



Alumni Association
P.O. Box 462
Oak Hill, West Virginia 25901

Spring 2019

www.oakhillreddevilalumni.org

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Fayette County Educator Chosen as 2019 Grand Honoree

David G. Perry, Collins Class of 1970, has been selected as Grand Honoree for 2019. He has been a constant supporter of the association and he has rarely turned down a request for help on one of the projects. His role as president of the class of 1970 must have whetted his taste for politics, because he has been active in local politics for years. He was a member of the House of Delegates for many years, and he is currently President of the West Virginia Board of Education.

Perry was a teacher and principal in Fayette County for his entire career, and led Collins Middle to coveted West Virginia School of Excellence and Blue Ribbon School awards. He is active at Calvary Baptist where he serves on the Board of Deacons. He and his wife, the former Nancy Trump, are the parents of Angela Grice and Mindy Harris who, with their spouses have rewarded them with eight grandchildren.

When the Board of Directors called to tell him he had been selected as Grand Honoree, those who know him well will be shocked at his response. He was speechless

Red Devil Scholarship Program is Alumni Association Priority

Charitable donations are taking a hit with the new tax law, but we can't afford for you to tighten your purse strings where the Alumni Association is involved. Although we provide many services for the school, our biggest project by far is the Red Devil Scholarship program. Last year alone, we awarded \$32,000 to outstanding OHHS scholars.

Where does that money come from? It comes from you—or at least from some of you. About half of the funds are derived from endowed accounts that are invested in the Beckley Area Foundation. They are largely in the Bishop, Sanger and Massey accounts. The other half comes from donations you make each year when you return your newsletter enrollment page. Two of the scholarships for the past several years have been given in memory of a young man by his parents. We were fortunate last year to have nearly \$10,000 awarded to students attending Marshall University due to the generosity of one alumnus. He saw the need, he had the means, and he wrote the check. Another couple donated \$10,000 in memory of their parents which will be invested with only the interest being used.

Donations don't have to be in the thousands to be effective. Most of the gifts we receive each year are in the \$50-\$100 range, and we are so happy to get them. Think seriously about the effect of education, and consider making a donation into one of the funds. Without our participation, the number of students served will lessen considerably.

The 2019 Reunion Schedule

Friday, August 30

Registration at the Lewis House, Main Street
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Friday, August 30

Tamarack: Turnpike exit 45 - 15 minutes from
Oak Hill
5:00 Sign in and Mixer (cash bar)
6:00 Dinner (Two meat buffet salads and
desserts)

Class Reunions

The Golden Anniversary class of 1969

It's been 50 years since we said "Good-bye" to Collins High and went our separate ways. It's time to "get back" and "come together." We will do this on August 30 at Tamarack in Beckley, and one of our classmates will be a featured speaker. The details and cost for this event are outlined in this newsletter, and your check for this event should be mailed with the newsletter form.

We also plan to come together at the Three Gables (Hilltop) on Saturday, August 31 at 6 p.m. with heavy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar (no plastic accepted), dancing and storytelling. The cost for this event, which will cover food, correspondence, venue, and reunion planning costs will be \$30 per person. Mail checks for this event payable to Collins High School Class of 69, and mail to Kathy Young Rutledge, PO Box 126, Oak Hill, WV 25901.

When you send your check for Saturday night include your full name, email address, phone number, and spouse or guest's name (if attending).

We hope to see you at both events, but please try to make it to at least one of them. It should be great fun. *(Continued Page 2)*