

## ***THIS IS SURRATTS FOUNDATION E-NOTICE 2014-11 OF NOVEMBER 1, 2014***

Hello Hornets:

Here are some items that might be of interest:

**1. A CHALLENGE TO OUR READERS.** The Foundation Board is proud to announce the official opening of our 2014 Annual Campaign. (You will note below that many very generous donors to the Foundation don't wait for the Campaign's formal commencement each year, but instead very kindly send funds to the Foundation at any time during the year!) Because the Foundation has no overhead – it runs on volunteers and donated office space and materials -- 100% of every dollar contributed goes to the mission of the Foundation.

Our regular readers likely have noticed that, in the last several years, the Foundation's activities in support of the School have increased geometrically. This is largely due to the tireless efforts of our in-School Liaison Natarsha Mathis, Principal Kristi Holden, and our Board's Liaison and Grants Committee consisting of Donald Knight, PhD (92), Dave Cranford, PhD (90), and Donald Walker (96). Many thanks to this hard-working team!

Of course, the Foundation's markedly increased level of activity requires significant additional funding. Therefore, we'd like to offer a challenge: if each of our regular readers who has not been in a position to contribute previously (or lately) would contribute \$5 to the Foundation, we calculate that our 2014 Annual Campaign would raise more than double the amount raised in any prior year.

If time is a consideration, please feel free to forego completing the Donor Form at the end of this email (and available on [www.surrattsville.org](http://www.surrattsville.org)) and instead simply mail a check payable to "Surrattsville Foundation" to me at 320 E. Towsontown Blvd, Ste 1E, Towson, MD 21286, and I'll be happy to complete the Form for you and send you a receipt. Or, simply use the PayPal "Donate" button at [www.surrattsville.org](http://www.surrattsville.org) to donate on-line.

Thanks for considering becoming a contributor to what we hope will be a record-breaking 2014 Annual Campaign!

**2. FOUNDATION FUNDS FOOTBALL UNIFORMS.** We're proud to report that the Foundation just provided a significant partial matching grant to the football team's very successful fund raising effort to buy new uniforms. Congratulations to Coach Harris and the football Hornets on their very successful fund raising campaign (and on their recent great successes on the gridiron)!

[Ed. Note: Some of our readers will remember prior Foundation grants to the softball team and the volleyball team.]

**3. NEW PROGRAM FEATURED ON FOUNDATION'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL.** The Foundation's great youtube channel now contains a new program on this year's extraordinary Achievement Award recipients. <http://youtu.be/GTywsh4I4Jw>

Many thanks to Foundation Board member Sandra Smith Simmons (70) who creates the Foundation's youtube content!

**4. FUNDING OF AUTISM CRISIS ROOM PROMPTS THOUGHTS.** We received this email in response to the item in the last e-Notice about the Foundation's funding of the crisis room in the Autism Department at the School: "Great news about the autism crisis room at SHS! As a former board member of the Autism Society of Ohio and the grandfather of a wonderful young man who has Asperger's, I think this is a needed and wonderful step to help those on the spectrum continue in a "normal" school environment. Thanks. Norman Carmichael (65)"

**5. PTSA T-SHIRT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES REMAIN; FOUNDATION A LEAD SPONSOR FOR 2014.** As noted in the last e-Notice, we received this note from the PTSA about sponsorship opportunities: "Greetings from the SHS PTSA! We are inviting you to consider becoming a sponsor of our annual SHS PTSA t-shirt. The goal of the t-shirts is to help cover expenses for our various activities that we provide the scholars, teachers and staff, parents/guardians, and school community, such as providing lunches during the "College Bound" college tours, and even celebrating the fathers/male role models during "Men Make A Difference" day, as well as the mothers/women role models during our annual "Muffins & Tea" luncheon. We'd like to thank you in advance for your consideration of this request and for your support. We have several levels and options that you can choose from, to show your support. All sponsors will receive a spot on the back of the SHS PTSA t-shirt, and will also receive a t-shirt. (T-shirts should be available in time for spirit week beginning November 1.) The size of the ad on the shirt will be determined by the level of the sponsorship. Platinum: \$150 (one available); Gold: \$75 (two available); Silver: \$50 (three available); Bronze: \$40 (four available); Copper: \$30 (five available). For questions or to purchase an ad, please contact the PTSA at [surrattsville.high.school.PTSA@gmail.com](mailto:surrattsville.high.school.PTSA@gmail.com) before October 18."

The Foundation is proud to have signed on as a lead sponsor for this year's t-shirts in support of the work of Surrattsville's outstanding PTSA. What a great way for members of the greater Surrattsville community to advertise their businesses or organizations while supporting a great cause.

**6. FALLEN HEROES PLAQUE – HOW IT HAPPENED.** Here's a fascinating note we received from Bob Jeter (64) explaining the genesis of the Foundation's new Fallen Heroes plaque and glass encased flags hanging in the Foundation's Legacy Hall at the School:

“How It Happened: Vernon Kennedy and I were two of the few aviators in our class (64). He went into the Army, Officers Candidate School (OCS), then flight training and I was next in line. He went to Nam and the war ended when shortly after I reported to OCS.

We kept in infrequent touch in the later years. I didn't realize he had been poisoned by Agent Orange. When I heard of his passing in 2012 I was totally bummed and wanted to do something in his remembrance. I thought of a plaque with his name at Surratts, and then I remembered our other classmate Marty Traylor, KIA in Nam, and wanted to include him, too. Then why not everyone who went to our school, all Classes, all wars?

A former Clinton VFD member requested we include those killed in line of duty in public service. That's how the title of the plaque evolved to what it is now, and Whittington, Herbert, and Talbert were added. Then came overwhelming support by alumni (especially ad hoc historian Judy Gordon) in producing the final product and of the Surrattsville Foundation who provided the funds.

The plaque will be hung in Legacy Hall flanked by two triangular matching glass faced flag cases with certificates under each. It will be quite a fitting shrine. We need to keep this going as there may be names post-Vietnam (Iraq, etc.), so we'd love to have volunteers to work on this project.

Hopefully some of the combat action narratives will be included in future copies of the yearbook. The plaque also will be displayed at any reunion which requests it and Clinton VFW, American Legion, and Clinton VFD before final placement in Legacy Hall Display. Proudly, Bob”

Many thanks to Bob and his team for their very hard work over many months in producing this very fitting tribute.

**7. HORNET MUSICIANS FEATURED IN USN PUBLICATION.** Some of our Navy readers may have seen the very nice Surrattsville music-related press in the October “Wavelets” publication. Wavelets contained an extensive article (with nice color photos) on the current, and past, musical exploits of Neal Dawson (73), featuring a gig Neal recently played with Foundation Achievement Award recipient John Previti (72) and other members of Neal's band, “Neal and the Copasetics.” Here's a nice excerpt from this article by Katie Ellis-Warfield:

“Dawson attributes his love for music to his father, who bought him a Silvertone acoustic guitar at age 10 for Christmas. “My dad was very musical. He used to take all his records, put them on the reel-to-reel, and play them for hours in the house,” Dawson said. Dawson started to develop his own musical taste at age nine, taking notice of bands such as The Kingston Trio, Gerry and the Pacemakers and The Beatles. “I starting singing along with stuff on the radio and then the

British Invasion hit,” Dawson said. “I would beat on trash cans with pencils like a drum and strum a baseball bat like it was a guitar.”

At age 14, Dawson started playing paid gigs with his band, Epicurean Household, while attending Surrattsville Junior High School in Clinton, Maryland. He even taught one of his fellow current bandmates in The Back Pages Band how to play guitar after school. His band at Surrattsville Senior High School, Butler’s Orchard, has regrouped in 2002, 2005 and 2010 to play their alumni foundation fundraiser.

The Back Pages Band has five members, two initially from Butler’s Orchard. They perform at all types of venues and have a repertoire of about 200 songs from artists such as The Beatles, The Moody Blues, The Rolling Stones, Creedence Clearwater Revival, The Grass Roots, Bread, Neil Diamond and The Eagles. When The Back Pages Band is unavailable for an event, Dawson said he pools from other musicians that he knows to form his pick-up band, Neal and the Copasetics. Dawson originally formed Neal and the Copasetics in Memphis, Tennessee, while working at Navy Personnel Command.”

[Ed. Note: It’s very rare that Surrattsville Junior gets a mention in a major publication!]

**8. SUMMER PAID INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY.** ... and speaking of Neal Dawson (73), pasted at the end of this e-Notice is information from Neal – which he kindly sends each year -- on a very nice summer paid intern opportunity for D.C.-area high school and college students. Thanks to Neal for passing this along.

**9. FOUNDATION NOW A PARTICIPANT IN AMAZON SMILE.** The Foundation is now a participant in the Amazon Smile program (smile.amazon.com), through which the Foundation receives a portion of the sales price of every qualifying purchase made on Amazon through smile.amazon.com and designating the Foundation as its charitable recipient. If you shop on Amazon, please consider registering at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-2224546> and making your Amazon purchases through smile.amazon.com with the Surrattsville High School Foundation as your preferred charity.

Here are some details from Amazon: When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a charitable organization from almost one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer’s selected charitable organization. The AmazonSmile Foundation is a 501(c)(3) private foundation created by Amazon to administer the AmazonSmile program. All donation amounts generated by the AmazonSmile program are remitted to the AmazonSmile Foundation. In turn, the AmazonSmile Foundation donates those amounts to the charitable organizations selected by our customers. Amazon pays all expenses of the AmazonSmile Foundation; they are not deducted from the donation amounts generated by purchases on AmazonSmile.

**10. UPDATE ON FOUND CLASS RING.** Thanks to the efforts of Laurie Martin Roberts (74) and those who responded to our item about the found ring in the last e-Notice, the ring, found about two years ago somewhere south of Ocean City, has been reunited with the family of the late Alan Reed (72). Thanks to Laurie and all those who assisted with this effort to return the ring to Alan's family.

**11. MEMORIES OF THE BEATLES VISIT TO D.C. (AND OF WPGC).** Wayne Tatum spotted and sent along this great article containing memories of The Beatles first American concert (at the Washington Coliseum) from WPGC disc jockey Harv Moore:

Beatlemania..<http://www.wgrz.com/story/news/local/2014/02/11/harv-moore-beatles-first-concert-washington-dc-radio/5397935/>

**12. CLASS OF 39 FEATURED IN POST ARTICLE, con't.** Here is a continuation of an item in the last e-Notice about a June 25, 1984 Washington Post article by Eugene Meyer sent in by Paul Monaghan (59):

“Class of '39 Surrattsville High Recalled ... Not only did the Class of 1939 endure, they also clung over the years to their Southern Maryland roots and, through regular reunions, to each other, providing a familiar frame of reference in a transient metropolitan area. “A majority of us are just plain home folks,” said Audrey Gemeny Smith, 62, who organized the 45-year reunion and still lives in Prince George's.

Indeed, 23 of the graduates still live in the county, nine in the Clinton-Camp Springs area. There were 41 graduates in the Class of 1939 (three more who did not graduate with their class still attend the reunions) compared with 322 graduates this spring. And they graduated after only 11 years of school, a common practice throughout the South, including Maryland. Their yearbook was modest: mimeographed pages with photos pasted and bound in a scrapbook. Several are related to each other. All are white, educated in a racially segregated system. The closest high school for blacks was 15 miles away, in Upper Marlboro. A total of 589 seniors graduated from county public schools that year, 535 from the 13 white, and 44 from the three black schools.

Surrattsville drew students from near the District line clear down to Brandywine. To many, the District, which had the closest movie theaters, seemed much farther away than the 7.6 miles on the map. No four-lane divided highways went there. Instead, there was winding old Branch Avenue, a two-lane road with the same dangerous curves navigated by John Wilkes Booth on his escape through Southern Maryland after Lincoln's assassination. “Everyone thought we were at the end of nowhere,” said Loveless, from his bed at Washington Hospital Center. “Nobody had ever heard of Clinton. But the amazing thing was you could, without breaking too many speed

laws, get to Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues in 20 minutes. There were no stop lights until you got to the District of Columbia.”

Loveless now lives in a Clinton subdivision. The land was once a farm belonging to the Surratt family. John Surratt was a postmaster, giving the town its name until his widow, Mary, was hanged for her alleged role in the Lincoln assassination conspiracy. The government then renamed the place Clinton. When T. S. Klein arrived at Surrattsville High for a 15-year stint as principal in 1926, he boarded for a year at the former Surratt Tavern. “It was a nice rural community of good old stock who lived well and liked to see others succeed,” said Klein, who left in 1941 to preside over more cosmopolitan Bladensburg High School. His stern reputation survives among the Class of 39.”

[To be continued.]

**13. 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).

**14. CLASS OF 75 PLANS REUNION.** The Class of 75 is considering plans for a reunion. (Note that the Class of 75 reunion was not part of the recent Class of 74 reunion as was previously mentioned.) Please contact Lorraine Frank Kerr at [lorrainefrank1@gmail.com](mailto:lorrainefrank1@gmail.com), or Cindy Shaffer Kluth on Facebook, if you are interested in the Class of 75 event.

**15. 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 1830 members.

Here's hoping you are enjoying gorgeous Fall weather, wherever you are!

All the best, Henry Smith (71)

*In Memoriam*

DARDA HEAL (52) passed away on September 28, 2014 after a long battle with cancer. He was laid to rest with full military honors in Biloxi National Cemetery on October 2.

*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

The Class of 74

Twin Shields Golf Club, Dunkirk, MD

Mike Blair (71), In Honor of All Hornet Grapplers

Jackie Gwynn Ball (60), In Loving Memory of Wm. R. (Jack) Gwynn (34), Wilhelmina D. (Billie) Barr Winstead (37), and Wm. R. (Bill) Gwynn, Jr. (64)

J. Paul Rickett (69)  
Gloria Blandford Rickett (71)

Summer Paid Internship Opportunity

Applications for NREIP or SEAP--Early application deadline--December 19. It's time to apply for SEAP and NREIP! Do you know a high school or college student who is interested in science, technology, math and/or engineering?

The applications window for the Science and Engineering Apprentice Program (SEAP) and the Naval Research Enterprise Intern Program (NREIP) opens on October 2! These competitive intern programs provide an opportunity for students to participate in science and engineering at a Department of Navy (DoN) laboratory during the summer. SEAP is open to high school students. It pays \$3,300 for new students and \$3,800 for returning students for the 8-week summer internship. More information and details about eligibility can be found at <http://seap.asee.org/>

NREIP is a 10-week internship open to both undergraduate and graduate students. For undergraduate students the stipend is as follows: Sophomores receive \$5,400. Juniors and Seniors receive \$8,100. Graduate students will receive \$10,800. More information and details about eligibility can be found at <http://nreip.asee.org/>

Applications must be complete, including all supporting documentation, no later than December 19, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. EST. Incomplete applications WILL NOT be considered. Note the early application deadline--December 19! Apply now! West Bethesda SEAP and NREIP POC is Rachel Luu (301) 227-1166.

THE SURRATTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION, INC.

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**DONOR CONTRIBUTION FORM**

[Use this form to make a contribution to the Surrattsville High School Foundation, Inc. The Foundation is a tax-exempt, charitable corporation under the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to the Foundation are charitable contributions for tax deduction purposes.]

AMOUNT OF

DONATION: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Current Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Donor at Surratts (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year or Years on Faculty of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP Code of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Directions (e.g, General Fund, Principals/Faculty/Staff Memory Fund, Charlie Waddell Memorial Fund, In Memory Of, Etc.):

Donation is made (check one):  By Check  In Cash

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For Foundation Use Only

Name of  
Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of  
Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

*C No goods or services were provided in return for this donation.*

Date of  
Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION TO THE SURREATTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL  
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