

PHILLIPS/BRICKS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2012 REUNION NEWSLETTER



"LINKS"



CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY - 1949-1972

Welcome to the 34th annual school reunion of the Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association. We have planned an enjoyable weekend for you and hope that you are as excited as we are to have another opportunity to fellowship, celebrate and remember our history and the great legacy of Phillips High School and Bricks School.

We have had a busy and productive year helping students, spreading goodwill and giving service to our community, especially the children of Phillips Middle School. We would like to highlight some of our key activities since May 2011 to let you know that all of your continued support, prayers and gifts are being put to good use for our future generations.

During our May 2011 banquet, we awarded five \$1000 Scholarships (\$5000) to high school seniors pursuing higher education and going to college.

For our current fiscal year 2011-12, we have 75 paid members of the PBAA and received donations for scholarships totaling over \$2000. Our goal is to increase the number of members to no less than 200 annual paying members. With dues of \$25 each, this will ensure that we will have funds each year to award more and more scholarships and to help with the special needs of the middle school students at Phillips Middle. If you did not pay your 2011-12 dues, please include them with your current registration and be a continuing partner with us to make a difference in the lives of our young people as they are our future. Those paying will receive an official alumni association lapel pin to show your pride to your friends, family and fellow classmates.

During the month of October 2011, PBAA purchased 35 TI-85 graphing calculators for the students of Phillips Middle School. These calculators were so much appreciated that the PMS students took the time to write and send letters of thanks to the organization. Several letters were read at our January 2012 meeting. In this same spirit, the Class of 1971 collected \$2000 at their 40th reunion celebration in 2011 and donated the money to Phillips Middle. We want to congratulate them for that outstanding display of caring to the middle school. Their act of generosity was so appreciated by the students as it allowed them to have enough funds for a planned field trip to Washington DC to see among other things, the Martin Luther King monument. With school budget funds being cut and extremely shorter in Edgecombe County and many other NC counties, this type of trip might not have been possible without the support and generosity of the Class of 1971.

We continued our adopt-a-highway program this year completing 3 cleanups for the year. Even though the number of participants has been small, the camaraderie and commitment to the cause are an important part of a lasting connection and extension of our purpose. Please join us in 2012 for cleanup dates scheduled for February, March, October and November 2012. There are ways that everyone can help even if you have physical limitations and can't bend or stoop to pick up litter. The purpose of this project is not only to do something good for the Battleboro community, but to maintain public recognition especially for Phillips High School and our current alumni association.

The annual Christmas Breakfast was held on December 10, 2011. Each participant met at the Golden Coral in Rocky Mount and paid for their own breakfast. Each attendee brought gifts for raffles and games. It was a special time of fellowship and celebration, sharing in the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Our compassion was extended to fellow alumni by remembering those that passed on since May 2011 and those who became seriously ill or lost a close relative. Expressions of sorrow were sent to several members during the year in the form of cards, phone calls and some flowers.

Finally, we salute the classes of 1952 and 1962 and thank them for their participation in planning this year's banquet program. They have chosen a theme that will pay special tributes during the banquet.

MAY, 25-27,

2012
REUNION

2012 CLASS
ANNIVERSARIES

PHS CLASS OF 1952	60TH
PHS CLASS OF 1962	50TH

Special points of interest:

- October 2011—PBAA Purchased 35 Graphing Calculators for Phillips Middle School
- Fall 2011—Class of 1971 Donated \$2000 to Phillips Middle
- May 2011 - Five \$1000 Scholarships were awarded
- May 2011-PBAA Saluted Mildred Hines for her years of dedication to Phillips/Bricks
- July 2011 PBAA participated in GW Carver 70th Anniversary Parade Nov 2011—PBAA Members Attend NCABHSA annual Thanksgiving Event.
- Dec 2011—PBAA Schedules Annual Christmas Breakfast

Please email or send us your comments, suggestions and news for the next publication to: EMAIL ADDRESS

Phillipsbricksalumni
@yahoo.com

**ALUMUS AND RETIRD TEACHER
MILDRED HINES HONORED AT THE
PBAA 2011 SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET
FOR HER YEARS OF DEDICATION**



Mildred Hines, alumnus and former teacher of Phillips High School has worked for many years with the Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association planning and working on annual reunions. Mildred was among the group of alumni who formed the original organization in the 70s following closure of the

school. For many years she authored the newsletter, handled the mailings and planned the reunion events with fellow members. Mildred is a graduate in the class of 1953. She is also former teacher of Phillip.

Her smile, sweet and gentle spirit have graced many reunions banquets and greeted those attending over the years.

Through her commitment and dedication, the Association has thrived and grown for 34 years of school reunions.

THANK YOU SO MUCH MILDRED!



**CLASS OF 1971 CELEBRATES
40TH REUNION**

The Class of 1971, the last graduating class of Phillips High School, celebrated its 40th reunion in 2011. Members held a dinner/dance at the Doubletree Hotel in Rocky Mount, NC in October 2011 and had approximately 65 classmates and friends to attend. The class collected \$2000 in donations, which were presented to Phillips Middle School for use during the current school year. Congratulations to all members of the class for such generosity and caring!

**CLASS OF 1962 Celebrates 50 Years &
SALUTES SOME OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE
PBAA**

The Class of 1962 will celebrate their 50th Anniversary at this year's reunion. Their Theme is *"Remembering Our Past, Celebrating our Future by Giving Our Flowers Now."* The Class will be honoring past alumni association leaders and founders as part of their banquet program. The Class members have selected Rev. James Stewart as the speaker for the banquet. Congratulations Class of 1962 as you Move into the "GOLDEN" circle of honor, celebrating 50 years since Graduation in 1962.



SCHOLARSHIPS—AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE PBAA LEGACY

For many years, one of the primary projects of the Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association has been awarding annual scholarships. In May 2011 the association awarded scholarships to five excellent applicants that were chosen by the Scholarship Committee.

In an attempt to reach as many potential applicants as possible who might have active alumni family members with ties to Phillips High School, scholarship applications were sent to some of the churches in and around

the Battleboro/Leggett area and also to the North Edgecombe High School guidance counselor. The PBAA Scholarship Application form is available at the PBAA website: www.phillipsbricksalumni.com.

The receipt deadline for the scholarship application each year is always April 30 by 5:00 pm. Those received after that date and time can not be considered.

The contact persons for the PBAA annual scholarship is Helen Hines Hunter (252-904-8276) and Maurieta Cozart (252-469-0414) or you may email us at: phillipsbricksalumni@yahoo.com.

North Carolina Association of Black High

Once again our Phillips alumni came out in large numbers for the 4th annual After-Thanksgiving Event sponsored by the North Carolina Association of Black High School Alumni (NCABHSA), held on November 25, 2011. Phillips Alumnus, Reverend William M. Parker was the Master of Ceremony for the Banquet. District Attorney for Edgecombe, Nash and Wilson Counties, The Honorable Robert A Evans was the event speaker. NCABHSA is an organization that was started July 2008 by alumni members from eight of our other former

black high schools in Edgecombe, Nash, Pitt and Franklinton Counties. The purpose of the organization is to serve as a collective body to foster programs and activities that will help the community remember and promote the history and legacy of our former Black high schools along with their teachers and principals and to aid in the educational strength and enrichment of our youth today. The activities of NCABHSA for 2011 included their annual After-Thanksgiving Dinner/Dance which raised money and collected toys for the Toys-for-Tots drive; supporting the Martin Luther King Annu-

al Banquet and other school reunions with ads in souvenir booklets; awarding a grant to *Young Men of Purpose*, a local organization whose purpose is to build strong character, enrich and steer our young men toward a successful future.

You can learn more about NCABHSA at their website at www.ncabhsa.com. Morris Roberson a Nash Central alumnus, is the current president. The Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association is one of the charter members. The After-Thanksgiving event is held every year the Friday after Thanksgiving. This year's past event had over 250 attendees from various former black high schools, family and friends others. The next event is November 23, 2012 again at the Gateway Convention Center in Rocky Mount, NC. HOPE TO SEE YOU!

† **NECROLOGY**

Below are the Phillips alumni we lost since our last reunion in May 2011 and were notified about.

- Laura Phillips-'67
- Grace Whitehead Thornton
- James Keith
- Rosa Lyons
- Edith Sutton Cherry
- Rossi Coefield-'59
- Rita Parker Simpson
- Marjorie Bryant
- Ethel Thorne-61
- Berry Lyons-'63
- Ray Cherry-'69
- Frances Knight Arrington-'68
- Billy Hill-'67
- Flora Belcher Daniels-'62
- Daryl Watson-'69
- Valentino Farmer-'69

We offer our deepest sympathy to all friends and family of these fallen Bulldogs. They will forever be remembered in our hearts!

PBBA Alumni Join G.W. Carver Alumni in 70th Anniversary Parade!

During the July 4th weekend, several members of our alumni association put on our maroon and gray tee shirts and hats, fixed up some signs, tied balloons, decorated Avant Coleman's red truck and join in the parade with several other schools, organizations, the Tarboro High School Band, Carver High School classes, Conetoe High School, the North Carolina Association of Black High School Alumni, local businesses and area elected officials to parade downtown Pinetops to celebrate 70 years of G.W. Carver history and Eagle Pride. This was part of their reunion weekend celebrations. Those participating had a lot of fun representing the Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association.



OTHER CLASS/ALUMNI NEWS

CLASS OF 1969

The Class of 1969 held a holiday fellowship at Abrams Barbecue in Tarboro on

December 30, 2011 from 5 to 8pm. The members had dinner, fellowshiped and watched videos and picture slideshows of their past reunions including their 40th reunion celebration. Attendees brought gifts which were exchanged by raffle. It was a great time to celebrate the holiday season and catch up since our last connection at the May 2011 PBAA event.



On April 14, 2012, class members, family and friends will gather together again as they set sail aboard Royal Caribbean's luxury cruise liner, *Oasis of the Seas*, on a 5 day cruise to Bermuda. The trip was planned at the 40th reunion in 2009.



Pictured are Left to Right: Elaine Davis, Barbara Lyons, Margaret Basemore, Annie Titus, Ann Pittman and Brenda Asbury.

Robert Lyons also attended but left before this photo was taken. As one class member said "sadly we have lost three of our classmates this year, *Daryl Watson, Valentino Farmer and Ray Cherry*. We must not wait 5 years to have another reunion. We have to enjoy these moments now while we have them and while we are still here."

PICTORIAL REVIEW OF OUR 2011 YEAR ACTIVITIES



MEMBERS AT CHURCH SERVICE



BANQUET 2011

FORMER CHORAL/MUSIC TEACHER AND STUDENT GREET EACH OTHER



PHILLIPS MIDDLE PRINCIPAL ATTENDS PBAA MEETING



CHURCH WORSHIP



MEET AND GREET -MAY 2011

BANQUET 2011



ADOPT-A- HIGHWAY



The Phillips Family Celebrates 40 and 50!

Pictured are Beatrice (right) and her sisters. Beatrice is from the Class of 1961 and Celebrated her 50th Anniversary in 2011. Her Sister Rosa (middle) is from the Class of 1971 and celebrated 40 years



Shown are members of the Phillips-Bricks Alumni Association with Mr. Brown holding one of the 35 calculators purchased for Phillips Middle School. Front Row Left to Right: Maurieta Cozart, Alma Williams, Principal Dennell Brown, Marie Bryant, Shirley Clark. Back Row Left to Right: Frances Hart, Roy Watson, Flo Bynum, Lillian Thorn, Liz Daniel Mitchell and Constance Mack. - Submitted by Brenda Asbury, PBAA Member

