

# CHS Alumni Newsletter

Issue 9

December 2004

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## News From Our Alumni

### 1935

Virginia (Wilder) Stevens (class of '60) and husband Stiles traveled to Cullman on September 13 for the 90th birthday of her mother, **Essie Lee (Tubbs)**

**Wilder (class of '35)**. The birthday was celebrated with a lot of cake and balloons for all the residents of Woodland Haus. Virginia and Stiles got to Cullman just in time to share accommodations at Best Western Fairwinds Inn with all the refugees from the Gulf Coast who were escaping Hurricane Ivan. While in Cullman, however, they missed Hurricane Jeanne which was flying

around their home in St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Fortunately, Jeanne brought only heavy rain to St. Croix, a far cry from Ivan the Terrible!

### 1938

### 1940's

**Class contact:**  
**Albert Sharpton**  
albert@e9usn.com

### 1951

### 1952

**Class Contact: Don Wilcut**  
WILCUT@aol.com

**Edna (Perkins) Griffith**  
DISCOVER PUERTO RICO  
If you are searching for a great

place to vacation or retire, consider Puerto Rico!

You will be enchanted by the beauty and exquisite preservation of its very old and rich culture. According to their tourist bureau,

“Puerto Rico is a modern, progressive and active vacation spot with all the charm and hospitality of the Caribbean!”. We agree!

With its tropical climate, constant trade winds, and an average of 82 degree temperature, Puerto Rico provides ideal conditions for relaxing, sports, shopping, sightseeing, etc.

Additionally, there are a number of tax advantages for visitors as well as its residents. There is no sales tax. Residents are US citizens, however, they pay no federal income tax and no real state taxes on their primary residence. They do, however, have a “local” income tax. Car insurance is very economical with low cost public transportation, readily available [25 cents one way within San Juan and old San Juan area]! In Old San Juan, there are free trolleys provided by the merchants.

Does this sound like a good place to visit? We thought so and went there in November, 2004. Capers and I had a timeshare exchange at the ESJ Towers located at Isla Verde, Carolina (San Juan area). We were in a 5<sup>th</sup> floor condo with a private balcony overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. This is where we enjoyed our morning coffee and the splendid evening sunsets. Keeping in touch with family and friends was a snap as our cell phone worked better there than at home!

Old San Juan has streets - paved with bricks [some were used as ballast on old sailing vessels] - an abundance of parks, plazas, museums, architectural jewels, historic walls and forts. The United Nations has designated Old San Juan as a world class historic site. The best way to experience the ambiance of this 500 year-old 7 square-block area is by walking.

Our walking tour began at the Cathedral de San Juan on Del Cristo Street. This cathedral is an excellent example of medieval Gothic architecture in the New World and the final resting place of Ponce de Leon. You must next hike down the hill towards the bay on San Juan Street. At the bottom of the hill, pass through the Puerto de San Juan (red gate) to the walkway outside the old city wall. This gate is the only remaining one in the city wall and dates back to c.1520! If you take a right, it's a very long hike to the area of the Castillo El Morro, San Felipe Castle and the historic home of Ponce de Leon. However, to enter the fort and home, you must walk inside the wall. A left at the gate takes you to the Paseo de La Princesa Promenade Square where the beautiful and famous Princesa Fountain is located.

Sampling the tastes of genuine Puerto Rican cuisine is a “must” for all visitors! The best restaurants are those frequented by locals. Menus will vary; however, most will offer yucca and/or plantain along with beans and rice. We enjoyed their meals, some with squid, goat and other delicacies. Excellent restaurant choices are the Metropol and Sonny's at the Empress Oceanfront Hotel located at Isla of Verde, the Fonda el Jibarito, La located on Sol Street and El Picoteo at the El Convento Hotel on Del Cristo Street [across from the Catedral de San Juan] in Old San Juan.

While in San Juan, we were fortunate to see the Le Lo Lai Festival, Puerto Rico's most all-encompassing and attractive cultural festival created to showcase the blending of their Spanish, Taino Indian and African traditions. Another treat was attending the Puerto Rican Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, in concert, at the Museo de Arte.

The entire island of Puerto Rico [with a popu-

lation of approximately 3,900,000] is about the size of Connecticut. Puerto Rico, not only has beautiful beaches, but mountains and rain forests, as well. There's something for everyone! Its' charm and historical significance has peaked our interest for a return visit! Until then, we will be on our way to another exciting and interesting journey in a few days

## 1953

**Class Contact: Dottie Henke**  
[dothenke@hiwaay.net](mailto:dothenke@hiwaay.net)

Sorry I did not get any news in to you this year. I really thought retirement was just that, retirement but I do not know how I ever had time to work. My e mail address is [dothenke@hiwaay.net](mailto:dothenke@hiwaay.net). Our class continues to meet the last Tuesday in each month at the All Steak at 6:30 and we did have a GREAT 50th reunion in 2003. We have lost another classmate this year, Bill Marty.

## 1954

**Class Contact: Carolyn Peinhardt Johnson**  
[bjohn781@aol.com](mailto:bjohn781@aol.com)

The Class of '54 hopes to get out a directory around the first of the year. We have eleven (11) class members that mailing addresses and phone numbers are lost or incorrect. We need your help in locating them. If you know of their where about or know relatives and friends that might have information please make contact with them and request name, address, phone number, and email address. Please forward information to Shirley T. Cheatwood, 1715 Prince Charles Melbourne, Fl. 32935 or e-mail to [shirley-tucker@cfl.rr.com](mailto:shirley-tucker@cfl.rr.com) or contact Carolyn Peinhardt Johnson at 256-734-0850 or e-mail [bjohn781@aol.com](mailto:bjohn781@aol.com).  
Thanks for your help

Vivian Baker Florence  
Rt. 2 Box 248FF  
Cedar Creek, TX 78612

Patricia Hendrix Williams  
P.O. Box 364  
Crossville, TN

Fay Millican Door  
5540 NW Way  
Coconut Creek, FL 33073

Lorene Rigsby Parsons  
607 Crossley Ave  
Opelika, AL 35801

Melba Thornton Beattie  
31120 Concord Drive  
Madison Heights, MI 48071

Carolyn Williams Davis  
804-D Jamestown Drive  
Winter Haven, AL 32792

The above are addresses from the 25th reunion. Others lost are: Douglas Lovelace, Royce Linton, Sylvia Dean Sloan and Elwin Widner.

The class of 54 continues to have mini-reunions at the Angler the Thursday night before the change of season. We usually have 30+ classmates present. Our 51st reunion will be in early spring.

## 1955

## 1957

**Class contact: Joyce Brown**

joyceb3@hiwaay.net

### **Harwell "Pete" Holmes**

2004 has been a good year. I retired this past April, and Sandra and I have been enjoying a relaxed south Florida life style.... playing the role of typical retirees doing what we want when we want. A goodly amount of our time has been spent remodeling around the house which included floors, bedrooms, painting, and installing brick pavers for the driveway and patio.

Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne caused us to trim and clear a considerable amount of vegetation around the house, but fortunately we did not have any damage to the house. Being without electrical power for a total of two weeks during the hot and humid time of year wasn't pleasant, but even with that inconvenience we were fortunate compared to many folk.

Our annual trip north to visit with Sandra's family in Muncie, IN was pushed back to November this year due to the hurricanes. On our way north, we made a stop in Asheville, NC for a couple days where we stayed at the Richmond Hill Inn. While in Asheville, we visited the Biltmore House to see the Christmas decorations and take in the scenery. Fortunately, there still remained areas in the mountains where the leaves were showing their fall colors. This made the drive very enjoyable.

Our annual Christmas e-Card is on-line and available for viewing at:

<http://pianopete.com/2004christmas/christmas2004.html>

Wishing everyone a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

**Bill Cole** ('57) and wife Rae have settled in Sebring, FL where Bill is serving as Associate Pastor for Education at First Baptist of Sebring. After 21 years of ministry on the Florida "Gold Coast", Bill thought he was retiring to Sebring. However, it seems the Lord had other plans. Bill and Rae live at 1920 Sunflower Circle, Sebring, FL 33872

## 1959

## 1960

**Virginia (Wilder) Stevens** (class of '60) and husband Stiles traveled to Cullman on September 13 for the 90th birthday of her mother, Essie Lee (Tubbs) Wilder (class of '35). The birthday was celebrated with a lot of cake and balloons for all the residents of Woodland Haus. Virginia and Stiles got to Cullman just in time to share accommodations at Best Western Fairwinds Inn with all the refugees from the Gulf Coast who were escaping Hurricane Ivan. While in Cullman, however, they missed Hurricane Jeanne which was flying around their home in St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Fortunately, Jeanne brought only heavy rain to St. Croix, a far cry from Ivan the Terrible!

## 1961

**Class Contact: Becky Kirk**

kirkbcrafty@aol.com

## 1962

2005 will be a big year for Jerry Cole and **Sandra (Northcutt) Cole** ('62) as they retire from 25 years on the mission field in Taiwan. They will be settling back in Cullman in

June, although they will be traveling and speaking for the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention through 2006.

## 1963

## 1964

**Class contact: James Roden**  
rodenj@MSN.com

## 1966

**Class contact: Jane Connell**  
fconnell1@bellsouth.net

## 1968

**Class contact: Ron Dunn**  
RONSDONE@aol.com

## 1969

## 1970

**Class contact: Connie Booher**  
booherc@ten-nash.ten.k12.tn.us

## 1971

**Class contact: Rickey Kreps**  
rickeyk@oeccullman.com

### **Nancy Reasonover Stretcher**

I have a new email address. It is [nancyst53@bellsouth.net](mailto:nancyst53@bellsouth.net). I would love to hear from classmates from '71.

**Diane Hale Fuller** is recovering from recent liver transplant surgery.

Congratulations to **Mark Bussman** who was recently elected to the Cullman City School Board of Education.

A big thank you goes to outgoing school board member, **Lionel Powell**. Lionel recently com-

pleted a four year term on the school board, two as board president.

Please keep **Danny Bradford** in your thoughts and prayers as he continues to battle cancer.

**Pat Basch Brock** has recently become a member of the staff at Richard Electric Company (Dennis Richard).

**Jeanene Churchill McAnelly** died on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2002 she was a car title agent.

Thanks,  
Matt Harden (Her Son)

## 1972

### **Karen (Cole) Hartzog**

This has been a busy couple of months for me. Both my boys got married this October, John Mayfield on the 10th and Scott Mayfield on the 16th. Scott has decided to stay in the Navy (at least for the time being). I got the call this past week that Scott and Shannon are now expecting their first child (my first grandchild). John graduated from Cullman in 1997 and Scott went to CHS as well but graduated from West Point in 2001.

## 1973

## 1974

**Class contact: Ellen Stubblefield**  
estubble@yahoo.com

My Name is Dr. **Douglas C. Ginas** I graduated in 1974 from CHS. I played in the Bearcat Band for 4 years with director Bonnie James (drum captain 1973-74). I finished coursework for two doctorate degrees in Medicine and Osteopathy, served for 12 years in United States Army in the Rangers and Mech. Infantry and was honorably discharged in

1999. I am married to Valerie Baker, we have two children, and one grandchild! Looking to hear from some of my 'ol buddies in the drum line (Teichmiller/Davidson/Hardeman/Davis...etc). I have been practicing Medicine for around 20 years and currently practice in Albertville, AL at Rapid Care Medical Center. Wishing all a blessed holiday season!!!  
[dougmdo@bellsouth.net](mailto:dougmdo@bellsouth.net)

## 1975

**Class Contact: Ian Frost**  
itfrost@hotmail.com

**Debbie (Sullenger) Sepp** attended college at the University of North Alabama and is now back home in Cullman. She can be contacted at [dsepp@midnightproperties.com](mailto:dsepp@midnightproperties.com) or by phone at 256-734-1377. She is employed as an executive secretary at Midnight Properties.

**Kathy (Kreps) Stoner** is living in Cullman and is employed by the police department as the Secretary for the Investigation Division. Kathy reports that Dennis Swafford is also on the force and that Kim Chaney is one of the district judges. Kathy is enjoying her life at Smith Lake and despite some physical and family concerns is doing well. She can be contacted by email at [kstoner@hiwaay.net](mailto:kstoner@hiwaay.net).

**Linda Lowry Askins** reports that our classmate Josh Folsom recently passed away. Josh was a truck driver in Alaska and apparently succumbed to the effects of carbon monoxide poisoning.

**Danny Bowen** and Carolyn live in St. Clair County between Ashville and Gadsden. Carolyn has a horse ranch that they both enjoy. Both of Danny's boys are grown with the oldest (Ronnie) living in Ashville near the family and the youngest (Jon) serving in the

Army in Korea with expected deployment to Iraq in the next month. Danny can be contacted at [bowenfarms@netzero.com](mailto:bowenfarms@netzero.com).

**Ronnie McCarson** is Associate Pastor to adults 55+ at Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile. Ronnie is married to Cindy (Northcutt) McCarson.

## 1976

**Tim Phillips** has been a Southern Baptist preacher for 20 years. He lives with his family in Key West Florida, where he pastors a Church. His wife's name is Suzanne, they have two children; a son 12 and daughter 3.

30 years coming up soon, would like to hear from old friends from any class. If anyone from 1976 would like to help plan a reunion email me. Hope everyone has a Very Merry Christmas.

## 1977

**Class contact: Teri Hansen**  
dnthansen@smyrnacable.net

## 1978

## 1979

## 1980

**Jonathan Scott** is deployed in Afghanistan with Task Force Phoenix. He is the head of a 16 man embedded training team, working with the Afghan Army. Jonathan should return in the fall of 2005. His four sons and wife (Susan Perdue-Scott, class of 1983) reside in PA.

## 1981

## 1982

**Class contact: Jonathan B. Green**  
green-jb@ieee.org

## 1983

Jonathan Scott is deployed in Afghanistan with Task Force Phoenix. He is the head of a 16 man embedded training team, working with the Afghan Army. Jonathan should return in the fall of 2005. His four sons and wife (**Susan Perdue-Scott**, class of 1983) reside in PA.

## 1984

**Lucie Evers Hallock** and her husband Steve celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary in November by taking a trip to Tampico, Mexico, to see old friends. Lucie and Steve lived in Tampico from 1997 to 2002, and this was their first visit back since returning to the states. They currently live in Delaware, where Steve works for Dupont and Lucie does publicity for a fine craft gallery. Steve's job has taken the Hallocks all over the world in the past decade, including Germany, Sweden, Australia and Taiwan. But Alabama will always be home!

## 1986

**Class contact: Jan Kraft Gaw**  
Jangaw@aol.com

**Michelle Slovak-McKinsey** is married to Jason McKinsey they have a son, Cash, who is 6 months old. She is now the Assistant Principal and Curriculum Coordinator at a school in **San Francisco, CA**

## 1987

**Class contact: Angie Grayson Solomon**  
angiedawn87@yahoo.com

Please remember all of our service members serving our country and their families during the holiday season. It is very hard to be separated during the holidays. I know first hand.

**Kristi Walker** is back in Cullman and is employed at Cullman High School. Kristi and her daughter Kaylie love Cullman.

**Angie Grayson Solomon** has recently attended a Technical Training School at Keesler AFB, MS where she was awarded her 7-level in Aviation Resource Management and will be promoted to the rank of Technical Sergeant in January 05. She is assigned to the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Maxwell AFB, AL.

**Eddy Hughes** has been married for 12 years and resides in Georgia where he has lived since graduation. He has two daughters ages 9 and 5 1/2. Eddy works for ABF driving a truck and has been with them for 5 years. He would like to hear from some of his former classmates.

## 1988

## 1989

**Class contact: Deborah Kraft**  
dmkraft@yahoo.com

## 1990

**Class contact: Susan Nielsen Bowen**  
susanandbryan5@aol.com

**Warren Trimble** has been living south of Seoul in South Korea since Oct 2002. He will be leaving April 2005 and moving to Fort Polk

LA. He is still in the Army but gave up a nice office job in Washington DC to become an Army Air Traffic Controller. His plans at the present time are to finish his current contract and get out of the Army in 2006.

## 1991

**Class contact: Carrie Cabri Witt**  
CBCWITT@aol.com

### **Tara Benchina**

News: I will be getting married to Charles Calise in April 2005 in Tampa, FL. Charles and I met in Appleton, WI while we both worked for Kimberly-Clark. Charles works in marketing for Cott Beverages and I work for McKesson Pharmaceutical. In the past year we have moved to Tampa where we are enjoying warm weather. We survived all of the hurricanes that hit Florida!

## 1992

**Class contact: Beth Michael Solze**  
ElizabethSolze@aol.com

**Nikki Thompson Kremblas** and her husband Michael had their first baby July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Her name is Anna Kathryn (AnnKate).

**Kevin Arnold** and his wife **Leah Johnson '94** had their first child, a baby girl, Delaney Grace on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004. She weighed 4lbs 4ozs.

## 1993

**Class contact: Ashley Holt Eddleman**  
todd@net-3.net

**Brandi Daniel Wolfe** and Jeremy Wolfe would like to announce the birth of their second child a little girl Emily Nicole Wolfe born on June 25, 2004 at 12:36 PM she weighed in at 7lbs 6Oz. Our son Andrew John will be 3 in

October. Everyone have a great Christmas and let's try to get a reunion this year.

## 1994

**Class contact: Jennifer Parker**  
gnjayparker@bellsouth.net

**Amy Sparks Norris** was married this summer to Jonathan Norris they are living in Decatur and Amy is working as a Middle School Counselor.

### **Jason & Diana Long**

2242 Russet Meadows Terrace  
Birmingham, AL 35244  
(205) 426-9648 - Home  
(205) 968-6111 - Jason's work  
(205) 266-1822 - Jason's cell  
[jaslong@aerotek.com](mailto:jaslong@aerotek.com)

I am an Account Manager for Aerotek - an international technical engineering recruitment firm. My wife is a Registered Nurse at UAB Hospital in the Surgical ICU.

**Zach Hightower (1994) and Christi Throneberry Hightower (1996)** have a change of address. Their new address is 1527 Braden Circle, Franklin, TN 37067.

## 1995

**Class contact: Summer L. (Roberts) Kemp**  
summerlou98@aol.com

**Jeri Entrekin** as of October 2004 -- is a career member of an organization called Wycliffe Bible Translators (WBT). She is currently completing training needed to work in Southeast Asia as an English teacher with this organization. [jeri\\_entrekin@wycliffe.org](mailto:jeri_entrekin@wycliffe.org)

## 1996

**Class contact: Joe Lambert**

[lambe012@bama.ua.edu](mailto:lambe012@bama.ua.edu)

### **Meredith Freeman**

Living in Nashville and working as the Learn and Serve Program Officer with the TN Commission on National and Community Service.  
[mbfreema@bsc.edu](mailto:mbfreema@bsc.edu)

### **Katy McKenzie**

After high school, I moved back to my hometown of Carrollton, GA. I graduated college from the State University of West Georgia. I obtained a Bachelor degree in Early Childhood Education. I now teach fourth grade and loving it. I am happily married to my husband Corey. We have a beautiful four year old daughter named Lucy Grace and hope to have more on the way! My friend, Julie and I own a business where we paint murals and furniture. We also make jewelry, purses, and artwork. I hope that everyone is living a great life and doing what they love. I look forward to seeing you all at our high school reunion!

## 1997

**Class contact: Laura Barnes**

[lkabarnes@yahoo.com](mailto:lkabarnes@yahoo.com)

Hi, this is **Christy Walsh** I would have graduated with ya'll but I left the middle of my senior year. I am living in Cullman and I just graduated from Wallace State with a degree in dental assisting. I am married to Bill Martin a personal trainer from Birmingham. We have three children Cassidy 6, Cooper 5, and Cade 2. I hope everyone is are doing well.

**Wes Symonds**--Just wanted to send you my updated information. My email address is [jwsymonds@hotmail.com](mailto:jwsymonds@hotmail.com). I am now living in

Huntsville and working as a chemical engineer at NASA-MSFC.

## 1998

**Class contact: Misty Angle**

[mlynnangle@hotmail.com](mailto:mlynnangle@hotmail.com)

**April White** Foshee is an RN at Children's Hospital; she would like to announce the birth of her and Scotty's son, Parker Scott Foshee, born March 29, 2004.

### **Chandra Ferguson:**

After Graduating I attended UAB for about a year and then joined the Army. I ended up injuring my knee and getting discharged after only 7 months of service. I took a job in Bessemer and started bartending at a Country Club part time in 2001. That is where I met my husband Paul Ferguson of Birmingham, AL. We were married in 2002 and our son, Preston, was born in 2003. I had been a stay at home mom since I was 5 months pregnant. During that time, we moved to Phoenix to be close to my family. We are currently here in Arizona and I am working for American Express in the Merchant & Fraud Services Key Operational Accounts Division. I have also started my own company based out of Phoenix. I design handbags and retail them here in several local stores in the valley. I was just accepted for admission to FIDM, The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, in Los Angeles. We are currently working on moving out to California for a summer 05 quarter start. We are very excited about the move and the incredible opportunity set put in front of me. I will keep you updated as to the happenings in LA. Have a Happy New Year.  
[ChandraFerguson@hotmail.com](mailto:ChandraFerguson@hotmail.com)

## 1999

**Class contact: Schenaye Mauldin**  
csmauldin@hotmail.com

Class contact **Schenaye Mauldin** is now teaching English at Cullman High School.

**Deke Perkins** was married this past August.

**Laura Laminack** married Tim Hamm in October. She is currently teaching PE in Birmingham.

**Sarah Gibbs** was married this past June.

**Tasha Vass** is in Cullman and is the librarian at Good Hope High School.

**Rebecca Von Lehe** Payne is living with her husband Adam Payne '97 in Vestavia. She is currently teaching Kindergarten in Vestavia.

**Kim Freeland** was married this past summer.

**Beth Windham** is living in Birmingham and teaching Second Grade in Hoover.

**Chris Darling** graduated from the University of Alabama with his Masters. He is currently living in Washington, D.C. attending Georgetown.

**Cheryl Buckelew** Smith and her husband Brad '97 have recently returned to Cullman.

**Brent Bowen** is engaged to be married.

## 2000

**Courtney Fuller** Willingham  
I am married to Daniel Willingham, who is a graduate of West Point High School. We were married on June 5, 2004. I graduated from

the University of Alabama with a BS degree in Physical Education in May 2004. I am currently a substitute teacher at Cullman High School. My husband is trying to finish up a degree in Computer networking. When he eventually finishes, I plan to return to school to pursue master's degree or an additional bachelor's degree in an undecided field.

## **James Michael Moyer**

I graduated from Auburn University December 17, 2004 with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business and Economics with emphasis in Agribusiness Management and Marketing. Upon graduation I plan to move to Birmingham. My email address has changed to [jamesmichael@moyer.com](mailto:jamesmichael@moyer.com)

## 2001

### **Johnna Lee**

I graduated from Auburn University in May 2004, and came to St. Kitts in August for vet school. I'm completing my first semester at Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine. I will spend seven semesters on the island, then do a year (3 semesters) of clinicals at a vet school in the states. I will then take my boards, and I will be certified to practice anywhere in the world. I decided on Ross because it was an experience out of the norm. The school here doesn't do any research, so therefore the professors are totally involved with the students. I am very happy here.....the scenery is beautiful, I'm meeting great new people, and am getting opportunities and experiences that I wouldn't have had, had I gone to a state school.

If you are interested, the school website is [www.rossvet.edu/kn](http://www.rossvet.edu/kn)

## **Desiree Aaron**

I graduate with my BS in Nursing on Dec. 11, 2004 and I will be married to Aaron Washburn on Dec, 18, 2004. My sister, Tanya Aaron Godbee (class of 96) had her first child, Jessie Elizabeth on October 14, 2004.

## **2004**

### **Mary Alice Pass**

I have survived my first summer and academic semester at the United States Military Academy. While the academics are much more rigorous and demanding than high school, I am learning a lot and enjoying the diverse culture of the military. I am on the Women's Novice Crew Team, one of the many club sports West Point has to offer, and we are working hard through the winter to maintain the successful reputation during the spring season that our team gained during the fall season. Being a "plebe" at the Academy has made me appreciate simple liberties of civilian life, like sleeping in, talking to people whenever I want wherever I want, not always cleaning my room, and driving. I saw my first snow a few weeks ago, and according to the upperclassmen, there is much more to come. I am enjoying attending West Point immensely, though I look forward to coming home to Cullman whenever I get a chance.

## **From the superintendents desk:**

**Dr. Janet Harris**

**Welcome aboard Dr. Harris!!**

**Excerpts from Cullman Times article by Terri Brunck:**

By Terri Brunck The Cullman Times

HUNTSVILLE - Jan Harris seems to be one of

those rare individuals who everyone likes. From co-workers to community members to even students who have gotten in trouble with her, the Huntsville High School principal and new Cullman City Schools superintendent evokes praise from all who know her.

Harris' current students and co-workers are happy she got the position she wanted but are sad to see her leave.

"I like her a lot," said Jeremy West, a senior and student government president. "Anything you need, she's willing to help. I'm glad she got the job she wanted. I've had her all through high school, but it would be nice to have her my last semester."

Other students are impressed with how Harris tries to get to know students and be at their events.

"She makes an effort to get to know students," freshman Russell Stephens said. "That's nice."

With approximately 1,300 students in the school, getting to know that many people is not an easy task.

"She's at every event," senior Justin Erskine said. "Even band concerts."

Harris played an instrumental role in the construction of a new Huntsville High School, which opened this August. The cost of renovation and new construction were about the same, so the school district opted to build new. Harris said the decision met with some opposition at first. Once everyone saw the plan for the new school, people jumped on board, she said.

Teachers said they appreciated how Harris

consulted with them as well on the construction project. Jimmy Robinson, chair of the foreign language department, said Harris made sure she paid homage to the school's heritage. "She took a lot of the things from the old school - bricks, paintings," said art teacher Laurie Webb. "She brought everything that wasn't tacked down and some that was." Webb said Harris is not only fair with students, but her coworkers too.

"Dr. Harris is very easy to work with," she said. "We'll miss her." As far as her department goes, Webb said, Harris is an advocate for arts. "She is very supportive of the arts, and that's rare to, find in a principal," Webb said. .

Head football coach and history teacher Kevin Wieseman said Harris' greatest strength is that she has no a greatest strength.

"Education is about versatility in schools," he said. "She's good in every facet needed to make a school system successful, and she's modeled that in a microcosm here at Huntsville High School.

This is a great transition for her development. I have no doubt she is ready for the next step."

## **From the editor's desk:**

**Bill Bagley**

Once again a special thanks to all of the class contacts for their help in putting together the December 2004 Alumni Newsletter. If your class doesn't have a class contact send the information that you want listed in the newsletter directly to me:  
wbagley@mindspring.com

If your class isn't listed in the newsletter it is because that class has never submitted information to be included in the newsletter.

**As always if you do not want to receive alumni in-**

**formation send an email to:  
wbagley@mindspring.com with remove in the subject line, include your name, year of graduation, and email address in the body of the message.**