

Alumni News Bulletin

Special Projects

*Chestnut Consolidated
High School Alumni Association*

July 2014 | Volume 1 | Issue 1



A PUBLICATION FOR THE ALUMNI, FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF CHESTNUT CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL

Chestnut Consolidated High School Alumni Book (1954 – 1970)

Theme: Through the Years

CCHS Alumni Chairperson
Van Evans '65

Alumni Special Projects

Dave Wilson '62

www.wilsonconsultingservices.net

What is inside the bulletin?

- Editor's letter
---Page 1
- What is the book's format?
---Page 2
- What will be in the book?
---Page 2
- Class Agent responsibility
---Page 3
- Example: Through the Years
---Page 4

Core Projects

- Annual Banquet
- Scholarship Program
(Awarded \$78,000 as of 2014)

Special Projects

- Historic Perspective
Presentation ---2010
- Historical Marker ---2011
- Return of Purple Heart:
Horace Gore '65 ---Feb./2014
- NMB Area Museum:
CCHS Corner ---Aug./2014
- CCHS Alumni Book ---2015

Hello, everyone:

My name is David C. Wilson, CCHS Class of 1962. I met with the Alumni Association Committee at their meeting on March 9, 2014, and they agreed with my proposal to publish a one time Chestnut Consolidated High School Alumni Book (1954 - 1970). This bulletin will serve to highlight a few major items and examples of what will be in the book.



David C. Wilson '62

I realized that this is a daunting undertaking; however, the school was established at a historic period in our lives. Chestnut was one of many South Carolina equalization schools. The equalization schools construction program lasted from about 1951 to 1960 during which a massive number of schools for black children were built around the state to preserve segregation of the schools by race. They functioned as segregated schools, including Chestnut, until 1970 when all schools in the county desegregated. The equalization program preserved segregation, as intended, for 16 years after the U.S. Supreme court ruled in 1954 in the Brown vs. Board of Education decision that segregation of schools by race was unconstitutional.

The proposed book will serve as a document with historic information for now and for future generations. Our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, etc., will especially appreciate the book. Moreover, we owe it to our ancestors who were not able to leave behind documents of their life's journey. Things have changed for us and this book will also serve as another piece of information for researchers, scholars and/or historians to ponder when the history of our generation is written.

In order for the book to be a success, which will require a majority of former students participation, we need at least one class agent for each class (*see page 3*). However, it is strongly preferred that there be two or more class agents for each class. In addition, children, grandchildren, other relatives, etc., of a graduate can become a class agent as a representative of that graduate, especially if the graduate is deceased.

Most meetings for this project will primarily be conducted using a conference call bridge. This means that participants will be provided a toll free number and an access code so that they can actively participate in meetings no matter where they live. (*continue on page 2*)

(continued from page 1)

In the interest of cost, the Alumni Association will write the manuscript in its entirety with David C. Wilson as the editor-in-chief. The earliest publication date is 2015 and the latest is 2016. The earlier date will depend on the progress made in collecting information, and/or among other unexpected problems. The final published book will be in hardcover. There are no plans for any revisions as this is a one time only publication.

I think that we all can agree that Chestnut is a good example of life's journey of children from collective rural communities in South Carolina who transcended the unequal education facilities and segregation by going out into the world and making a good life for themselves and their families.

It is my understanding that there were only three or four classes that published a yearbook of the 16 graduating

classes during the school's existence; therefore, this book will also help document information about the classes that did not published a yearbook.

It is our sincere wish that you participate in this endeavor by reflecting on your experience at Chestnut and your post Chestnut life, and bridge both experiences; and make it part of your legacy. Thank you, pray for each other and the deceased, may God bless you and your family, and may you continue to enjoy a spiritually filled life.

Respectfully yours,



David C. Wilson '62
Special Projects/Editor-in-Chief

Tentatively Format for Alumni Book

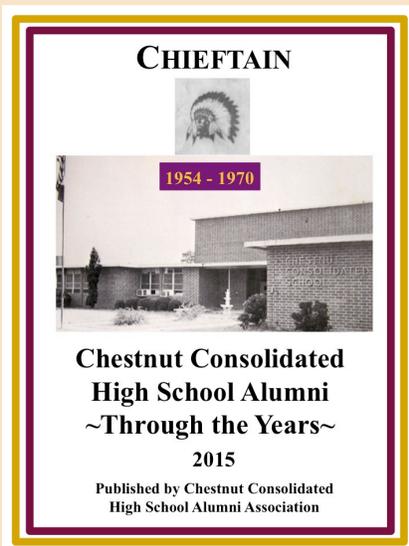
- Foreword
- Preface
- Table of Contents
- Chapter 1 – Introduction
- Chapter 2 – School History
- Chapter 3 – Class of 1955



- Chapter 16 – Class of 1970
- Chapter 17 – Poplar Training School
- Chapter 18 – Veterans and their profiles
- Chapter 19 – Collage of pictures from all classes

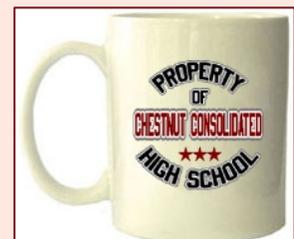
Sponsors

Example of a possible book cover



What will be in the book?

- History of the grammar schools from about 1930 to 1954 (put in the context of the time) that became feeders to Chestnut
- Administrators, Faculty and Support Staff
- The school's history and its forerunner, Poplar Training School
- Administrators and staff of the two elementary schools (Poplar and Longs) and the equivalent elementary school wing that was housed within the Chestnut building.
- Each graduating class (1955 – 1970): 1) Class history; 2) Autobiography of each student (living & deceased), then and now photos, family group photos, etc.
- Former graduates & attendees of Poplar Training School
- Veterans chapter by listing the names of every graduate who served in the armed forces of the United States, branch, overseas, retired military, and rank (optional). See adjacent column.
- Highlights of individual contributions to society
- A collage of random photos from any period
- Emphasis will be on "Through the Years"
- Sponsors/Advertisers



Class Agent

Be a graduate: Preference - two or more per class

Relatives: Children, grandchildren, other relatives, etc., of a graduate are encouraged to become a class agent as a representative of that graduate, especially if the graduate is deceased.

Responsibilities:

- Collect autobiographies, photos, other, etc. This can be accomplished by writing, calling, interviewing, etc.
- The class agents will organize, as best as possible, materials collected in a format to help facilitate inclusion in the chapters.
- Some classes through their reunions have already collected information and published keepsake booklets, which is a good starting point.

Meetings

- Most meetings will be held via conference calls via a bridge.
- Participants will be provided with a toll free number and an access code.



Class Agents, put on your cap and go for it!

**Chestnut Consolidated High School
Alumni Book Project - Matrix Scorecard**

Class	Class Agent	Contact information	0	1	2	3	4	5	Comments
*PTS									
1955									
1956									
1957	Bernice Gore Sanders	[REDACTED]	0	1					
1958									
1959	Candetha Stanley	[REDACTED]	0	1					
1960									
1961	Ralph Gore	[REDACTED]	0	1	2				
1962	David C. Wilson	843-855-0756; cchsalumniprojects@gmail.com	0	1	2	3	4		Published keepsake booklet for 50 th anniversary in 2012
1963	Rosa Frinks Knox	[REDACTED]	0	1	2				
1964									
1965	Van Evans	843-340-0500	0	1	2				
1966	Priscilla Maye	[REDACTED]	0	1					
1967	Franklin Pryor	[REDACTED]	0	1	2				
1968									
1969	Delton Grissett	[REDACTED]	0	1					
1970									

Legend:

- 0 Class Agent(s) named
- 1 Held at least one class reunions and/or other social activities since graduation
- 2 Active with periodic reunions and other social gatherings as a class
- 3 All classmates are aware of the alumni book project
- 4 Submitted over 75% information for the book to the project leader, such as photos, class history, autobiographies, etc.
- 5 100% complete of all requested information for the book received and formatted by the editor-in-chief

*Poplar Training School

**Important note: We are looking for class agents to fill the vacancies shown in the above chart.
Please help!!! Contact Dave Wilson**

Example 1: Through the Years



“THEN” Gilbert K. Dozier “NOW”

After graduation, I moved to Charlotte North Carolina where I went to work for the Coca Cola Company. I subsequently, moved to Miami Florida where I took a job with Royal Baking Company. While working at this company, I explored various possibilities to pursue a pilot’s license. I was drafted in the army in 1966 and spent a tour in Vietnam.

After military service and recovering from serious injuries sustained in battle, I was able to start the journey to renew my life and build a career. In pursuit of a post war career, I subsequently earned a Bachelor of Science degree in the pre-law curriculum from Francis Marion University and later an associate degree in paralegal from Florence-Darlington Technical College.

I have run various businesses, including one on Atlantic Beach. I finally opened my own Real Estate and Construction business in Florence South Carolina, which has been my career to this day. Along the way, I met and married my wife, Focell Jackson, who is a family practice physician and we have two children, a boy and girl.



I grew up in the Mt. Calvary #1 Missionary Baptist Church community, and later joined the New Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church in Florence, SC. My involvement with the church has served to humble me toward people and how to deal with the perils of life. My educational background has taught me how to put life into the proper perspective

Example 2. Military Service (typical military format)

SERGEANT E5 JOHN DOE - CLASS OF 1965
ARMY - ACTIVE DUTY - FROM 1966 TO 1969
INTELLIGENCE ANALYST - DISCHARGED: 1969
EDUCATION/TRAINING: Graduated from Benedict College in 1973 after 3 years in the US Army || Studied at the US Army Military Intelligence School at Ft. Holabird, Md. 1966-1967
ASSIGNMENTS: Vietnam May of 1967-1968 NCOIC Editing at the Combined Document Exploitation Center working with captured enemy documents.
MAJOR AWARDS/DECORATIONS: National Defense & Viet Nam Service

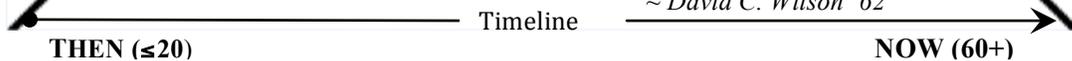


THROUGH THE YEARS



As we fade into the sunset of life’s journey, we must ask ourselves: What impact have I made to make the world a better place for the next generation? In my opinion, each one of us in our own special way has helped make the world a better place!

~ David C. Wilson ‘62



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