

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Greetings from the National President—Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association
- 2009 Scholarship Fund-raiser - Raffle Tickets On Sale
- Class of 1967 40th Reunion in 2007
- Class Of 1968 40th Reunion 2008
- Class of 1958 50th Reunion in 2008
- Remembering Those We Lost in 2008
- Books Donated to Phillips Middle School Library in 2008
- Class of 1969 to Celebrate 40th Reunion Memorial Week-End
- Election of PBAA Officers for 2009/2013
- Highlighting Our 2008 Scholarship Winners

THE LINKS

The May 2009 Edition of the Annual Reunion Newsletter of the Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association Reunion was voluntarily

prepared by:

Brenda Pippens Asbury

PHS Class of 1969

All Questions or Comments are Appreciated!



THE LINKS

PHILLIPS/BRICKS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MAY 2009 EDITION

REUNION NEWSLETTER

THIRTY-FIRST PHILLIPS/BRICKS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION - MAY 22-24, 2009

Greetings to alumni, attendees, family, graduates and friends of Phillips High and Bricks Schools. Bulldogs, it is time to celebrate once again 2009! We welcome you with open arms of joy, excitement and shared pride in our dear Phillips High School and Bricks School. We honor their history and the many teachers who cared much for us and our success. These educators played a major role in making who we are today. We can never forget the lessons we learned in classes as those instilled in us by the advice and wisdom of caring, dedicated principals and teachers. As you enjoy the food, fellowship and seeing old classmates, moment to remember all of those classmates, teachers and friends that are no longer with us, Remember all that have gone on to their heavenly home as well as those who may be homebound, ill or ailing a little in their senior years.

The reunion committee and other members of the association have worked very hard to make the festivities of our 31st reunion enjoyable and memorable for all of you. Many hours of meeting, planning, and preparation have gone into each detail of the events for your pleasure and enjoyment. We are so glad that you gave of your time to come out and enjoy them. It has been a labor of love because we do it out of love and memory of our school, classmates and former teachers. When these schools closed their doors, we lost our high school and in the case of Bricks, we lost the building to a fire. But the lasting pride, memories, and connection with classmates is a light that we can keep burning brightly by staying involved and supporting the Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association. It is our duty to preserve the memory and history of our schools for as long as we can. One way to do this is thru our working together to raise money for scholarships for the higher education of our deserving and needy community youth.

For these reasons, I urge you to support the raffle for the scholarship fund. It is the second most important reason for our reunion. The first is to keep our school's history alive in the community through our fellowship, publicity, mailings and fellowship with other alumni groups. It is also most important that we help the children of our community. As bible scripture reminds us "to whom much has been given, much will be required."

In the process of keeping our organization strong and functioning well, on Saturday morning, May 23, all members of the Alumni Association are urged to attend the annual business meeting from 9:30am to 11:30 am at the Golden Corral at 921 N. Wesleyan Blvd, Rocky Mount, NC. Those attending will pay at the register and proceed directly to a reserved room for the meeting and election of new officers.



2009 Reunion Committee

Program/Annual Reunion Hosts and Golden Year Celebrants - Class of 1959
Reunion Celebration Church Service and Lunch—Class of 1969
Publicity, Mailings, Annual Newsletter - Brenda P. Asbury
Raffle and Prizes—Helen Hines, Avant Coleman, Brenda . Avery, Brenda P. Asbury
Finance—Lillian Thorne, Frances Hart, Shirley Clark
Souvenir and Gifts—Maurieta Cozart, Helen Hines, Shirley Clark
Food—Margaret Hunter, Shirley Clark,
Annual Election—Maurieta Cozart, Helen Hines, Shirley Clark, Waldo Powell

BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SCHOLARSHIP BY SATURDAY NIGHT, MAY 23, 2009

Once again, committee members, Avant Coleman and Helen Hines have worked very hard to obtain prizes for this year's raffle. It will be held at the banquet on May 23, 2009. The host of prizes include several major gift cards and 2 sets of Firestone tires with a total value of over \$800. The raffle tickets are \$5 this year as we try to enlarge our scholarship awards. These are difficult times for parents in our community and a scholarship will help a needy and deserving young student fulfill his or her dreams of getting a higher education. Won't you please help by purchasing at least 5 tickets in advance? The money raised from this raffle will benefit the scholarship fund. Last year the Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to area high school students and one \$100 savings bond to a middle school student from Phillips Middle School. Five tickets were sent with all reunions packets this year to encourage your help. If you have not purchased a ticket, we urge you to do so to help this important cause for students. Please see Avant Coleman for a ticket, complete the stub and return it to him along with your payment as soon as possible by May 23 or at the banquet. The more tickets you buy, the more opportunities you will have to win.. Many thanks for those members and classes that donated raffle prizes, door prizes and theme gift baskets for this cause.

SCHOOL SONG

Dear Phillips High School
School Song

There's a school we think is fine
In the State of Carolina
There's a school we think is fine
In the State of Carolina
And her lessons we will cherish
Of her fruit we'll never perish
Dear Phillips High School
Dear Phillips High School

Her maroon and gray we choose
B...Somebody ne'er to lose
Her maroon and gray we choose
B...Somebody ne'er to lose
And the Bulldog's emblem wear
Her precepts that we might bear
Dear Phillips High School
Dear Phillips High School

How are hearts with love doth beat
When her name we do repeat
How are hearts with love doth beat
When her name we do repeat
For to us life key she's given
Toward success goal we are driven
Dear Phillips High School
Dear Phillips High School

SCHOOL MOTTO
"B...SOMEBODY"

SCHOOL MASCOT
BULLDOG



This is the Bulldog emblem as shown on the first yearbook published at Phillips in 1954 and the last year book published in 1958. This appears to be, with question, the official bulldog emblem of the school mascot of PHS.

North Carolina Association of Black High School Alumni Association Formed in 2008

NCABHA is an organization that was formed in 2008 among black high school alumni in eastern North Carolina. It currently includes representatives from some of the former segregated African American high schools that were closed or established as elementary or middle schools during integration. The purpose of this group is to build a strong network among all of the alumni associations that have been formed over the 38 to 41 year span. As these schools no longer exist as high schools since the integration of public schools in Edgecombe, Nash, Wilson and Pitt counties, the objectives of the organization are to fellowship, offer support, aid in preserving African American school history, advocate for the youth in the community and be a combined voice for the many alumni associations to state and local governments on the objectives mentioned and other important issues regarding African American history, higher education and continued success for our youth.

At the first organized event, held the day after Thanksgiving 2008, approximately 200 people engaged in lively, fellowship, dinner, dancing and a toys-for-tots drive for the community. The event is being planned again for 2009, the Friday after Thanksgiving, November 27, 2009.

Kimberly Bellamy, a reporter for the Tarboro Daily Southerner newspaper was on hand to cover the event and to research details about the organization and other alumni groups. Ms. Bellamy wrote an extensive article in

the December 2, 2008 edition of the Southerner, highlighting some of the schools' history and community involvement. Morris Roberson of the Nash Central Alumni Association is the current President. Phillip's own Annie Pippens (70) is Secretary and Brenda Asbury (69) is Financial Secretary. Any member of a black high school alumni association is eligible to attend the monthly meetings as scheduled. Those interested in attending should contact their alumni association president for the meeting dates.



Charter Members of NCABHA



Pictured above are Phillips/Bricks Alumni Members Who Attended the NCABHA's After Thanksgiving Fellowship and Dinner/Dance

Book and Money Donations Delivered to Phillips Middle School June 2008

The 2008 Phillips-Bricks School Reunion book drive collected 42 books and \$125 in donations for the Phillips Middle School library. Brenda P. Asbury and Maurieta Cozart delivered the books and check donations to the Phillips Middle School office staff on June 17, 2008. Mr. Etheridge, the Principal of PMS, later sent a letter of deep appreciation to the Alumni Association and all of the donors for their efforts. We encourage you to consider this cause for the future so that more books and/or money can be given

to help the library. Books are always needed for the library and all students at PMS can enjoy the benefits of these gifts for years to come.



2007 Scholarship Recipient

James U. Hart, 2007 recipient, is the son of Melvin Ray and Frances Petway Hart ('68) of Rocky Mount. James recently finished his sophomore year at UNC-Greensboro, majoring in Business with a concentration in Accounting. He expresses his appreciation and gratitude to the Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association for his award in 2007.

CLASS OF 1969 TO CELEBRATE 40TH REUNION 2009

The Class of 1969 will celebrate a 40th Reunion May 23, 2009 with a catered luncheon and program at the Comfort Inn banquet room in Tarboro. Class senior advisor, Nellie Hunter, is scheduled to be the guest speaker. Several other class teachers have also been invited as guest. The weekend celebration also includes class participation in the Phillips School Reunion activities, Friday and Saturday Night as well as hosting lunch after the joint worship service for class members and other Phillips alumni attending church at Salem Chapel Baptist Church, located off Highway 33 in Tarboro. Their last class reunion was in May 1999 with 29 members attending.

The 1969 "Mighty Bulldogs" look forward to having approximately 50 attendees for their 2009 reunion. The class total was 124. Fifteen members of the graduating class are deceased.

Election of 2009-2013

The election of the 2009-2013 Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association National Officers will be held Saturday, May 23, 2009, 9:30 am at the business meeting at the Golden Coral Restaurant on Highway 301 in Rocky Mount. The slate of officers nominated for the election to serve for four years are as follows:

- President: Charlie Staton, '58
- Vice President: Roy Watson
- Secretary: Frances P. Hart, '68
- Asst. Secretary: Shirley Clark, '68
- Treasurer: Lillian Thorne
- Financial Secretary: Constance M. Hymes, '68
- Chaplin: Rev. Samuel Sutton
- Assistant Chaplin: Marie Bryant, '68

All members in good standing are eligible to vote in the election of PBAA national officers for 2009-13. National dues are \$25 annually for national membership in the association.

Pictures from the CLASS OF 1969 30TH REUNION in May 1999



OH WHAT A NIGHT!!!

CLASS OF 1968

CELEBRATE THEIR 40TH REUNION

The Phillips High School Class of '68 celebrated its fortieth class reunion on October 25th, 2008 at the Gateway Convention Center, Rocky Mount, NC. It was arguably the best that we have had. Forty class members attended the banquet celebration and with guests we had about sixty five attendees.

The food was delicious. The entertainment was off the hook! The Superbs were simply supreme, and comedienne Mother Spirit was hilarious. Linwood Wiggins showed us that he still had a great singing voice. James Sharpe was just awesome as our emcee and Hassell Draughn and Lee McQueen heightened the mood and memories with our favorite tunes.

It was so nice to see everyone at

PHILLIPS/BRICKS ALUMNI 2008 CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

The PBAA held it annual Christmas Brunch Fellowship on December 20, 2008 from 9-12 at the Golden Corral in Rocky Mount. Fellowship, Christmas carols, games, food, prizes and lots of fun were enjoyed by all. Members brought can goods that were taken to the rescue shelter by Avant Coleman after the gathering. Several former Phillips teachers were invited as guest of the Association as a Christmas



remembrance to honor them for their support and service. Several members received many laughs over their drawings of a reindeer while blind folded.

CLASS OF 1958 CELEBRATED THEIR 50TH REUNION MAY 2008

The Class of 1958 are "Golden Bulldogs", celebrating their 50th class anniversary in May 2008. Their celebration was a weekend full of fellowship that began at the Phillips/Bricks Meet and Greet Friday night, May 23. On Saturday, a reunion breakfast and program was held at the Golden Coral in Rocky Mount, NC.

The class organized and hosted the Phillips/Bricks Banquet program held on Saturday night. The program included, special songs, prayers and pres-

the recent reunion. Everyone seemed to have had a wonderful time. There was a photographer there that developed pictures on the spot. The prizes and gifts were a very special added touch. The Keepsake Booklet was a treat for all. We, the Class of 1968, raised \$1,000.00 and presented it to the scholarship recipient Malcolm Armwood.

In memory of our beloved classmates that are now deceased, a picture collage along with their names was displayed.

Submitted by Constance Mack Hymes and Frances P. Hart

Class of 1968 Reunion Committee

- Thomas Ricks-Chairman
- Constance Mack Hymes-Secretary
- Earnestine Dancy Pittman
- Curtis Avon Williams
- Shirley Whitehead Clarke
- Carolyn Harper Smith



- Annie Marie Bryant
- Hassell Draughn
- James V. Sharpe
- Frances Petway Hart

ABOVE IS THE CLASS OF 1968 40TH REUNION PICTURE

REMINDER:

- Please attend the Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association (PBAA) monthly meetings at North End Baptist Church located on Grand Avenue, Rocky Mount North Carolina. Meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10-12am..
- Get involved and help to keep the memory of Phillips and Bricks alive and to help kids further there education with scholarship awards.
- TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!



entations by the class members. A donation of \$1000 was made to PBAA for the 2008 scholarship drive which was presented to the Phillips/Bricks Alumni Association in celebration of their "50 years of Blessings." Class member, Maurieta Cozart, led the committee for the celebration and designed a commemorative booklet for the occasion.

50th REUNION



**Phillips High School
Graduating Class of 1967
Celebrates 40 Years**

Saturday, June 9, 2007, was a glorious day for the members of Phillips High School Class of 1967. It was a day of joy, happiness, and remembrance as they reunited at their alma mater to meet, greet and enjoy "A Walk Down Memory Lane."

More than forty students enjoyed the fun-filled 2-hour event that included a complete indoor and outdoor tour of the school, reminiscing and snacking on hors d'oeuvres. A few alumni got the opportunity to become children again as they ran and played on the floor of the gymnasium.

Later that evening approximately eighty-five students, former instructors and friends gathered at Stacks Restaurant in Tarboro, NC where they enjoyed a dinner buffet, introductions, memorial tributes and a reunion address delivered by Mrs. Nellie Hunter, Retired Educator at Phillips.

A photographer was present throughout the evening for individual and group photos as well as a DJ who provided a variety of music as they danced the night away.

Throughout the evening seven drawings were held and the winners were happy to receive such lovely gifts. In addition to the traditional pen, pencil and paper souvenirs, each individual received a goody bag filled with information on life-long learning, health education, healthy eating, recipe books on healthy cooking and a Graduating Class Collage.

The reunion festivities culminated on Sunday, June 10, 2007, as classmates gathered for worship at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in the Dunbar Community of Battleboro to hear an inspiring message by Pastor Samuel Clemons, Jr. ...Surely! "Memories do last forever"...



Submitted by Eleanor Battle-Sharp, Class of 1967 and 40th Reunion Committee Chairwoman

PRESERVING PHILLIPS/BRICKS' AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

Phillips High School and Bricks School are treasured parts of the African American history and experience in Edgecombe County. Please help to restore some of that history by sharing any memorabilia with the Phoenix Society and the Edgecombe County Library for future generations to see. If you have pictures, articles, or any memorabilia from these schools, please contact the PBAA so that interested persons may photograph and copy then for the Edgecombe County Library Pender Room and genealogical researchers. Please don't let important artifacts go unviewed, deteriorating and lost forever in the closets, boxes and attics of your homes. All African American History is precious and valuable. Please help organizations like the Phoenix Society of Tarboro preserve it. You may contact the PBAA at its email address: phillipsbricksalumni@yahoo.com if you have any memorabilia to donate or share.



We Remember Them All In Our Hearts

We remember the fellowship and friendship of those classmates and teachers who have entered into a realm where they will never grow old. You will always be in our hearts and a part of all that we cherish when we remember our "Dear Phillips High School." Our sincere condolences to all the families of our fallen "Bulldogs". May you find comfort in knowing that we too share in the memory of those you have lost and they will forever remain with us in our hearts with love and honor.



To avoid any risk of omitting a single name of any deceased schoolmate, it was decided that it would be more appropriate to not list names at this time. However, each class is encouraged to help us keep an accurate, permanent record by providing a complete, current list of their classmates that have gone on to be with the Lord for future listings and publication in programs and on our PBAA webpage.

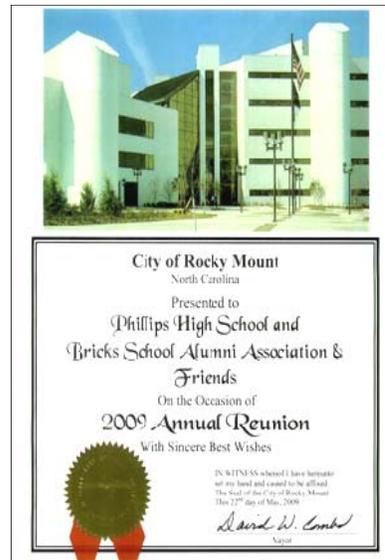
**SCHOLARSHIP HIGHLIGHTS
2008 PBAA Scholar Recipients**

Malcolm Armwood received one of the two scholarships awarded by the PBAA in 2008. He has completed his first year at ECU in Greenville, NC where he is pursuing a degree in musical theater. Malcolm is the son of Alvin and Mary Armwood of Rocky Mount and the nephew of Constance Mack Hymes ('68).

Jalisa Yvonne Haynes, the granddaughter of Cephus and Bertha Haynes ('58) of Rocky Mount was the second recipient of the annual PBAA scholarship award for 2008. Jalisa has completed her first year at Shaw University. She is studying to become a clinical psychologist.

All alumni members sincerely wish much success to all of the scholarship recipients and will continue to hold them dear with pray and encouragement. We hope that they will remember to carry on the giving spirit of the members of the alumni association and never forget those children in their community who also dream of furthering their education in the future.

We urge all recipients to tell others about the great history of our schools and to be an extension of goodwill from Phillips and Bricks graduates to all of those they meet along their paths to success.
God Bless You!



Greetings and a Commemorative Certificate from the Mayor of Rocky Mount, NC, The Honorable David W. Combs.