

# Central High Alumni' Echoes

January-February 2004

## CHAA prepares for 1st annual meeting

With the beginning of the New Year comes the expectancy of the Association's first annual meeting. The meeting will be held on February 23rd in the Central High library. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. and should be over by 8:30 p.m.

The meeting will involve a number of important events. The current treasurer, Steve Rhue '76, will discuss our financial status and we will elect the first officers of the Association.

In a previous newsletter it was explained that the current organizational group is a planning committee. While we call ourselves a Board, we really are a group of committed alumni. Our purpose has been to frame the Association and make ourselves a legal Association. Thanks to Steve Rhue, the Association submitted its request for non-profit status to the IRS in early-January. We are currently registered with the State and we have approved By-Laws. All of those documents may be seen on our website at [www.centralhighalumni.org](http://www.centralhighalumni.org)

At the writing of this newsletter, there are still officers' positions as well as com-



mittee membership needing to be filled. If you have both the time and interest to devote some time to your *alma mater*, we encourage you to call any planning committee member (see p. 3) and get more information. The Bylaws on the website has a detailed explanation of officer's responsibilities—start their first.

Whether you are a current member or thinking about joining, please join us on February 23rd in the library. The Association will succeed in its purposes only if alumni will rise up and support their school. Central has changed, but we have not. Loyalty is first among Bobcats.

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## Website boasts new important updates

Webmaster Stephen Ahearn, '76, reports a number of new features on the CHAA website.

Most important is the feature that permits Bobcats to register with the Association—whether a member or not. Alumni can input current information and be assured privacy of the information by the Association.

The site will ultimately have the name of every CHS alumni and will denote whether the classmate is "Found" or "Lost." This

information is maintained in a database the Association is developing. The list will be used from time-to-time for Association management purposes; and will be shared only with the specific Classes as they approaches reunion time.

Stephen also advises that there is new information about the AA spring event to be held in April 2004 on-campus. Details are being developed and will be posted on the website in the next few weeks.

### Special points of interest:

- ♦ *An Association succeeds with members. Join us!*
- ♦ *Volunteering: An essential of our vision is to help CHS and education*
- ♦ *There are many, many ways to help*
- ♦ *Look for line-up of office candidates on page 3*

## Chairman's chatter

by Charles D. (Chuck) Sankey, Ed.D.,

Being the acting chairperson of the Association has its perks. Recently, I attended the CHS staff's' Holiday Luncheon in the cafeteria. Eating a meal in the cafeteria (which I remember for its cherry pie), and enjoying the conversation of many was fun and informative.

Principal Nancy Kloss permitted me to address the staff. In doing so, I discussed the work we plan to do this spring developing the framework and criterion for the CHS Honors' Gallery. The Gallery will be located on campus, where we will develop displays to show to returning alumni and students the many contributions made to our society and culture by outstanding Bobcats.

I informed the staff of our longer-range goal



to help CHS teachers and students foster and promote the tradition of excellence at CHS. While CHS is a much different place than we remember; for students today, CHS remains a last-best place to launch students into adulthood and effective citizenship. I have always thought of CHS as a launch pad for all of us.

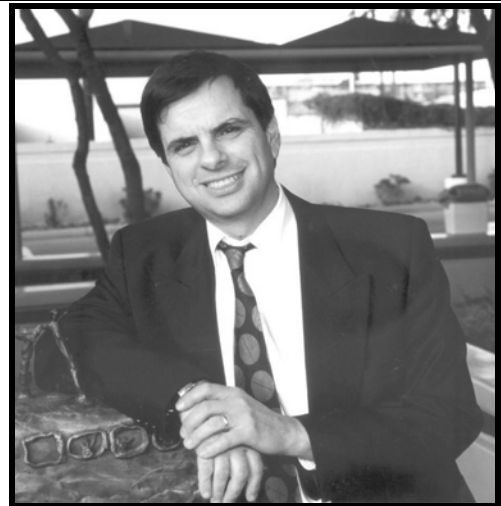
My formative role in the Association has been fun. Meeting Bobcats who share a vision of what the Association should be is rewarding. We should consider CHS, what it has done for us and act on those great things and support an Association oriented to help others succeed. Please join in '94 and attend our meeting on Feb 23, '04.

## Honorary co-chair sworn in as new Phoenix mayor

The Honorable Phil Gordon, '69, was sworn in as Phoenix mayor on January 1, 2004. Mr. Gordon's long and honorable service to the community has resulted from his rise from city council to the Mayor's office.

Mr. Gordon also serves as one of five in our first group of Honorary Co-chairs of the Association.

As a community of Bobcats, we can be proud of Mayor Gordon's achievement. As citizens we help; and as Bobcats we applaud Phil and wish him well in his new role in the City of Phoenix. "We send our Bobcat cheer on high!"



The Association needs to identify Class Contacts for the classes of:

1961, 1965, 1968, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1985, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004.

## Board of directors' positions

At February's Annual Meeting, the following positions will be open for nomination and fill. If you would like to serve the Association, please contact either Chuck Sankey at [CDSankey@aol.com](mailto:CDSankey@aol.com).

- Chairman of the Association
- 1st Vice-President of the Association
- 2nd Vice-President of the Association
- Secretary of the Association
- Treasurer of the Association

The following committees need chairs and members:

- Membership
- Social and Extra-Curricular Activities
- Fund-raising and Scholarships
- Marketing, Publicity and Calendar
- Education and Mentoring
- Tradition (Includes developing Honors Gallery)
- IT & Technology
- Athletics

Consider how you might help your Association.

## Alumnae announce candidacy for Association office(s)

On February 23rd, the Association will hold its first elections for Association offices. The positions to be filled are: President, 1st and 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Following the elections, the Board will work to fill key committee chairmanships and members.

### Chairman:

No nominees at this time. Please consider your time and availability to be the Bobcats' Alumni leader.

### Vice-Presidents (1st and 2nd):

Chuck Sankey, current acting Association chair has agreed to nomination for a vice-president's position. He has a background in public service, business and Education. He holds a doctorate in Education and has been active for over two years to jump start the Association.

Chuck is the only nominee for a vice-president's role.

### Secretary:

There are currently no nominees for this position. Position calls for keeping two rosters and attending meetings, developing minutes, and keeping other Board members informed. If you would like to participate as the Secretary, please attend the meeting on February 23.

### Treasurer:

R. Steven Rhue ('76) of Rhue and Company, CPA has been handling the Association's treasury for five months. He has developed a set of key reports that the Board will receive monthly. Steve has agreed to run for Treasurer.

### Information Technology Committee Chair:

Stephen Ahearn ('76) has agreed to chair the IT Committee. The committee is responsible for keeping us up-to-date on technology, databases and our website.

Visit our Website, go to By-Laws and see the duties of each position.

## Call for volunteers

(for more info call (480) 829-0507

During the spring semester, we seek to develop a series of rosters of alumni who like to help the Association help the students at CHS. Accordingly, we are seeking alumni would like to do any of the following:

- Serve as a mentor for a CHS student.
- Serve as a tutor for a CHS student.
- Become part of an Association's bureau (resource for teachers at CHS for classroom presentations).
- Serve as volunteer for a small on-campus office we

hope to open in the Fall of 2004.

- Serve as an alumni sponsor to clubs and organizations on campus; thereby helping the on-campus sponsor.
- Provide leadership training to student leaders, organizations and campus clubs.
- Assist in fund-raising for the CHS athletic program.
- Roster of alumni who would like to be judges for the various campus events requiring outside scrutiny.

**[www.centralhighalumni.org](http://www.centralhighalumni.org) update** There are new additions to the Association's website. The biggest addition is a registry where alumni can register their current information. The info will only be used by the Association and will be shared only with class reunion committees. Register so that we may know where you are so we can keep you informed.

## Spring Social is announced

In keeping with the belief that the Association should have an event each semester we are looking at Spring '04. At the December meeting, the planning committee agreed to sponsor a **Spring Ice-cream Social** in April. At this writing, we expect the social to be held on April 17th, pending final confirmation by the CHS Activities' vice-principal, Rob Barnes.

The Homecoming event in October was well attended for a first time event. The Social in April should see quite a few more attend as we now have members of the Associa-

tion and this group may well want to see more of Central, what the Association is attempting to do, and overall condition of education at CHS. Attendees who are not members may join at the April event. While some of the details remain to be developed, we hope that you will put the social on your calendar for April. Final details will be announced in our next newsletter which should be out around March 1st. And the information will be made available on our website at **[www.centralhighalumni.org](http://www.centralhighalumni.org)**.

If you would like to volunteer on this project, please contact Diana Krauss at [Krauss@phxhs.k12.az.us](mailto:Krauss@phxhs.k12.az.us). Or contact Chuck Sankey at [CDSankey@aol.com](mailto:CDSankey@aol.com).

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**"Bringing old and new  
Bobcats together"**

The Central High Alumni Association is a non-profit association not affiliated in anyway with Phoenix Central High School or the Phoenix Union High School District.



### Reunions in 2004:

'63, (41st) Oct 30, '04, Mike Follett's  
'64, (40th)  
'69, (35th)  
'74, (30th) Oct 15-16, Scotts. Hilton

'79, (25th)  
'84, (20th)  
'89, (15th)  
'94, (10th)

**Classes can make contributions to CHS by conducting fund-raising activities during your regular events!**

## Classes support CHS and CHAA

During the last three months of 2003, two Classes conducted activities that benefited the Association and Central High School clubs and activities.

The Class of 1963 has responded strongly to charter memberships (currently 32); and at their 40th Reunion in October raised \$1,000 that was donated to the Association. Volker Sonntag, MD, '63 and an Association Honorary Co-chair, led the drive. The Class also supported the sale of homecoming t-shirts, CHS t-shirts and CHS pennants that benefited DECA, Athletics and the Speech and Debate program.

Over the Holidays, Eileen Shrout-Spitalny reports, that '84 classmates got together for dinner and as part of the event, conducted a fund-raiser to help CHS athletics, DECA and the Speech and Debate program.

Why did these organizations get help? It's simple. These groups have products that alumni like and are willing to spend a few dollars on. Every t-shirt, pennant or anything else available by a club or organization offered to alumni can yield support for that organization. Alumni and club sponsors working together is good.

During the first three months of 2004, effort will be di-

## Honor's Gallery: A priority for 2004

rected to framing the concept and rules for the CHS Honors' Gallery. The Gallery will be a site where the wonderful work of graduates can be displayed for current CHS students and visiting alumni to see.

The committee, which will be headed by Chuck Sankey, current CHAA chair, will address such issues as what will be included in the exhibits, what kinds of memorabilia and graduates' work will be solicited (books, art, Masters and Doctoral theses, copies of certificates of honors and photos of outstanding alumni—both past and present.

One segment of the Hall will honor teachers, staff and administrators who have contributed to our development. The criteria for nominating and selecting entrants will be developed and announced to the Association in the March newsletter.

Please help us honor our own and those who made us who we are. If you would like to volunteer to work on the committee, contact Chuck at [PHXCHSAA@aol.com](mailto:PHXCHSAA@aol.com)

**Visit our website at:**

**[www.centralhighalumni.org](http://www.centralhighalumni.org)**