

***THIS IS SURRATTS FOUNDATION E-NOTICE 2014-9 OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2014***

Hello Hornets:

Here are some items that might be of interest:

**1. GOLF OUTING ON FRIDAY BENEFITS FOUNDATION!** In connection with the upcoming Class of 74 Fortieth Reunion, an All Classes Golf Outing is being held this Friday September 5 with proceeds benefiting the Foundation. Here's the info:

Who: Open to all Classes, family and friends; Register yourself or your team.

Format: Four-Person Teams, Captain's Choice

When: Friday, September 5, 1:00 p.m. Start (awards to immediately follow the golf)

Where: Twin Shields, Dunkirk, Maryland

Cost: \$65 per Person (due in advance – call Lauren Foley Johnson at 703-980-2032)

50/50 Raffle: Will benefit the SHS Scholarship Fund

For More Information Contact: Lauren (Foley) Johnson ([lmfriley@comcast.net](mailto:lmfriley@comcast.net) or 703-980-2032). Organizers: Lauren and Alan Johnson

Many thanks to the Class of 74 for its support of the Foundation, and to Lauren and Alan for their organizational efforts!

**3. WRESTLING TEAM REUNION IN TWO WEEKS.** As previously announced, a reunion of Surrattsville's wrestlers and coaches from the Coach Lew Jenkins era is being planned for Sunday September 14. Please send me an email at [hsmith@smithdowney.com](mailto:hsmith@smithdowney.com) if you'd like to be placed on the email list for information about that event, or if you know someone who might like information about the event.

**3. ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT ASSISTS ASPCA.** Foundation Board member Vicki Forsht Williams (65, former faculty) passed along this link about Achievement Award recipient Laura Sisk Wright's (88) work on behalf of animals: <https://aspcare.com/getstarted/laurawright>

Congratulations to Laura on her work on and off the screen!

**4. UPDATE FROM THE BAND DEPARTMENT AT THE SCHOOL.** We received this nice update from SHS Band Director Valerie Dent: "I hope you are enjoying your summer. I wanted to send you a little update. The Band/Chorus Room renovation is still not finished, but the general contractor says they will be restarting the reno again at the end of the month or in September. The Band Boosters are attending School Board meetings to press for the renovation until it is completed. Thanks to the generous donations from SHS Foundation and the Band Boosters the SHS Orchestra now has five more string instruments to add to our new orchestra inventory, for a total of ten. The Orchestra size has grown for 14 last school year to 25 on the roster for 2014-2015. I have fund raisers planned so we can purchase three basses, three cellos, three violas and two violins.

The Marching Band added 25 new uniforms to the Auxiliary inventory for the upcoming school year. The Concert Band added two new oboes, and one refurbished tuba. The Concert Band will be fund raising to purchase New Concert Band uniforms (long black dresses and black tuxedos). I am looking forward to a great school year. Please thank the Foundation for me. Talk to you soon. Valerie"

**5. MEMORIES OF DONALD ENGLAND (53).** We received this touching story about Donald England (53) from Duke Coleman (53), who has honored Donald's memory with his contributions to the Foundation:

"I don't know how much you know about this guy Donald England but I wanted to share just a little bit from a long time ago and a little bit of something I learned very recently. When we were 15 years old (1950) Donald had a paper route. He also had a motorized "Whizzer" bicycle. At the end of the month when it was time to "collect for the Star" he would frequently come by my house, pick me up and I think I rode the crossbar although it may have been the rear package rack. We found a way for both of us to ride and began the rounds up and down Pine View Lane, Stuart Lane, Simpson Lane, Ballard Drive and two or three more.

At the end of the route, Donald's pockets would be stuffed full of coins and dollar bills and we headed home. Except that his Wizard whizzed right by Stuart Lane where I lived and full speed by Pine View Lane where he lived. We usually made our first stop at Oliver's bar and restaurant in "Downtown Clinton." They had a bowling game thing in there where you slid hockey puck-like things at the pins. It was probably about 25 cents per game and Donald paid. He also paid for the hamburgers we would inevitably order. I think the drug store adjacent to Oliver's had just opened and our last stop was for a milkshake. (Donald paid.)

Probably that same year Donald decided to give up the paper route. He asked if I wanted to take over. My response was, "Does the Whizzer go with it?" It did not, but I took the job anyway. Donald England was a generous guy. His friendship and loyalty were unwavering. At an age when so many are so self-involved he wore a caring spirit like one more garment. During the school year beginning 1951, our junior year, Mr. Pryde our principal had a young relative from Pennsylvania. I presume it was a nephew whom he inserted into the class as a guest student. It should not be a surprise that Donald was the class member who reached out to our guest and

made him welcome. His name was Jim and he and Donald planned a trip to Coalport, PA where Jim lived. They planned to spend Thanksgiving holiday with Jim's family and return for the finish of the school year. Donald would drive them in his recently acquired new 1937 Plymouth.

On Thanksgiving morning at 1:30 a.m. on their way to Coalport and near the town of Clearfield on State Highway 53 the Plymouth failed to make a turn. The car hit a bridge abutment apparently at full speed and the crash was devastating. Both Jim and Donald were pinned in the wreckage and it reportedly took an hour to free them using torches. Donald died at the scene, very likely at the time of impact. Jim had many minor injuries and one leg was severely injured but he survived. It was not until the following Sunday morning that I got the news. Donald was already at his house in repose as was the practice at that time more so than today. Sometime around noon I went to the England house. Donald's mother answered the door. She hugged me and said, "Come in and see Donald." She told me they had told her Donald was on a road that he was not familiar with which ended in a dead-end that caught him by surprise. She took some comfort in that because it meant to her that it was not thought that he had been careless. She also showed me where it had been pointed out to her that they had "repaired" a very bad injury on his head. She took a little more comfort there saying to me, "I'm sure he never drew another breath after that."

A funeral service was held for Donald at Bells Methodist Church in Camp Springs. One of the Surratts school buses took most if not all of his classmates to the service. His gravesite is at Washington National Cemetery in Suitland, Maryland. (Section N Lot607) Both of his parents are close by. A photo of Donald's grave marker can be seen by using a GOOGLE search for: findagrave 11321201."

**6. CHAMPION HORNET FOOTBALL TEAM SPONSORS FUND RAISER.** We received this tip from Troy Lowe: "I wanted to forward this link about the Surrattsville football team's fund raiser, especially since the football program meant the world to me at SHS: <http://ourfund.us/dashboard/participant/donation/61395/2236/1>."

**7. WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE REKINDLES TV MEMORIES.** Some of our readers may have seen John Kelly's article in the June 12 Washington Post entitled "Old Shows Never Die. They Just Go To This U-MD Archive," about the Broadcast Archives maintained by the University of MD. The article begins: "If you're younger than, oh, 30, you won't believe me when I say this, but watching television used to be hard. ... TV wasn't always a free-flowing, never-ending, infinitely customizable infotainment birthright." Mr. Kelly notes that the Archives contain materials from D.C. favorites like the Pick Temple Show and the Ranger Hal show. (The article features a great photo of Pick Temple. Willard Scott's Bozo show and the genesis of The Muppets are not mentioned, but likely are included in the Archive.) Mr. Kelly points out that although we've gained a bottomless pool of TV content, we've lost "a shared experience and the satisfaction that comes when acquiring something isn't easy." He says: "Why, when I was a lad, TV shows followed a schedule as predictable and unalterable as the tides – and as unforgiving. If you had the misfortune of missing an episode, well then, next weeks' wasn't going to make much sense."

We'd be interested to hear our readers' stories about their experience with local TV in the last century.

[Ed. Note: Thanks to my Mom for sending me the article, and for taking me to the Pick Temple and Willard Scott Bozo shows!]

**8. CLASS OF 39 FEATURED IN POST ARTICLE.** And speaking of Post articles, Paul Monaghan (59) sent the Foundation a copy of the Post from June 25, 1984 that contained this article by Eugene Meyer:

“Class of '39 Surrattsville High Recalled. ‘Lives of great men remind us, We too can make our lives sublime, And, departing, leave behind us, Footprints in the sands of time’ Longfellow, as quoted in the 1939 Surrattsville High School yearbook. Ernest A. Loveless, Jr., the class president and chief judge of Maryland’s Seventh Judicial Circuit, was recuperating from major surgery. Opal Price Harrison arrived in a wheelchair. Seven were gone, from Eugene Tayman who died in 1945 fighting fascism, to Eva Oursler Gorman, who died in 1982 of natural causes. But three wars, nine presidents and countless progeny later, 27 of the 37 surviving classmates gathered at Andrews Air Force Base Officers Club Saturday night to reminisce and to receive a second-hand message from Truman S. Klein, their former principal now confined to a nursing home in Western Maryland. ‘Tell ‘em,’ he had said, ‘hang in there.’

And hang on they did, the Surrattsville High School Class of 1939. Brought up in the Depression, they graduated into a world at war. Over the years, they saw their own immediate world change from rolling countryside to cookie-cutter subdivisions; their old community, Clinton, and their county, Prince George’s, altered almost beyond recognition.

The Clinton they once knew, a country crossroads of 250 people or so, is now a suburb of more than 10,000. Their old high school, later converted into a junior high school that was recently closed, was supplanted in 1960 by a new high school now undergoing renovation. And their county, which 45 years ago had 60,000 residents (compared to 40,000 in Montgomery) clustered mostly in towns near the District, now counts more than 10 times that many people.” ...

[To be continued]

**9. FOUNDATION YOUTUBE PROGRAMS NOW NUMBER 12.** The Foundation’s youtube channel now features a significant amount of varied content, all of it interesting and some of it fun! The main page is at <http://www.youtube.com/user/SurrattsvilleFDN>. Please consider viewing the short programs and subscribing to the channel.

**10. HORNET SHARES ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS AND MEMORIES.** Many of our readers enjoyed the beautiful Memorial Day pieces by Bill Crawford (62) ([bcraw44@gmail.com](mailto:bcraw44@gmail.com)) in the last two e-Notice. (Bill's Memorial Day reminiscences were informed by his experience as a rifleman and later a combat photo-journalist in Viet Nam.) This comment from Duke Coleman (52) was typical: "OI recently re-read last month's article by Bill Crawford about his friend Ollie Noonan. Wow, what a writer he is. I have to tell you when I got to the part where he and his wife were in line for tickets at the ballpark, I knew way before he related it, and said to myself, he is going to get three tickets."

On a completely different topic, the following are some memories Bill shared about his experiences in Southern MD with musical legend and Accokeek resident Link Wray:

"[I recently thought] of an obscure but important artist from that time. If you grew up in the DC area and watched the Milt Grant Record Hop on WTTG, Channel 5, then you may remember Link Wray. The Shawnee Indian guitarist who grew up in Dunn, NC, was a big favorite of Uncle Milt. He changed the history of rock 'n roll guitar playing when he took a pencil and poked holes in his tiny amplifier one night during a Northern Virginia gig. He also reversed directions with his fingers across the strings and the power chord was born. His release of "Rumble" in 1958 changed R&R forever. The driving, relentless, cacaphonic beat was enough to rattle the filings in your teeth. It was the only instrumental to be banned from the radio during this exciting era when R&R was scaring the devil out of our parents and pastors. How good was Link Wray? When Rolling Stone named the 100 Best Guitarists of All Time he checked in at Number 45.

I saw him perform in person several times at Strick's, the Quonset Hut, etc. I was too young to even be in the parking lot of these infamous venues. Link Wray and the Wraymen were sizzling hot. They signed a record contract so they could compete with Duane Eddy and the Rebels. Both artists did versions of the classic "Rawhide." A very young Bob Dylan would later go electric after seeing LW perform. Peter Townshend of the Who said LW inspired him to pick up a guitar. Neil Young said in the 80s that if he could go back in time, the one band he would choose to see was Link Wray and the Wraymen. Santana and Hendrix openly acknowledged the LW influence. Years later, punk rock was born out of Link Wray riffs.

When Link died in 2005 the greats gave him a big nod. Dylan stepped to the mike during a concert and intoned, in a raspy voice, "This is in memory of Link Wray." His pounding rendition of "Rumble" lasted over ten minutes. Dylan and his band bludgeoned the audience with one of greatest instrumentals ever. Bruce Springsteen also interrupted a concert to send the E Street Band through a crushing rendition of "Rumble." This year LW is nominated to be inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame. Long overdue! Take a minute to click this link and listen to a legend who helped make my teenage years special:

<http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=ucTg6rZJCu4>. Crank up the volume on your device in Link's memory. The Wraymen always played it very loud!"

[Ed. Note: In the small world department, Foundation Board member Greg Laxton (80) is a noted authority on Link Wray.]

**11. FALLEN HEROES PLAQUE ABOUT TO BE FINALIZED.** As previously reported, thanks to the efforts of Bob Jeter (64), the Foundation is preparing a Fallen Heroes plaque to hang in the Legacy Hall that will contain the names and Class years of Hornets who died while serving in the military or as first responders (or later from service-related injuries). Bob is now putting the finishing touches on the text for the plaque, and needs our readers' assistance in providing some missing information. The working text of the plaque is included at the end of this e-Notice. Please contact Bob at [904jeter@gmail.com](mailto:904jeter@gmail.com) if you can provide any of the needed information, or if you know of any Hornets who should be honored in this way.

[Ed note: Photos of the Legacy Wall can be found on the Foundation's web site at [www.surrattsville.org](http://www.surrattsville.org).]

**12. CLASS OF 95 PLANS REUNION.** The Class of 95 will be celebrating its 20 reunion in June 2015 at the Colony South and is looking for our classmates. Please send an email to Kenya Samuels Gray at [Kenya.Gray@gmail.com](mailto:Kenya.Gray@gmail.com) if you have any information on 95 grads or members of their family. The Class also has a Surrattsville Class of 1995 group on Facebook. To kick-off the "countdown to 20," on June 11, 2014 from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. the Class's planning committee is hosting a celebrity scoops night at Rita's in Clinton (the old Pizza Hut near the intersection of Woodyard Road and Brandywine Road).

**13. CLASS OF 75 PLANS REUNION.** The Class of 75 is considering plans for a reunion. (Note that the Class of 75 reunion is not part of the upcoming Class of 74 reunion as was previously mentioned.) Please contact Lorraine Frank Kerr at [lorraineefrank1@gmail.com](mailto:lorraineefrank1@gmail.com), or Cindy Shaffer Kluth on Facebook, if you are interested in the Class of 75 event.

**14. CLASS OF 74 REUNION IS THIS WEEK.** And we received this update from the Class of 74 on its reunion planning: "Invitations to the Class of 1974's 40 year reunion on September 6, 2014 at The South River Golf Club in Edgewater, MD (7 p.m. start time) have been mailed out. Please go to the "Surrattsville Class of 74" Facebook page to get more details on the reunion and to review comments from your fellow alumni on the reunion. The Facebook link to the Class of 74 site is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/117993451552383/>. If you have not received an invitation yet and would like to attend the reunion please contact Paul Myers at [prmyers@aacc.edu](mailto:prmyers@aacc.edu). Related to this, about 20 invitations have been returned due to non-current Linkins Twiford, Richard (Rick) Gehrman, Jr., Cynthia (Cindy) Miner Gehrman, Keith A.

Armstrong, Bill Simpkins, Harry Carter, Elizabeth (Betty) Endres Raimondi, Tim Shanahan, Brenda L. Murphy, Robert Cornett, Charles (Charlie) Disharoon, Rosemary Harris Duke, George Sheppard, Fred Selby, Lisa Fugate Southerland, Joy Griffiths Taylor, Laurie Nichols Rhatican. If you know of the whereabouts and/or are in contact with any of these fellow alumni please let them know that an attempt to send them an invitation to the reunion was made. If they would like to attend please request that current contact information be forwarded to Paul Myers at the email address shown above. Finally, there is a substantial list of alumni for which the Reunion Committee has no contact information. We intend to post the list on the Class of 74 FB site. This will hopefully yield additional contact information for these alumni. Hope to see many of you in September. In the meantime, have a great summer – the Reunion Committee.”

**15. CLASS OF 64 REUNION IS THIS MONTH.** And we received this latest reunion update from the Class of 64: “The class of 1964 is holding their 50th reunion in Ocean City the weekend of 9/26-28/2014 at the Commander Hotel (1401 Atlantic Avenue, OC, MD, 1-888-289-6166). If you have not made your plans to attend, please do so by 9/1/2014. Dress is beach casual and the cost for the dinner/dance, t-shirt, and memory book is \$64. The hotel has set aside a block of rooms and is giving a 20% discount - you just have to mention SHS reunion and book your room 24-hours in advance. If you stay in the hotel Friday and Saturday, a brunch is included "free" on Sunday (9/28) morning. Plans include a meet and greet (BYOB) on Friday night beginning at 7pm at the hotel and cash bar/dinner/dance on Saturday night beginning at 6pm. This is truly a once-in-a- lifetime event so please plan to attend. Call one of the following people for more information: Phil Foster, 301-254-1946, [fosterphilip6@gmail.com](mailto:fosterphilip6@gmail.com); Bob Fowler, 443-550-3142, [robertfowler401@comcast.net](mailto:robertfowler401@comcast.net), Ginger Trapanotto, 301-318-6544, [gingersnap699@gmail.com](mailto:gingersnap699@gmail.com), or Barbara Schlosser, 301-373-9648, [mandbmc@md.metrocast.net](mailto:mandbmc@md.metrocast.net).

**16. CLASSES OF 83/84/85 REUNION.** And we received this notice from the Classes of 83, 84 and 85: "Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 11, 2014 for our Classes of 83/84/85 Reunion. Please email Debbie O’Clair MacKenzie at [Debbiemackenzie45@yahoo.com](mailto:Debbiemackenzie45@yahoo.com) to be placed on the mailing list (if you have not already received the “save the date” email). If you have questions about the event, contact your Class representative:

1983—Becky delVillar Levin: [bdellevin@gmail.com](mailto:bdellevin@gmail.com)

1984—Gary Stallings: [gstallings@yahoo.com](mailto:gstallings@yahoo.com)

1985—MaryBeth Klick: [mbklick@aol.com](mailto:mbklick@aol.com)"

**17. NEW PHOTOS CONTINUE TO BE ADDED TO FOUNDATION'S FACEBOOK GROUP.** Thanks to the on-going work of Foundation Historian and Archivist Shelby Lee Oppermann (79) and a number of members of the Surrattsville community, the large collection of wonderful historical photos with Surrattsville themes on the Foundation's Facebook Group, "Surrattsville Alumni," continues to grow. (Naturally, the Foundation would love to have any

Surrattsville- or Clinton-themed historical photos or videos you might wish to share.) The Group now has over 1820 members.

Here's hoping your September gets off to a great start!

All the best, Henry Smith (71)

*MANY THANKS TO THESE EARLY DONORS TO THE 2014 CAMPAIGN!*

Steve Profilet (71)

Nancy Miller (67)

Pat Becker Oles (71)

Debbie Cox Marr (72)

Bob Marr (71)

Joe Capone (79)

Vicky Simontacchi Young (57), In Honor of the Classes of 57 and 84

Kurt Aktug (88)

Linda Dorsey Blum (66)

Coach Lew Jenkins (former faculty)

Melissa Gilcrest (69)

Vera Twigg

Nancy Oursler Maynard (65), In Memory of Bill Millios, husband of Diana McCormick Millios (65)

Rick Torrecarion (74), In Loving Memory of Patsy Torrecarion (76)

Lee Hessberg (68)

Lois Barrett Hessberg (70)

Tom and Sally Travis (72)

Larry Romjue (57), In Memory of Lois Marie Osgood (57) – “If I Could Be With You (One Hour Tonight),” Fontane Sisters

Donna Rae Sturtevant Smith (70)

Henry Smith (71)

Dave DeCenzo (73)

Duke Coleman (53), In Memory of Donald England (53)

Southern MD Blue Crabs, For the Charlie Waddell Memorial Scholarship Fund

FALLEN HEROES PLAQUE TEXT

Jim Anderson Class of 1965

DOB?-Died 1968 need mo/day

DMZ in South Korea. U S Army?

Cleveland, Robert & Mabel, also lost their oldest brother in WW II. Name? Classmate?

*No data at all*

*Sgt. David Dickinson No data at all*

J Paul Duke, Jr. Class of 1939

7/16/1922—9/26/1944

U S Army

WW II Netherlands

Richard Ellis Class of 1965 confirm class year-I have 3 different ones!

Need DOB & DOD

U S Army

Cold War- Germany

*Captain Jeffrey Lyndol Harris need details*

James Herbert 1953 Class of 1971 *need details*

X/X/1953 – 10/23/1971

Clinton Volunteer Fire Dept

Vernon Kennedy Class 1964 *details?*

Robert Edward Knadle Class of 1963

10/19/45 - 10/9/67

Viet Nam

Distinguished Service Cross

Jimmy (James) Lange... not sure of the spelling *need details*

1964

Viet Nam

Bill Miller (65) *need details*

Dean Gilman Owen

2/15/47- 4/6/68

SP5 Army

*Viet Nam?*

William Racca – Class of 1965

3/26/47 - 4/17/69

U S Army

Viet Nam

Silver Star

William Talbert Class of 1965

6/14/1947-1/27/2012

Montgomery County Police Dept

Marthell Traylor, Jr Class of 1964

8/24/46 - 9/16/68

US Army

Viet Nam

Daniel J. Vaughan, Class of 1968,

XX/XX/XXXX - XX/XX/1970

U S Army

Viet Nam

Richard Whittington Class of 1968

XX/XX/1950 - October 23, 1971

Clinton Volunteer Fire Dept