell you something about myself.

I was born and raised, until the age of 13, in the Wise community and attended North Warren High School through the 8th grade. After the school integrated and was used as a middle school after 1969, I moved to Toledo, Ohio with my mother. In 1973, I received my high school diploma from Devilbis High School. After six months of technical school, I moved to Richmond, Virginia, where I spent most of my adult life. I am a self -described “ Jack of all trades and master of very few”, having an Associate Degree in Electronics Engineering Technology, a Bachelor Degree in Accounting, and course work in Automotive Technology.

I have worked in the electronics, security, accountancy, and manufacturing industries. My greatest joy and sense of accomplishment has been my service with the military where I have served with the Army, Army National Guard, and Air National Guard; accumulating a total of 32 years of service. I have been deployed to Turkey, Italy, Germany, Kuwait and several states in the U.S..

My service with the Alumni Association has included acting as its auditor for the last several years, assisting in writing several grants that were funded, and assisting with the maintenance of the on-campus facilities. Since I maintain a NC CPA license, and prepare and handle tax issues as a part time profession, I also prepare the Association’s tax information.

I believe in “Get in where you fit in and do what you can”. If you have ideas that support the mission of our organization, I am willing to assist, and I look forward to working with each of you.



Coming Soon



Are you sitting down? If not, you may want to sit down before reading further. This news is so gOoodd it's going to knock you off your feet. Are you ready?

Every year, during Reunion Weekend, we have a photographer record via pictures the happenings. Every detail, every little and big moment is captured forever and a day. If someone did it, we have it! (I have even had people offer me money, not much money, mind you; but some money to "photoshop" their image. One person wanted his hairline altered and another wanted her body slimmed.)

Anyway, I digress. What I was about to say, is that the 2017 Reunion Weekend Yearbook is only weeks away. That's right! In a very short period of time, you will be able to get your hot little hands on a most valuable commodity. There is a limited supply and it is anticipated that these treasured items will sell like hotcakes; so you may want to go ahead and place your order now.

An 8x11, hard bound book can be had for the ridiculously low price of \$35.00. Make your check or money order payable to: **WCTS-NWHS Alumni and Friends Association, Inc.** and mail it to:

WCTS-NWHS Alumni and Friends Association, Inc.

Attn: Esther Mayfield

PO Box 122

Wise, NC 27594

Books should be available by the end of October 2017.

HOLIDAY BASKETS

Depression may occur at any time of the year, but the stress and anxiety during the holiday season may cause even those who are usually content to experience loneliness and a lack of fulfillment. One reason for this could be social isolation. People with a small social circle or those who lack opportunities for socialization can feel disconnected and alone. Another reason for depression during this time of the year is grief. Some people may be keenly aware of the loss of a loved one during the holiday season.

The Warren County Chapter tries to brighten up the holiday season for the elderly by providing gift baskets. For Thanksgiving, the Chapter provides gifts baskets to those who are one hundred years old or older. For Christmas, the Chapter provides gift baskets for those who are ninety to ninety-nine years old. The baskets contain fresh fruit, quality produce, hard candy, a few nuts, and a cookie or two.

If you know of a senior in the age range mentioned above within our community that you would like to recognize with a holiday basket, please contact Esther Mayfield. The cost will be less than \$20.00 per basket.

BILTMORE TRIP

The Class of '67 is sponsoring a trip to the Biltmore Estate and Cherokee Museum & Casino. The trip will commence from the Rose's Parking Lot in Henderson, NC at 7:00 AM on November 30th and conclude back in Henderson the evening of December 1st. There is also a pickup from the Sears' Parking Lot in Durham, NC at 8:00 AM on the 30th of November. The price is \$200 per person based on 2 per room. The price includes a tour of Biltmore, transportation, lodging, one lunch, one dinner, and one breakfast. Contact Ann Kersey for ticket information at 919-782-4985.

THE AGGIE SPIRIT

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WCTS-NWHS Alumni & Friends Association, Inc.
Post Office Box 122
Wise, North Carolina 27594

Permit #1



Office Information

The office telephone number is (252) 456-0076

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Fax: (678) 626-8029

Email: wctsnwhsalumni@embarqmail.com.

Website: <http://www.wcts-nwhs.org>

Memories
are timeless treasures
of the heart....

National Officers

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