

## ***THIS IS SURRATTS FOUNDATION E-NOTICE 2018-5 OF MAY 1, 2018***

Hello Hornets! Here are some items that might be of interest:

**1. FOUNDATION MAKES THREE GRANTS IN APRIL!** The Foundation was proud to make three grants to the School in April. First, the Foundation once again provided funds to the PTSA to provide the Tekau Rayason Memorial Treasure Chests to 30 graduating seniors. Second, the Foundation provided funds to the Softball Team to purchase a softball machine, a base plate and a specialized bat. Finally, the Foundation once again provided funds to the Track Team to attend the very prestigious Penn Relays. Best wishes to all of the young Hornets benefiting from these latest Foundation Grants!

**2. RECIPIENTS OF FOUNDATION GRANTS WIN MAJOR AWARD!** We received this very exciting news from the School about the TV production class (for which the Foundation purchased new equipment last year): “Hi Surrattsville Family: I am proud to report that Surrattsville Advanced TV3 Production Class was awarded First Place People’s Choice in the category of High School Broadcast News and High School Documentary at the 2018 PGCPs Film Festival. A special congratulations goes out to Ebony Brooks, Writer and Producer - “The Ville”, digital news, and Alexis Sanchious, Writer, Director and Producer - “After High School...Now What?”, documentary. Thank you for your continued support!”

Way to go video Hornets, and their teacher Michelle Dyer!

**3. STILL TIME TO SEE THE 2018 HORNET BASEBALL TEAM IN ACTION.** Earlier this Spring we published on the Foundation’s Facebook Group the schedule for this year’s Baseball Team. The team still has these games remaining: Away on Tuesday 5/1/18 4:30 p.m. at Frederick Douglass and Home on Thursday 5/3/18, at 4:30 p.m. against Inter Largo/

**4. CLASS OF 68 ANNOUNCES GOLDEN REUNION.** The Class of 68 will hold its 50 Year Reunion on August 18, 2018 in Edgewater, Maryland. Information is available at [surrattsville68.classquest.com](http://surrattsville68.classquest.com) and the event is being organized by [Fran@fivestarreunion.com](mailto:Fran@fivestarreunion.com).

**5. NEW FOUNDATION VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP HOLDS PLANNING MEETING.** On April 25, the outstanding new volunteer leadership that will take the Foundation into its “2.0 era” met with the outgoing volunteer leadership to brainstorm about the future of the Foundation. All in attendance agreed that the next phase of the Foundation’s history will be a successful and exciting one. Please send me an email at [hsmith@smithdowney.com](mailto:hsmith@smithdowney.com) if you would like to volunteer to assist this next generation of Foundation volunteers.

Elsa Tlapechco (15), President

Tayana Harrison (07), Treasurer

Ta'Mya Harrison (07), Secretary

Jontice Small (07), Communications Liaison/e-Notice Editor

Kevin Stith (15), Social Media Director

Rontanetta Gibson (11), New Board Member

Susan Roley Malone (65), New Board Member

**6. DON'T FORGET THE FACEBOOK GROUPS OF THE FOUNDATION AND OF**

**EACH CLASS YEAR.** More and more of the communications about the Foundation, Surrattsville generally, and about individual Class year activities, have moved to the applicable Groups on Facebook. The Foundation's general Surrattsville Group, called "Surrattsville Alumni," now has 2050 members (and grows almost every day), and the various Class Groups – such as "Surrattsville 1969," "Surrattsville 1971," etc. – are growing vigorously. To stay in touch, and to see a regular parade of interesting photos and info about dear ol' Surratts, please consider joining the Surrattsville Alumni Group and your own Class Group.

**7. MORE SURRATTSVILLE MEMORIES FROM DAYS GONE BY.** The following is the latest installment of Wayne Tatum's (74) always evocative memoir of his time at Surrattsville Junior High in the 1960s. We're running Wayne's reminiscences as a serial, and we're sure Wayne's stories will stimulate lots of memories of times likely long gone-by among our readers.

"Speaking of the Influence of Musicians: The town of Clinton had one really amazing band at the time of my SJHS adventures. I heard them practice a few times around 71-72, finally experienced them live circa 73-74. It was started by a trio of brothers in the mid-1960s, all of them multi-skilled young men of high talent. One is gone now. Their original fame was due to their ability to perform Beatles tunes with amazing accuracy, if that is the proper term for adept vocal harmonies and instrumentation. The oldest brother, who as a young man had all the charm and self-reliance of a cavalier as well as seasoned musical professionalism, was a friend of my father and a hero to the Tatum lads. He was also the band's drummer. One Saturday evening in the winter of 1970 my mother denied me my weekly Teen Club pass because of my attitude. I was incensed by the surprise order, ticked off, increasingly agitated and moody. But then I noticed a drum set in the basement, and upon further investigation finding out that it was in fact THE SET, the one and only great band's backbeat delivery system. How and why it was there I didn't know. It was a worn mix and match set. The bass drum had a huge cutout in the front. There was a blanket inside.

The complete rig called to me in challenge like the sword in the stone. I had recently borrowed and played to a nub the Iron Butterfly hit album 'In-a-Gadda-Da-Vida,' focusing on the song of the same title, and now I had the means to try the solo myself. Having never seen the owner in action on anything else but guitar, I sat in like Ringo using a matched grip, left hand stick over the snare and right hand stick on the hi-hat, left foot controlling the same device and right foot ready to go eight beats to the four on bass drum, the tom toms and floor tom ready for quick handed abuse. Get ready, mom and dad:

'In-a-Gadda-Da-Vida': <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETBk3Dsv9BM>

I was silent about this act of familiarity for years, as I wasn't exactly given permission by the owner. When the chance finally came to see and hear the owner's fabled group in public, possibly including the abused drum set, I noticed that he would sit straight up in the 'saddle' (not crouched like a jazz drummer), unique in that he almost always held a serious laser-like gaze past the hi-hat when performing. Powerful and clean riffs reinforced with a snap to the bass pedal. Authoritative. The dance commander. His style was all his own. However - as much as I'd like to say that there was only one greatest on the planet drummer for the entire duration of this band and that he was my hero! mine! ... there were actually two drummers who performed with this group over the years, the other whose style was very much akin to or in reflection of - Dino Danelli.

Rascals – 'Lonely Too Long': <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Mlj8nuJbNQ>

If nothing else, my solo practice sans permission eventually earned me an audition for the Pink Panther Drum Corps. I missed out on the main drumline because I couldn't perform a paradiddle. (Right-left-right-right, left-right-left-left). The most easily identifiable paradiddle drum rhythm is in the Crickets song 'Peggy Sue', performed entirely in that mode. 'Wipe Out' by the Surfaris as far as I know, isn't. The wiki page states that Ron Wilson is playing paradiddles, but his style appears smoother than J. I. Allison's style, more of a straight drum rudiment or a mix thereof. See if you can tell the paradiddle from a fast straight drum roll:

*Peggy Sue* (J. I. Allison): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfu\\_gfPBPWc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfu_gfPBPWc)

*Wipe Out* (Ron Wilson if prior to 1990): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5D07c0dJuQ>

My Favorite Local Musician: Joe South: 'Games People Play'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5znh58WITU8>

The house referred to in the drum story was not the one on Crafton Lane. We moved in December of 69 to a house practically around the corner, mostly because of my separation anxiety. I may have acted cool around my friends, but to my family I was a pain in the neck. In the story about the slumber party raid of sorts, I mentioned that my parents were out at the movies. Well, they weren't – they were searching for rental homes in La Plata, the outer-boondocks in those days. The rest of my family were like pioneers in that they could pick up and move school-to-school or town-to-town on a dime. This is a loose Greek Chorus version of his first announcement of the planned move from Crafton Lane:

Dad - *"Alright, we're heading out of here, so don't give me any grief about leaving this town."*

Everyone but me – *"We'll live."*

Dad – *"What about your friends?"*

Everyone but me – *"Eh."*

Me - *"Aaaarrgghh!!!!"*

My father was a wonderfully deceptive man when he needed to be. He kept silent about his master plan, and nobody said a word about what was in the works. Then in early March of 70, straight from these lyrics of Eric Clapton:

‘After Midnight’: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NsHe-Oyt3KQ>

Right after midnight, I woke up to notice my bedroom furniture coming down, expertly deconstructed by my favorite local musician. Now I was in a quandary; my father pulled this dastardly and successful plan behind my back, knowing I would be a serious problem. He also knew that by bringing my favorite musician into play that I would be defused instantly. That brilliant fiend! I was defeated for a surprise galling moment, but still had my stolen Iron Butterfly session as consolation. Yay.

Epilogue: As I add the final touches to this vignette while nestled contentedly in a plush leather chair, my grateful feet rest upon the dusty ottoman in front of but not too near the grand fireplace. A nightcap of green and white gives adequate cover to bald pate, soft Cromwell slippers comfort lived-in tarsal bones, though in sleepy denial do I finally surrender to ill-fitted reading glasses that slowly descend my nose from bridge to tip as yon moody screech owl ‘Ignominious’ studies the motion from his perch near the intricately carved ancient mantle. Sometimes I read parts of my stories to him, and he’ll either turn his head away, open his wings wide and clap his beak when he’s had enough, or even let loose with a warning sound that can only be described as a scream from an asthmatic old man in a drainpipe in response to the overuse of youtube references. Unwavered by his withering critique and looking for a tasty mouse to appease him, I reach into the pocket of my favorite smoking jacket that strangely resembles the old Megascop’s markings, the same well-worn jacket that is further adorned with an official Surrattsville Hornet ascot, which I think makes him jealous. But now there is only time enough to stare deep into the last flickering flames of the night, logs crackling to gray ash as I absentmindedly clean a meerschaum pipe, all fading into dusk to greet the dawn fast approaching.

Disclosure: In actuality I have none of the things blathered on about in the Epilogue, not even an opinionated old owl, nor do I smoke, and have told you an untruth in rambling overcooked prose. I’ve been deceptive. Now if you have the time, here is a deception we’ll really like. Eleanor Rigby comes to mind. Enjoy..?

Through The Years: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHHSKdtm0yY>”

[... to be continued.]

**8. CLASS OF 88 ANNOUNCES UPCOMING REUNION.** We received this exciting announcement from the Class of 88:

“Surrattsville’s Class of 1988 will hold its 30-year reunion on Saturday, August 11, 2018 at the Colony South Hotel in Clinton. Festivities will officially begin at 8:00 p.m. and go until midnight. There will be a buffet style dinner, a DJ, and a ca\$h bar. A block of rooms has been set aside under code 08102018surr for alumni traveling from out-of-town. Contact the Colony South Hotel directly at 301-856-4500 or online at [www.colonysouth.com](http://www.colonysouth.com) for room reservations. Reunion tickets are \$85 per person, buffet and DJ included, and can be paid via PayPal at <https://paypal.me/pools/c/82dLsylK4H>. Please share with all your SHS Class of 88 friends! We are looking forward to a great turnout and a great time! (Find the SHS Class of '88 on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/265026763512671/>.)”

**9. MORE HISTORICAL TREASURES FROM 1964-1967 SURVEYORS!** Here are more treasures from The Surveyor from the 1964-1967 period. Thanks to Nancy Miller (67) and the Class of 67 for donating these “journalistic time capsules” to the Foundation Archives!

The following are some excerpts from the January 1965 issue:

“Advice & Comment: (Start the New Year off right. Take your problems to the Library, c/o Tom.)

Dear Tom: I am in love with you Tom, but I can't seem to get you to pay any attention to me. Please help me, for I am, Out of My Mind.

Tom Responds: What do you mean, you're out of your mind!

Dear Tom: I am really in a king-size, super duper, giant big mess! I just don't have what it takes to attract girls. Please don't tell me this is just my imagination because I know the truth; I am simply an ugly, skinny little run. Believe me, I have tried everything in the book to get girls to like me, but they all take one look at me and say ‘Bleah!’ Anyway, I tried all summer long to get the attention of the beautiful girl who lives next door to me. All my attempts were fruitless and to no avail. Then I heard that women cannot resist men with long, curly hair. I told this girl that if I let my crew-cut grow out she would discover that I had naturally curly hair. I don't really have curly hair but I was desperate and willing to try anything once. Everything was going along fine until one day she walked in the house with my sister and caught me with my hair up in rollers. I was embarrassed to tears. How can I explain this? Lonely for Compassion

Tom Responds: Dear Lonely for Compassion: Don't cry too hard sweetie or your mascara will run.

Dear Tom: What can I do to stop a boy from asking me out who never takes me any place except Kelly's and bowling, without hurting his feelings? Bawling Bowling Ball

Tom Responds: Dear Balwing Bowling Ball: The next time you're parked together in the car at Kelly's, why don't you light up a big black cigar and stink the whole thing up? If that doesn't work you could always spill your milk shake down his shirt while feeding him a French-fry.

And Lots of Luck. Have you ever wished on toenail clippers for good luck? Linda Krupitzer does and claims it to be far superior to horseshoes and four-leaf clovers. Barry Amos scorns mustard seeds and rabbit's tails, instead reaping the benefits from a commemorative seven millimeter magnum shell. Skip Hale feels that nothing takes the place of an ivory elephant to ward off evils, and Dave Dempsey employs a very special worry bird for such purposes. Dick Furbish swears by an 1880 silver dollar, and Jenny Griga, a fairy stone. If no luck is coming your way, why not brighten your future and invest in some toenail clippers?”

**10. ... AND MORE HISTORICAL TREASURES FROM “GREEN LIGHT.”** As we previously noted, in 2015 Duke Coleman (53) donated to the Foundation’s Archives a number of copies of an early SHS student newspaper, the “Green Light.” Those editions provide a fascinating glimpse into student life at Surrattsville during the 52-53 academic year, 66 years ago! Here are some excerpts from the April 30, 1953 issue:

“The Green Light. Published by the Speech-Journalism Class. 5 cents per copy. Editor: Ronald Coleman, Assistant Editor: Loraine Bush, Sports Editor: James Glass, Feature Editor: Catherine Moody, Music Editor: Marion Dermott, Typists: members of the Typing II Class.

Editorial: These United States are part of a horrible world at the present time. Today’s world is like a barrel of spoiling apples. It isn’t all bad and our country, along with other countries like it, show promise toward the social unity and peace of the world. It is the job of the freedom-loving people to eliminate the rotten apples. It seems the whole world is wrapped up in thoughts of war. Most are unjust thoughts and others are justified only by the desire to crush the aggressor. The proper principle to follow in dealing with the world’s problems is the one which says to live and let live. But so many have abandoned that principle and now say kill or be killed. It’s crazy ideas like that which may have led us into the greatest problem this country, or any other, has ever faced. The problem of restoring peace to the world.

No one person can give the solution to such a great problem as this. However, if we all sincerely believe that peace will be restored and fight for it in a civil manner by means of education and proper training of each succeeding generation, then the goal will be reached.

Music Notes. Last Friday the band went out to Maryland University for Maryland’s All Band Day. We saw many of our neighboring schools’ bands there: Oxon Hill, Suitland, Frederick Sasser, and others, all arrayed in their colorful uniforms. At 11:00 the announcement came over the public address system that the next group of four bands were to take their places and we were one of them. We played Sousa’s Thunder March, and The Carnival of Roses Overture. Afterwards Mr. Mathena received the criticisms from the five judges. We have lots of room for improvement but we’re ready to start working. The Maryland University Band played after the high school bands to conclude a nice day.”

**11. PAINLESS – AND VERY EFFECTIVE! -- WAYS TO HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR THE FOUNDATION.** Thanks to the many of you who make your Amazon purchases not through “regular” Amazon, but through smile.amazon.com, with the Surrattsville High School Foundation designated as their charitable beneficiary. The smile.amazon.com prices, products and Amazon website are identical to “regular” Amazon, but Amazon makes a charitable contribution to the designated charity for every purchase made on smile.amazon.com.

And thanks to those of you making your internet searches using the goodsearch search engine. It uses the yahoo search engine (which we’re told rivals google and apparently has never failed any Foundation user) and, like smile.amazon.com, makes a contribution to your designated charity

for every internet search. Here's the link: <https://www.goodsearch.com/causes/surrattsville-high-school-foundation>.

**12. FOUNDATION ARCHIVES SEEKING PERMANENT PHYSICAL HOME.** And speaking of the Foundation's Archives, we're seeking a permanent home for these precious objects. Anywhere in the Clinton/Southern MD area would be fine, and a room or building that starts at 8 x 10 and goes to infinity would be very nice. If you have a lead on a space that might be available to preserve this very important history, please send me an email at [hsmith@smithdowney.com](mailto:hsmith@smithdowney.com).

**13. FALLEN HEROES PLAQUE AVAILABLE FOR EVENTS.** Here's an update from Bob Jeter (64) on the Foundation's Fallen Heroes Plaque that hangs in the Foundation's Legacy Hall at the School alongside the American and Maryland flags that flew over the U.S. and Maryland Capitols in its honor. "The Fallen Heroes Plaque is available for display at class reunions or any other worthy functions. Feel free to contact me, Bob Jeter, [904jeter@gmail.com](mailto:904jeter@gmail.com) or 410-315-9403, preferably well in advance of the date so transfer arrangements can be made. Bob"

**14. DON'T FORGET TO CHECK-OUT THE FOUNDATION'S VARIOUS YOUTUBE VIDEO PROGRAMS.** Thanks to the tireless efforts and creative talents of the Foundation's youtube master, Foundation Board member Sandra Smith Simmons (70), the Foundation's youtube channel now features many programs of interest, such as programs featuring the Foundation's Fallen Heroes Plaque that was conceived and executed by Bob Jeter (64), the 2015 Achievement Award recipients, and the 2015 Scholarship recipients. The programs can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/SurrattsvilleFDN>.

Happy May Day (and memories of some of us of the Maypole and other May Day events at our Prince George's County Elementary Schools back in the day)! Henry Smith (71)

*MANY THANKS TO THESE EARLY DONORS TO THE 2018 CAMPAIGN!*

Bob Marr (71)

Debbie Cox Marr (72)

Sandra Smith Simmons (70), In Memory of Paul Smith

Pat Becker Oles (71)

Steve Profilet (71)

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Henry Smith (71), For the Roland Coluzzi Memorial Scholarship Fund

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

AND MANY THANKS TO THESE VERY GENEROUS DONORS TO THE RECORD-SETTING  
2017 CAMPAIGN!

Bob Marr (71)  
Debbie Cox Marr (72)  
Steve Profilet (71)  
Sandra Smith Simmons (70)  
Mike Gifford (84)  
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Ellen Talbert Miller (61 and former faculty/administration), In Memory of Bill Talbert (65)  
Richard Grace (81)  
Nancy Miller (67), to Recognize the Reunion Assistance of Judy Gordon (65)  
Vicky Simontacchi Young (57), In Memory of Eleanora Frances Parker Beswick (57) and Robert Lewis McCammon (57)  
Lee Hessberg (68)  
Lois Barrett Hessberg (70)  
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Larry Romjue (57), In Memory of Lois Marie Osgood (57), “Can’t Help Fallin’ In Love With You,” “Elvis”  
Mike Blair (71)  
David Kraus (65)  
Anonymous, In Memory of Susan Krause (80)  
Carolyn Gilchrist (74), for the Roland Coluzzi Memorial Fund  
Henry Smith (71), for the Roland Coluzzi Memorial Fund  
Donna Rae Sturtevant Smith (70), for the Roland Coluzzi Memorial Fund  
Donald Cummings (65), In Honor of All the Judy’s “Class of 65”

Nora Nugent (69), In Memory of Melissa Gilcrest (69), Senior Class Secretary  
Paul Monaghan (59)  
Nancy Miller (67), For Monique Countiss Scholarship  
David Weber (65)  
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Dave DeCenzo (73)  
Henry Smith (71), In Memory of Melissa Gilcrest (69) and Judy Miller (70)  
Donna Rae Smith (70), In Memory of Melissa Gilcrest (69) and Judy Miller (70)  
Carrie Jessee Loftus (69), In Memory of Melissa Gilcrest (69)  
Chris and Merry Chovan Romine (65), In Memory of Brad Amos (65)  
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The Class of 67, for the Esther Clifton Miller Memorial Scholarship, in Honor of Nancy Miller (67)  
Jim Turner (71), In Memory of Ben Collins  
Vicki Forsht Williams (65 and former faculty), for the Roland Coluzzi Memorial Fund, in Memory of Brad Amos and Ben Collins  
Reynaud Smith (72), In Memory of Kevin Bush  
Lynn Powers Yates (65)  
Carol Julian Kross (65). In Memory of Ellis Ray McElroy (64)  
Betty O'Clair (73)  
J. Paul Rickett (69)  
Gloria Blandford Rickett (71)  
Allen Taylor (64), In Memory of Robert E. Knable (63)  
Candy Spears (67), In Memory of Lost Friends and Those Gone from View  
Mike Gifford (84)  
Joe Capone (79)  
Laura Donze Burleson (72)  
Tom Shultz (71)  
David Coffield, In Honor of All The Surrattsville Alumni We Lost This Past Year  
Anonymous, In Memory of Ben Collins and Marie Grouby, for the Roland Coluzzi Memorial Fund  
Nancy Oursler Maynard (65), In Memory of Dorothy Oursler (31), and the Class of 65 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Brenda Karnes (Former Faculty), In Memory of Ben Collins and in Honor of Henry Smith (71) and Donna Rae Sturtevant Smith (70) who have dedicated over two decades to establishing and managing the Foundation and activities that support Surrattsville High School  
Sam Wynkoop (60)