

# CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI NEWS



Volume 7, Issue 3

November 2001

**CLEVELAND  
HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. Box 94004  
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## Surprises and more surprises

By Alison W. Sing '64  
President

Cleveland High School, true to its spirit, entered the academic year 2001-02 on a very high note, despite facing overwhelming odds.

First, in terms of infrastructure, the \$398 million Seattle Public School levy passed in February 2001. Of this amount, Cleveland will receive \$48.5 million for renovation, beginning in 2005.

In the interim, Cleveland began the new school year with new science labs, a new sound system with a new intercom and telephones in each of the classrooms.

Also, the gym and the arts and vocational rooms were upgraded.

On the educational front, thanks to some benefactors, Cleveland received some sizeable grants.

The Paul Allen Virtual Education Foundation provided a \$195,000 grant to upgrade computer labs and pay for technical support. These dollars will be used for the school's Infotech Infusion and Infotech Academy, programs that combine technology into a college-prep curriculum by requiring students to do Internet research, design web pages and create multimedia presentations.

The Information Academy received \$700,000 from the private sector to improve Cleveland's capability in delivering technology courses to their students.

The Seattle School District and the Seattle Community College District have entered into preliminary discussions on creating a shared campus that will give high-school students the opportunity to take both high-school and community-college classes during the same academic year. The proposal would wed Cleveland to South Seattle Community College.

There is talk of building a new community-college educational facility at the high school.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation selected Cleveland as one of 16 high schools in the state to receive scholarships from its Washington State Achievers Program. Forty-eight Cleveland students will be eligible for higher-education scholarships, totaling \$20,000 per stu-

dent over the next five years.

The future looks extremely bright, but there is still much work to be done to rebuild the educational programs at Cleveland High School.

On May 25, Bernie Moskowitz '57 a volunteer bugler from the Tahoma National Cemetery, led seniors from the Class of 2001, along with 30 alumni, in observing Memorial Day at the forest. George Janecke and I read the names from the plaques. Students planted memorial trees next to the rock. Two sons of former vice principal Ray Imus spoke about their father. In all, it was a beautiful ceremony.

At our Sept. 29 board meeting, principal Ted Howard announced that they have reinstated the music program. The school is currently mounting a drive to collect used musical instruments. If you have an old musical instrument gathering dust in your closet, consider donating it to a worthy program.

On Sept. 28, the alumni association had its first golf tournament at the Fort Lewis Golf Course. Thanks to John Christiansen '64, assistant manager/tournament director of the Fort Lewis Golf Course — along with the hard work from Pat Coluccio '47, Louise Steggall '67 and Irene Steggall '64 — the tournament was a great success. More than \$5,000 worth of great prizes were awarded to the participants. Although our first tournament only drew 60 golfers, everyone had a wonderful time.

A second tournament is planned for next year. Contact John Christiansen '64, at (53) 967-3099, or e-mail [jlc4glf@home.com](mailto:jlc4glf@home.com), or Pat Coluccio '47, at (253) 852-4229, or e-mail [pcoluccio@msn.com](mailto:pcoluccio@msn.com), if you are interested in participating or helping with the tournament.

For the 75th anniversary of Cleveland High School, board members are planning a Memorial Day-weekend celebration in 2002 that will include a gathering at the school, a formal event and a trek to the Memorial Forest. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact our vice president, Vera Chan-Pool '91.

If you have been following the news lately,  
See Page 3

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NOVEMBER

- 17 — CHSAA board meeting,  
10 a.m.-noon @ CHS  
•Nominations for board  
positions
- 24 — Basketball jamboree,  
5-10 p.m. @ CHS gym
- 27 — Boys basketball @ Rainier  
Beach  
•Varsity, 5:45 p.m.  
•Junior Varsity, 7:30 p.m.
- 28 — Girls basketball @ Rainier  
Beach  
•Varsity, 4:45 p.m.  
•Junior Varsity, 7:30 p.m.
- 29 — Fall concert choir, 7:30 p.m.  
@ CHS auditorium
- 30 — Basketball vs. Nathan Hale  
@ CHS  
•Boys: Varsity, 3:15 p.m.;  
Junior Varsity, 6:15 p.m.  
•Girls: Varsity, 4:15 p.m.;  
Junior Varsity, 8 p.m.

### JANUARY 2002

- 19 — CHSAA general meeting,  
11 a.m.-1 p.m. @ CHS  
•Board elections  
•CHS' 75th anniversary/  
Alumni Weekend

### FEBRUARY

- 16 — CHSAA board meeting,  
10 a.m.-noon @ CHS

### APRIL

- 20 — CHSAA board meeting,  
10 a.m.-noon @ CHS

### MAY

- 24-26 — CHS' 75th anniversary/  
Alumni Weekend

### AUGUST

- 9-11 — Class of 1952 reunion  
•Ross Dam tour, 8/9  
•Get-together, 8/10  
•Picnic at Lions'  
Memorial Youth  
Camp, Maple Valley,  
8/11  
Contact: Jim Lambo,  
(206) 243-6553 or  
jmlambo@msn.com

## Lawsuit goes to Supreme Court

In January 2000, Superior Court Judge Joseph Wesley granted the Seattle School District title to the CHS Memorial Forest, denying the request of a group of alumni who sought to establish a nonprofit educational foundation that would own and manage the forest.

Since the court made no provision for the preservation of the Memorial Forest in perpetuity, as requested, there is nothing to prohibit the school district from selling the property, which is valued in the millions.

Although the plaintiffs' attorney, Byron Coney '47, appealed the decision, it was upheld by the Court of Appeals in April 2001. Coney then filed briefs for reconsideration of the decision and publication of the decision, but the court also denied them in July 2001.

Since the state Supreme Court is the next avenue of appeal, Coney retained former Supreme Court Justice Philip Talmadge as co-counsel in petitioning the Washington State Supreme Court to review the decision of the Court of Appeals. Their petition was filed in August but may not be acted upon for several months.

At the October CHSAA board meeting Coney requested funds to pay Talmadge for his services to date, which amount to \$4,790. He reminded board members that the association was founded by alumni dedicated to "preserving the Cleveland Memorial Forest as a memorial in perpetuity to those Cleveland students who gave their lives in the service of the United States of America," as enunciated in the CHSAA mission statement expressing the primary purpose of the association.

The board voted 9-3 to deny his request for funds. As a result, several alumni will ask the board to define the function of the Memorial Forest Fund donations in supporting the primary purpose of the CHSAA as articulated in the mission statement.

Coney continues to provide pro bono legal services to the plaintiffs.

— Elaine Comerford '45

*(Editor's note: CHSAA is not a formal party to the legal appeal noted above. The board's decision to deny payment of the invoice focused on the fact that CHSAA was not consulted before services were rendered. Second, there were questions regarding the continuing obligation the board would incur should this invoice be paid with CHSAA funds. The board's formal vote was 9-2 against payment; one absent board member's views were shared with the board through a letter.)*

## CHSAA awards four more scholarships

For the 2000-01 school year, the CHSAA awarded four \$1,000 scholarships. Two scholarships went to Lalita Rios and Heizl Baluran. The other two recipients, Oscar Ng and Paula Balch, were given scholarships in memory of Darce Harvey Lamb '57, who was chosen as the CHS Distinguished Alumni for 2000.

The scholarship recipients were named at an assembly on May 30. Each student was excited about receiving his award; I have never seen such big smiles and gratitude.

The Scholarship Committee is looking for alumni to serve as committee members. To help, contact Louise Steggall '67, at (206) 243-5744.

The committee also is seeking nominations for Distinguished Alumni for 2001. Criteria are as follows: must be a Cleveland High School graduate; demonstrates significant accomplishments in a chosen field of work; demonstrates exemplary service to the community; demonstration commitment to the support of Cleveland High School following graduation; be of strong moral character; and be living at the time they are nominated or during the year the award is given.

Send nominations to CHS Distinguished Alumni Award 2001, P.O. Box 94004, Seattle, WA 98124-9404.

Nominations must be received by Dec. 15. The honoree will be announced at the annual meeting on Jan. 19.

— Louise Steggall '67

please cut along line

# 2001 Contributions

To help with costs (including newsletters to more than 8,000 alumni and former teachers — and growing), we ask you to join the Cleveland High School Alumni Association. A suggested donation of \$5 per year is requested.

*Make checks payable to:*

**CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 94004, SEATTLE, WA 98124-9404**

SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$5 EACH FOR MAILING \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION TOWARD CHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION *(check appropriate box and indicate amount)* \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(contributions totaling \$100 or more will be noted as Eagle 100 members for that year only)*

ALUMNI GENERAL FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_       MEMORIAL FOREST FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHS ATHLETICS FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_       SCHOLARSHIP FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL CHECK ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*check if address correction*

MEMBER NO. 1 [FIRST, (MAIDEN), LAST] \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER NO. 1 [FIRST, (MAIDEN), LAST] \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS [CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE] \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NO. ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

I AM INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A CHSAA COMMITTEE *(indicate committee)* \_\_\_\_\_

## First golf tourney a success

Our first Cleveland High School alumni golf tournament on Sept. 28 was a huge success. We had 15 teams playing, and the weather was beautiful. Dinner was great, and the raffle prizes were fabulous. We all had a great time.

We are now working on the second-annual Cleveland High School golf tournament. The four-person team scrambles will take place at the Fort Lewis Golf Course, with a 1 o'clock shotgun start. The date has yet to be determined.

If you are interested in playing, you can put your name on our list and we will keep you informed.

You can e-mail your team or name to [pcoluccio@msn.com](mailto:pcoluccio@msn.com). Please provide name, address, city, phone number and e-mail address for each person.

We look forward to hearing from you.

— Pat Coluccio '47

## School seeks donations

Check out your attic and shed. You may have musical instruments to give to Cleveland for their music programs or garden tools for their aquaculture projects.

The music program is under way with the new music teacher, Mark Miller, in charge.

Instruments are still needed to support the bands. You can reach Mark, at (206) 252-7830. He will pick up the donations.

Alumni Paul and Joyce (Litch) Sluka '50 made a recent donation of a flute and a clarinet; their donations are greatly appreciated.

Amanda Weaver is the teacher heading up the aquaculture projects; call her at (206) 252-7853 if you have some extra garden tools to donate.

## President's message

From Page 1

in January 2000 King County Superior Court Judge Joseph Wesley ruled against the lawsuit entered by Cleveland High School alumni who questioned whether the Seattle School District had rightful title to the Cleveland Memorial Forest in Issaquah. In denying the plaintiffs' claim, the judge sided with the Seattle School District on the ownership issue.

Former classmates and attorney Byron Coney, who has pursued this case on a pro bono basis, have appealed the judge's ruling to the state's Court of Appeal. The judge also ruled against the plaintiffs. Efforts now are under way to appeal these decisions to the Supreme Court.

Although the current alumni association is not a party to the lawsuit, the board encourages interested alumni to contact Byron Coney, at (206) 324-6133, to contribute to the legal costs of the appeal.

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CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

*Mission Statement*

A nonprofit organization, Washington and United States 501(c)(3), founded for the exclusive purposes of: (1) preserving the Cleveland Memorial Forest as a memorial in perpetuity to those Cleveland students who gave their lives in the service of the United States of America, (2) supporting the educational uses in forestry, ecology, botany and environmental studies of the forest and (3) supporting and assisting the students and staff of Cleveland High School in Seattle, Wash., in their educational purposes.

Any individual who has attended Grover Cleveland Junior or Senior High School is entitled to be a member of the Cleveland High School Alumni Association.

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*Please help us to keep the database current by sending a post office change-of-address form or contact the membership secretary when you move. In order to protect privacy the list of memberships will not be distributed to anyone unless it is used specifically for the purposes of class reunions or other such gatherings.*

CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 94004  
Seattle, WA 98124-9404

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## LETTERS

On Sept. 14, 2000, we of the Class of 1950 celebrated our 50th class reunion. Since that day I have been thinking about what makes Cleveland Eagles so special to so many of us.

It was my pleasure to play football and basketball in 1949-50 and to coach football and basketball 1958 to 1966 at Cleveland.

Even though we did not win many games (the two years I played football we did not win one game) our student body was always there no matter what — always supporting our teams, win or lose.

Our teams never gave up no matter what the score, because of the support we got from the student body, teachers and parents. It was the same way during the eight years I coached the Eagles.

We live in a society where winning and being No. 1 is so important, but at Cleveland, we found other important values, such as never giving up, trying our best, having friends in times of need and how to handle adversity. These values I treasure from my years as a Cleveland Eagle.

During those years I never once had

to deal with not being able to bounce back after a losing game. My experiences were all positive.

I can't say enough for how much pride I have for the students, teachers and parents at Cleveland who were always there — win or lose.

— Paul Wallrof '50



I recently learned about the CHSAA from a classmate who received the newsletter. He gave me his copy, and I enjoyed reading it, especially finding out about the Memorial Forest and the upcoming 75th Cleveland anniversary.

I attended Cleveland High School ninth through 12th grade, graduating with the class of 1962.

I would like to present a suggestion for a friendly challenge to all classes to see which class can contribute the most money to the CHSAA by our 75th anniversary Alumni Weekend, Memorial Day 2002.

If you decide to accept this suggestion, please use my enclosed gift as a chal-

lenge from the Class of 1962 in honor of all teachers, alumni and students.

If you decide against the suggestion, the gift remains.

Thank you. I look forward to reading the next newsletter.

— Louise Aldrich Winter '62

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS INFORMATION

Send submissions  
for the CHSAA newsletter to:

Vera M. Chan-Pool  
e-mail: [VEmchan@excite.com](mailto:VEmchan@excite.com),  
or call (206) 722-4330



The next newsletter will be  
published in the winter.