

❖ 25th Anniversary ❖

In Appreciation to our LIFETIME MEMBERS OF THE PIEDMONT ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Thank you for your support of the PAA and May God Bless

***Dan Avery	Rhoda B. Gibson	Robena Gowens
Wilford Walker	Samuel M. Bailey	Ernestine Leamon
Agnes Young	Louie Golden	Alfred Leamon
Jessie Jamison	Ezell Sullivan	U.J. Thompson
***Dr. W.F. Gibson	Isaac Johnson	***Eddie Jones, Jr.
Sadie Nesbitt	Willie Wooden	Thomas Fair
Ernest Hamilton	Annie R. Riggins	Ernest Jones
Louis Blander	Genice McIver Thompson	Dr. Patricia Drummond
Alene Bennett Baety	Samuel E. Roberts, Sr.	Johnny E. Poole
John Williams, Jr.	Butch Smith	William (Dacus) Brown
Rosa Byrd	Della Abercrombie Settles	Vardrey F. Fleming
***Richard Byrd	Grady Brooks, Jr.	Hazle Woodard, Jr.
Esther Fleming Robinson	***Samuel L. Zimmerson, Sr.	Betty W. Golden
Grady Cooley	Ronald Cox	Earl L. Daniels
Betty Sullivan	George L. Stoddard	Willie Henderson
Stewart Spinks	Emanuel Sullivan	Sharley L. Hill
John Gamble	***John McCarroll	Thurman Norris
William C. Fleming	Bobby Riley	Pauline W. Young
Marvin (Tub) Drummond	Willie Stephens	Thelma W. Mike Pinson
Eugene Harrison	John Melvin Abercrombie	Abbie O. Collin
***Jessie S. Reeves	***Irvin Thompson	Carolyn "Pete" Griffin
Winfred C. Daniels	Bessie Young	Reginald D. Pearson
Lula Yeargin Williams	Sullivan Bros. Mortuary Inc.	Cora Dickey

Special Dedicated Life Members

Anna Smith

**We are in the process of updating our Lifetime Members, and if by chance your name was left off this list, please accept our apology and see one of the following:

Emanuel Sullivan, Ernest Hamilton.

***Our Deceased Members

❖ 25th Anniversary ❖

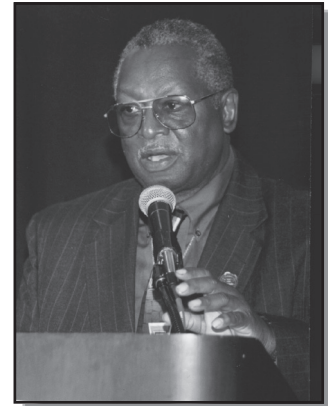
❖ GREETINGS ❖

From the
Executive Director of the Association

April 2016

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I welcome you to the Piedmont Athletic Association's Twenty Fifth Annual Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremonies.



The expressed purpose of the Hall of Fame is to honor those males and females who, by their accomplishments in and service to high school sports, bring honor to Greenville County, to South Carolina, and to the nation. I am sure you will agree that we fulfilled our purpose with this evening's group of 16 inductees from the former Beck, Bryson, Lincoln, Sterling, and Washington High Schools of Greenville County. Also a special recognition presentation.

We ask you to join us in congratulating this outstanding group of athletes and sports administrators who have played major roles in developing positive images for today's students. Our inductees have brought fame and honor to themselves, their families, and their high schools.

The Board of Director thanks you for joining us for this induction ceremony, and we hope your evening with us will be an enjoyable and memorable one.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emanuel Sullivan".

Emanuel Sullivan
Executive Director

❖ *20th Anniversary* ❖

PROGRAMME

25th Anniversary BANQUET AND INDUCTION CÈREMONY

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Introduction of MC

Master of Ceremonies

Mr. Richard Dawkins
Lincoln High

PARADE OF PAST INDUCTEES

Grace

The Occasion

Memorial Tribute

Hall of Fame General Membership Drive

Mr. Ernest Hamilton

Bessie Young

Rosa Byrd

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: GRADY BROWN

Phyllis Wheatley Repertory Theater

PRESENTATION OF INDUCTEES

The Mighty Great & Legendary Sterling High School Tigers

John H. Williams, Jr.
James Moore Huff
Mary Johnson Neal
Alan L. Mitchell

The Great & Legendary Bryson High School Hurricanes

Rozell W. Sullivan
Alvin T. McKinney
John Thomas Sullivan

The Great & Legendary Lincoln High School Rattlers

Edna Ruth Bennett Ward
Samuel C. Cox
George R. Williams

The Great & Legendary Washington High School Falcons

Carol Jean Austin Gardner
Jannie Perry Jones
Clifton D. Scott

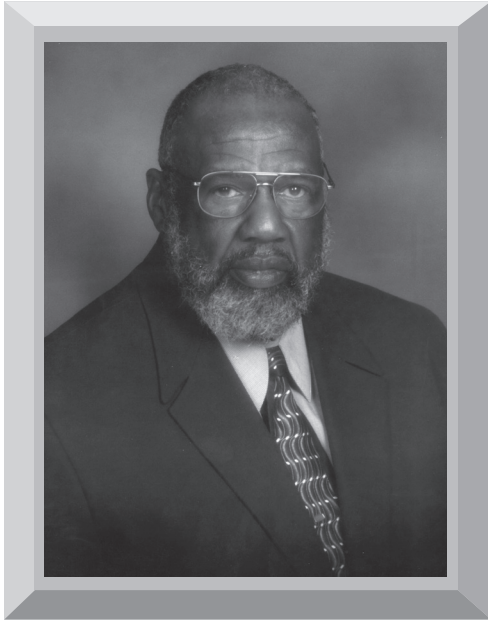
The Great & Legendary Beck High School Panthers

Tom Davis
Morris Maddox
Harold Alexander Brunson

Good Night and Thanks for Coming

PIEDMONT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME

SPECIAL RECOGNITION



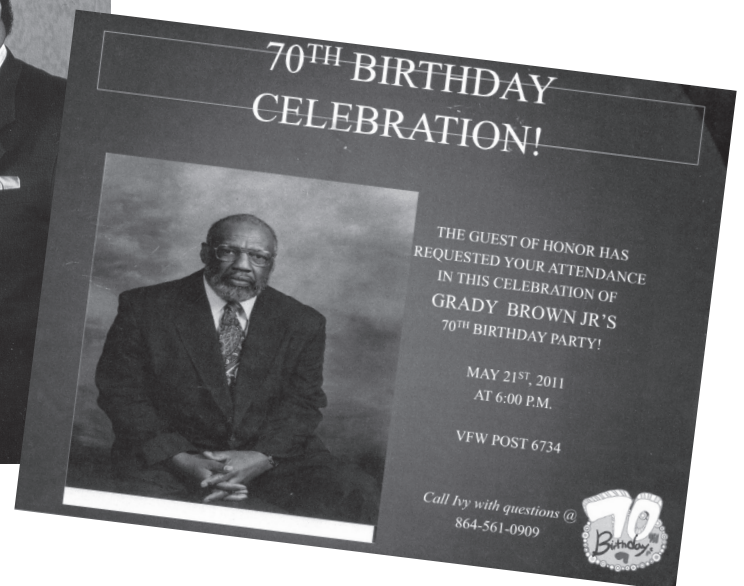
Grady Brown, Jr.

Grady Brown Jr. attended Bryson High School and is a member of the Bryson High School class of 1959. Grady was a member of the Bryson High School Hurricanes track and field team. He played baseball at Bryson High school and in the Overseas Military Baseball League.

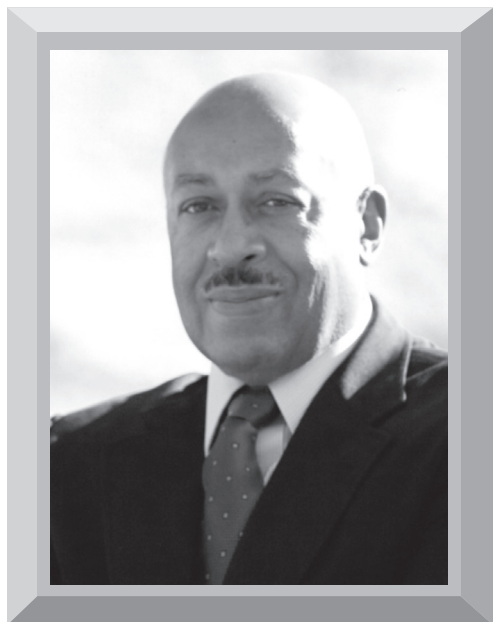
Grady also attended Greenville Tech. His community service is listed as legendary in the Upstate of South Carolina and is documented in the formals of the House of

Representative for the State of South Carolina; VGW, Disabled American Veteran (DAV), Shriners and Masons.

Grady's leadership is also well documented as a Youth Vocational Mentor. He served two teams at VFW commander; a Deacon and Masonic Worship Master.



INDUCTEES



ALLEN L. MITCHELL “Mitch”

Alan Mitchell is the youngest son of the late Caleb and Laura Mitchell. He attended Nicholtown Elementary School and was a member of the Sterling High School Class of 1968. Before he transitioned to high school, Alan played Pee-Wee football and it was there, under the coaching of Reverend Joseph D. Mathis, that he learned he had a talent for running. Often times in football practice he would win the sprints or catch and pass other players from behind when running the 100-yard dash.

While at Sterling Alan was an active member of scholastic societies and clubs, the Marching Band and the Track Team. Because he had a passion for music and was closely guided by the Band Director, Bill “Nat King Cole” Dover, he was also a member of the Sterling Concert Band, Sterling Jazz Band, and the County Orchestra. By his sophomore year at Sterling he was proficiently playing ten different instruments, but his primary instrument was the Trombone. He played the Trombone when he was selected to the State Jazz Band.

Alan’s older brother, M. Frederick Mitchell (a 2013 PAA Hall of Fame Inductee) introduced him to the games of basketball and golf at an early age. Early growth spurts challenged his basketball career so he became the team statistician at Sterling High. He also played golf into adulthood, but found more enjoyment of that game by playing Putt-Putt golf with his children. He always invested his time with the youth.

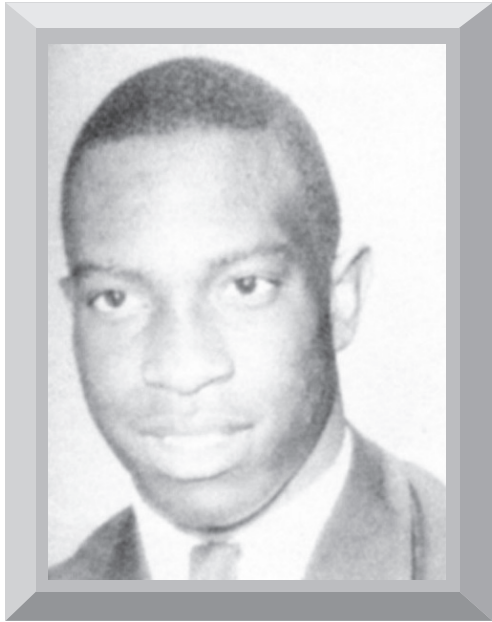
At Sterling High School under the excellent guidance of Coach Giles Edwards, his track activities included the distance-run, the 880-run, the 440-run and relay, and the long jump. Coach Edwards really had a gift of coaching to bring out the best talents of his track team members. That “do your best” spirit stayed with Alan and guided him in all his sports endeavors. When Alan attended Dartmouth College, he was introduced to soccer and became very skillful. At Worcester Academy, he lettered in soccer and was the co-captain of the soccer team. It was there that he converted his track entries to the 880- run, the 440-run and relay, and the 220-run where he excelled. When called upon, he also ran the 100-yard dash and the 50-yard sprint. Alan was seldom beat in his class of events and also lettered in track. In fact, he was being mentioned for All New England Track until a severe hamstring-pull side-lined him for the duration of his best season. After graduating from college at Case Western Reserve University, Alan coached soccer for the youth leagues and later became a youth league Soccer Referee.

The majority of Alan’s professional career has been in Ohio. Although he has been employed by firms and organizations throughout his careers, he found time to develop Mitchell Photographies with his brother as a partner in the 1970’s, and owner of Mitchell Construction Systems in the 1990’s. Alan holds a degree in Architecture and recently moved back to Greenville from Ohio and works with the Greenville Health System in the Facilities Development Department. He still gives credit and honor to the Administrators, Coaches, Teachers and Staff at Sterling High School because, “they gave us a great foundation. We all owe them so much!” Alan thanks the Piedmont Athletic Association for this honor.



PIEDMONT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME

INDUCTEES



JAMES MOORE HUFF, SR.

James Huff attended Sterling High from 1961-1965. As a student at Sterling, Mr. Huff was a member of the Sterling High School Football team from 1962-1965, He filled the positions of offensive guard and defensive corner. Mr. Huff wore number 53 during his career at Sterling. James was presented with awards for "Best Lineman" and "Best Blocker" during his Sterling Football Career.



James Huff began a career in brick masonry in Spartanburg, S.C., shortly after graduation. Mr. Huff went on to pursue a career in music. His first tour was with Elijah and the Ebony s, a local rhythm and blues group. Mr. Huff's singing career includes performances with Tina Turner, Otis Redding, Arthur Connerly, Peabo Bryson, Spider Turner, Rufus Thomas and many other artists.

As an entertainer, Mr. Huff took on the stage name of James Moore. He performed as the lead vocalist with Moses Dillard and the Dynamic

Showmen's Band for five years. His musical career led him to Las Vegas, NV, where his unique voice captured audiences and began his successful career as a Lou Rawls Impersonator. Mr. Huff also had a prosperous career as an entertainer in Denver, Colorado.

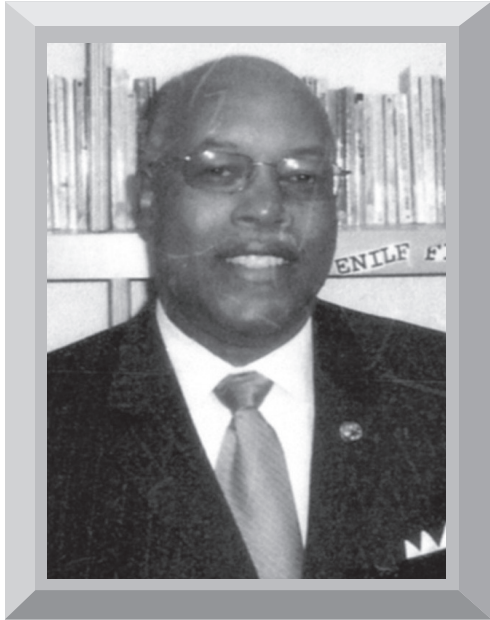
While managing his musical career, Mr. Huff, worked in Housing Maintenance in order to raise his youngest son as a single parent. Mr. Huff returned to his hometown of Greenville, S.C. and founded a local band called. The Carolina Players, Featuring, James Moore. The Band continues to perform in several venues and events throughout South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia. Mr. Huff travels to Denver occasionally to perform with various artists to include, The Dave Booker Blues Band.



PIEDMONT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME

INDUCTEES

JOHN H. WILLIAMS, JR.



John is the son of the late John H. and Lucille Walker Williams. He is a 1961 graduate of Sterling High School. John lettered in basketball for two years. He also earned three letters in track and field and during his senior year he set the school high point record for track and field.

After high school graduation, John joined the United Air Force. He spend eight years in service being honorable discharge as a Staff Sergeant in 1969. During his time in service, he served time in Germany, Ethiopia, Brazil, Columbia and Vietnam. During his military career, John played intramural flag football for a number of years winning two base championships.

After servicing his country, John started his civilian employment with the General Electric Company. He held professional and managerial positions in manufacturing, finance, quality engineering and projects. In 1979, John was the first African-American to be appointed to the position of manager in the Greenville plant. After 34 years of service, John retired from GE in 2003.

John is a graduate of Greenville Technical College with an Associate of Science degree in Business Administration. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of South Carolina. John has done additional studies at Fairfield University, Appalachian State University, Clemson University, Furman University and General Electric Management Institute.



John has been very active in community affairs. He is a graduate of Leadership Greenville. He has served as a member of Greenville Branch of NAACP; Leadership Greenville Forum; Chairman, Board of Directors Gas Turbine Employees Federal Credit Union; Chairman, Greenville County Human Relations Commission and Vice Chairman, United Way Budget and Review Panel. John has also served has a Member, Greenville Private Industry Council; Member, National Alliance on Business College Youth Motivation Task Force; Member, South Carolina State University Advisory Committee for Engineering and a Member Greenville Technical College Advisory Committee for Welding. He was a charter member of the 100 Black Men of the Upstate South Carolina. At present, John serves as treasurer for Club Esquire.

John is a life member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and has held leadership positions at the chapter, district and international levels. From 2004 to 2006, he served as the 34th District Representative with chief executive responsibilities for the states of North and South Carolina. John was also a member of Fraternity's Supreme Council. He has been recognized twice as Omega Man of the Year. At present, John is a member of the Former District Representative Council and the Carolina Uplift Foundation Board of Directors. He played golf on the Que Golf Tour winning many awards and flight championships.

John has been married to Geraldine McGowan for forty-nine years. They have two sons, Reginald and Christopher and a daughter-in-law, Carole. They are the proud grandparents of granddaughters, Zahra and Zhane.

John and Geraldine are members of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Simpsonville, SC. where Dr. Phillip Baldwin is pastor. John served as a member of the finance committee; he is a member of the brotherhood and Sunday school. He was the Assistant Project Leader for the church's multi-purpose life center and academy.



JUST MISSED -- John Williams of the 5th Fighter Interceptor Sq. Spitten Kittens was just a little bit short of this pass which was batted around in the air and finally dropped incomplete. The Kittens battled the Civil Engineering Sq. Hawks last Friday night for the intramural flag football league championship. The Kittens won 24-6. Coming up on the play is Lawrence Bank, also of the Kittens. Referee is Mr. Bruce Van Ness.



EXPERT TUTORING -- One of the primary reasons the 5th Fighter Interceptor Sq. touch-football team is high in the intramural standings undoubtedly results from some mid-season coaching by 2d Lt. Rich Mayo, a standout quarterback at the Air Force Academy a couple of seasons ago. Statement Mayo visited Meigs AFB recently as part of a Tactical-Evaluation team from 26th Air Division Hq., Richards-Gebaur AFB, Mo. Running through to play with the Academy great one Spitten Kittens (1 to 7) Lawrence B. Keith, Charles Hall, Clarence W. Pifer, R. L. Staley, William A. Smith, Markon L. Stone, Walter F. Bough, Armando Dias, Philip Hedges and John H. Williams.



JUST MISSED -- John Williams of the 5th Fighter Interceptor Sq. Spitten Kittens was just a little bit short of this pass which was batted around in the air and finally dropped incomplete. The Kittens battled the Civil Engineering Sq. Hawks last Friday night for the intramural flag football league championship. The Kittens won 24-6. Coming up on the play is Lawrence Bank, also of the Kittens. Referee is Mr. Bruce Van Ness.

STERLING HIGH SCHOOL AWARD

Mr. & Mrs. C. G. ...
John Williams
The Captain of the ...
Team and Field Events - 1143 points
"most high point record"
FOR 1961.

Spitten Kittens Top Engineers 24-6, Take Flag Football Crown

The Spitten Kittens from the 5th Fighter Interceptor Sq. were crowned intramural flag football league champions Friday night after winning a hard-fought 24-6 contest over the Civil Engineering Sq. Hawks.

It was a crushing blow to the Hawks who had led the league throughout the season only to see the crown fly away in the playoff game. By downing the CES team 19-14 in the final game of the season, the Spitten Kittens tied the Hawks for the league title and forced them into a playoff.

The final 39 seconds of the last league game were played before the beginning of Friday night's contest because of a 5FIS protest which was upheld by base athletic officials.

The Kittens were down 6-0 at halftime after Curtis Harris punched across the goal line from seven yards out in the first period. A try for the conversion failed.

The second half was all 5th for six points.

FIS, as the Kittens scored their first touchdown of the afternoon when left halfback Philip Hedges took a swing pass from quarterback Charles Dolk and scampered 60 yards to pay dirt dodging and weaving his way through a host of Hawks.

Hedges and Dolk hooked up again later in the period after CES had punted the ball. It was the same play that brought the Kittens their first tally, as Hedges took Dolk's aerial in the left flat and scurried some 35 yards for six points.

That was all the 5th needed but Dolk stayed right on target for the rest of the game, tossing short and long completions, or to left end Lawrence Keith who was standing alone in the end zone.

Sterling Takes 77-14 Victory
Sterling high rolled over Brewster ...

Tigers Lose Dual Meet
GREENWOOD -- Brewer High School of Greenwood ...

Westside Downs Tiger Trackmen
ANDERSON -- Westside High School ...

Sterling In Cinder Win
Sterling defeated Lincoln of ...

Sterling Bryson Meet To Lose
Sterling was defeated by Bryson ...

INDUCTEES



MARY JOHNSON NEAL “Pumkin”

Mary Johnson, aka “Pumkin,” married Willie Neal wedding performed by the Rev. Harold Mims approximate 40 years ago and from this reunion raised Reginald, Rena, and Willie Jr., a host of grandchildren, 1 great grand.. Moved to New York, after high school, attended Bronx community college with a Major in business and Minor marketing.



Mary identified with the sport of Track under the supervision of the #1 Coach J.D. Mathis, he told her once that she was Olympic material and so she believed that running track gave her the feeling of a STAR, especially during these times under segregation. One of her fondest memories of running track was being elected an officer. Co-captain of the team. Track guided Marys directions in social skills, positive influence that added to the classroom, and her community, it taught her the benefits of hard work. By age 12, raised by

her dad, Mr. Henry Johnson and Brother Putt. In her father’s house finishing school was mandatory. Growing up a young lady without a mom was not easy, but blessings bestow her, Principals honor roll, became Freshmen Class President, Co-captain of the track team, won trophies as Best all-around and sportsmanship. Mary attended Sterling during times of turmoil, let’s not forget the Torch and having to attend school at night, the stay at Sterling was brief, the fire destroyed our beloved school but in her heart, will live a Sterling Tiger for life. Great people helped shape and influence her life, a wonderful counselor Mrs. Xanthe Norris, helped Mary achieve academically and guidance, she will forever remember her and her dear coach, and Coach Lou Golden for sponsoring the Black culture club, post Sterling days.



Mary’s Quote “I feel though sometimes in life I’ve hit a brick wall, but the shadow still comforts me.”

Upon returning from New York, went on to become a Supervisor at Greenville memorial hospital, in medical records. Founded a non-profit Educational-program to barbers. Today, Mary is an educational consultant for barbers, travels to prep students for state licenses exams, works in Greenville County School District, an Entrepreneur’s heart to serve. She loves family living. Church worship, discipleship training, and health ministry. She believes Proverbs 29:18 “Where there is no vision, the people perish. Her community involvement helped voters on to poll for the SC lottery. Past, Goodwill mentor, 2008 Black History maker recipient of 107.3 Jamz, a humanitarian recipient.

Mary’s fondest track memory is when Sterling ran against Beck and won, with the team of Carolyn “Chick” Davis, Rachel Jackson, Shirley Lockhart, and others. The win was close but we won it. Being a winner never felt so good, just as now being inducted into the PAA, to share this opportunity means a great deal to Mary for it’s her greatest achievement to date. She knows Coach Mathis is smiling down on her. Mary would like to give thanks to the staff of Piedmont Athletics Association members for this opportunity to share her fame.



INDUCTEES



JANNIE PERRY JONES

Jannie Jones, daughter of the late James and Bertha Perry, is the first born of eight children. Jannie attended St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School on Gower Street.



Jannie played basketball at St. Anthony's for three years. Their games were played at the Phyllis Wheatley Center which was at that time on Broad Street in downtown Greenville. When she was promoted to high school, Jannie became a "Falcon". She continued playing basketball in high school at Washington High School". Jannie's position on the team was first string guard and she did letter. Jannie was named "Best Guard" for blocks and rebounds,

Not only did Jannie play basketball, she ran track. She participated in the running broad jump and played softball for the Washington Community and her church, St. Anthony of Padua. Jannie is now an

avid bowler playing at Star Lanes Bowling Center and Wade Hampton Bowling in the 55+ Club.

Jannie spends a lot of time now, serving her church community. A member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church for over 50 years, Jannie sings on the choir, teaches religious education and is a member of the St. Anthony of Padua Women Council. She enjoys her retirement work as a school crossing guard for Greenville County.



Jannie married her high school sweetheart, Robert Massey (Smokey) deceased, and they had three sons together. The oldest, Robert Lee is deceased, but left a beautiful daughter, a handsome son and 2 grandchildren to carry on his legacy. Andre' Jerome, the middle child, and his wife lives in Beaufort, SC. They have 3 sons, 2 daughters and 4 grandchildren. James, her baby boy, and his wife lives here in Greenville and has a son and a daughter.

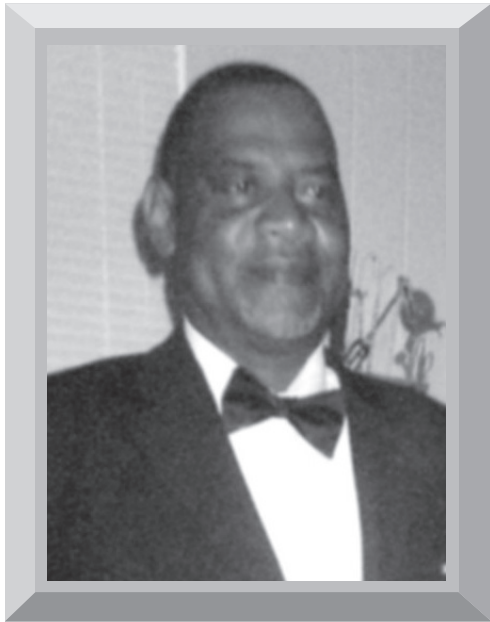
Jannie married Curtis Jones. From this union, Jannie has 5 stepchildren: Deborah, Barbara, Anthony, Wayne and Percilla Jones, 4 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. A full life and a blessing cannot be more fulfilling as she celebrates her life with family and friends as she become a member of the Hall of Famers from Washington High School.

All the wonderful years spent as a Washington High Falcon marked the beginning of this wonderful adult life. Her high school days will always remain in her heart and she will always be a "MIGHTY FALCON".

"WASHINGTON, DEAR WASHINGTON"



INDUCTEES



CLIFTON D. SCOTT *“Cliff or Scott”*

Clifton Scott is a graduate of Washington High School, class of 1969. While attending Washington, Scott played football leading the Falcons to state championship in 1968-1969. He was named Captain and Defensive Player of the Year. He went on to become an employee of Telecable (Charter Communications); where he was employed for 25 years before retiring in



2011. He is a member and Deacon of Meadow Fork Baptist Church. Now residing in Taylors, SC, Cliff enjoys working in the family business Good 01 Cooking in Travelers Rest, SC. His family includes 6 children and 10 grandchildren.



INDUCTEES

CAROL JEAN AUSTIN GARDNER "Lil Bit"

Carol Jean Austin Gardner was a 1965 graduate of Washington High School. While attending Washington she lettered in basketball for 3 years.

After graduating Carol attended Cecil Business/Greenville Tech.

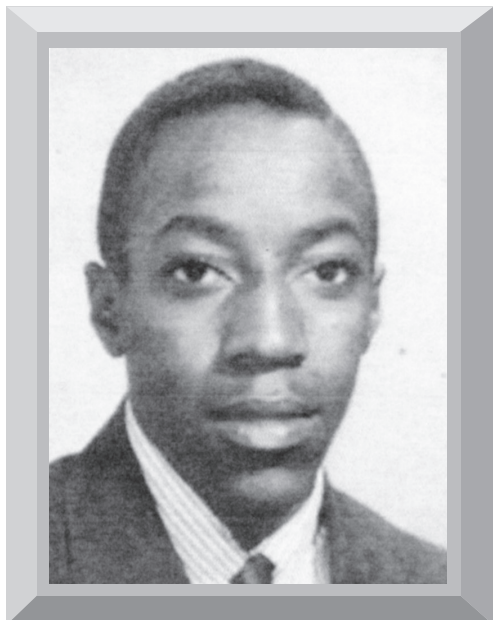
Carol is active in the Flower Club, Masonary Circle #1 and attends Springfield Baptist Church.



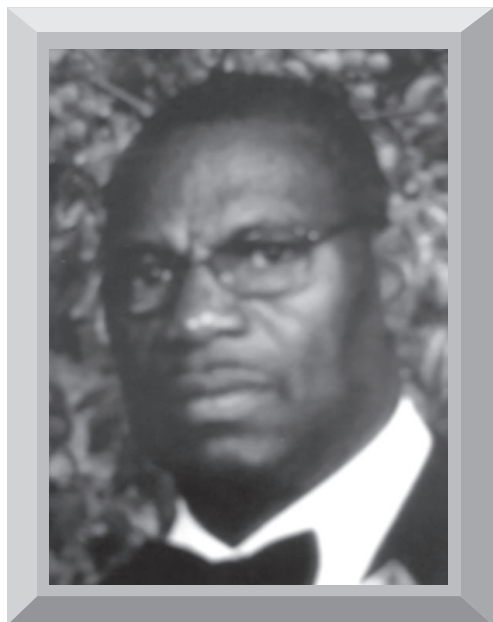
INDUCTEES

TOM DAVIS

Tom Davis is a 1966 graduate of Beck High School. While attending Beck he lettered in Basketball.



INDUCTEES



GEORGE R. WILLIAMS

George Williams was a 1966 graduate of Lincoln High School. He was raised in Taylors by his grandparents, the late Willie Williams and Aran Williams. George as known as “Crip” attended Lincoln School from elementary thru high school. During his 4 years of high school, George played football, basketball, and baseball and lettered in all three. He also earned most valuable player as the quarterback in his senior year.



After graduating high school, George was drafted in the United States Army in October of 1966 where he served for 2 years active duty as a Medic E5 and then an additional 4 years of non-active duty. Once returning home he continued playing sports. He played basketball for the Greenville Steel and baseball with the Taylors Eagles and Taylors Club. He joined a bowling team in 1972 and is still currently on a team. George also played on his church’s softball team up until he was 60 years of age.

George married his high school sweetheart Joyce A Fowler in 1970 and they have recently celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary. George has 3 daughters, a son-in-law, 6 grandchildren, and a great grand.

George is currently retired from Michelin Marc Research Center where he was employed for 27 years. He also currently serves as Chairman of the Deacon Ministry at Aiken Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. He served as the past treasure of the North Enoree Association, as well as the past president of the North Enoree Brotherhood Association. George was also the Past Worshipful Master of Eureka Lodge No. 59.

George loves his family, especially his grandchildren. He looks forward to attending their football & basketball games. He also enjoys helping individuals in his community and church family with odd jobs in their homes and yards. George is a true Lincoln High Rattler:



PIEDMONT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME

INDUCTEES



EDNA RUTH WARD (BENNETT) “Sugar”

Edna Ruth Ward Bennett was born in Greenville County on November 8, 1939 to Flairve and Hudson Bennett, Sr. She is the third of their thirteen children: six girls and seven boys. Edna grew up in Taylors, SC and graduated from Lincoln High School in 1957. Six of her siblings also attend Lincoln. While at Lincoln Edna was a cheerleader, and played basketball for two years under the direction of Ms. Doris Heard. She played the position of forward and was known for her shooting ability. Edna served as captain of the basketball team during her last year at Lincoln.



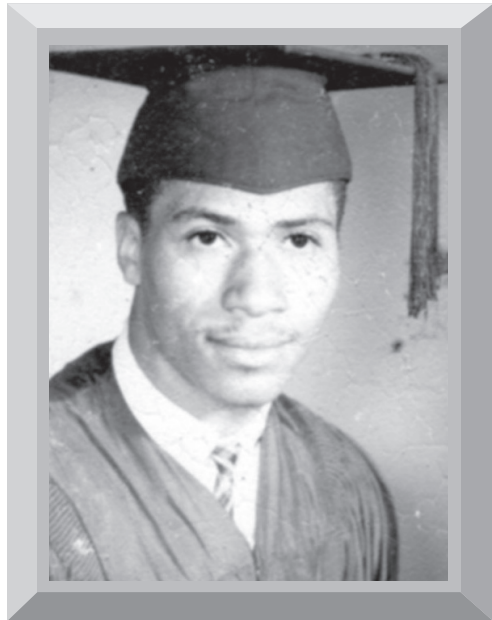
Washington, DC. Edna currently lives in Fort Washington, Maryland and has three children, three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Edna retired from Geico after working with them for 34 years as a program librarian in quality control and a scheduler in system support. She is a member of Alien Chapel AME Church in Washington, DC and serves on both the steward and stewardess boards.

Edna loves to travel and also loves to bowl. She has been an avid bowler for almost 40 years. She currently serves as Treasurer of her bowling league. Her love for bowling has taken her to Chicago, Las Vegas, Atlantic City, Cincinnati, Hawaii and Aruba.



INDUCTEES



SAMUEL C. COX "China-Man"

Samuel C. Cox was born and raised in Greer, South Carolina. He is the second of five children. His parents are the late Ollie and Porter Cox. He started his education at Dunbar Elementary in Greer, SC. He then went on to attend Lincoln High School in Taylors, SC where he graduated in 1961. While at Lincoln he played basketball, football and ran track; lettering in basketball and football. He also served as co-captain of the basketball team during 1960-1961 when the Rattlers were District Three football and basketball champions.

After graduation Samuel worked at Southern Machinery, Lyman Printing, and retired from Carolina Steel. He married the late Willie Bell Richardson. They were married twenty years.

Samuel currently resides in Greer, SC. He is the father of eight children, nineteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Today he enjoys spending time with his great-grandchildren.



Athletics



Lincoln, we love you!
Lincoln, we love you!
We love you in the spring-
time and the fall.
Lincoln, we love you!
We love you best of all.



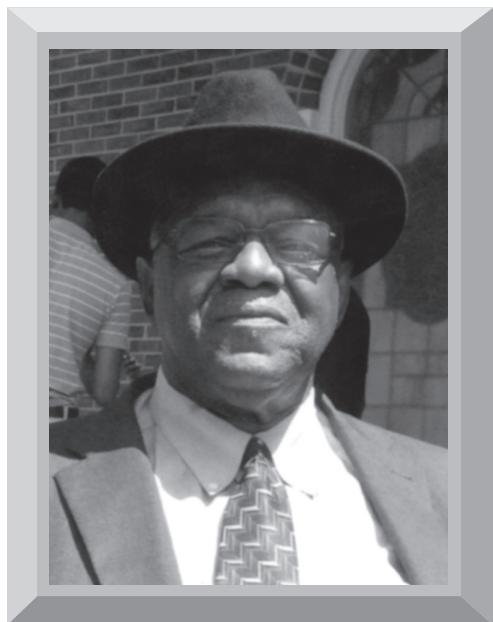
We're not going to lose
our pep, pep, pep!
We're not going to lose
our pep!
No matter what the scores
may be,
We're not going to lose
our pep!



We're a bunch of "Rattlers."
Rattlers are we.
We'll always fight, fight,
fight!
For vic-to-ry.



INDUCTEES



ALVIN T. MCKINNEY

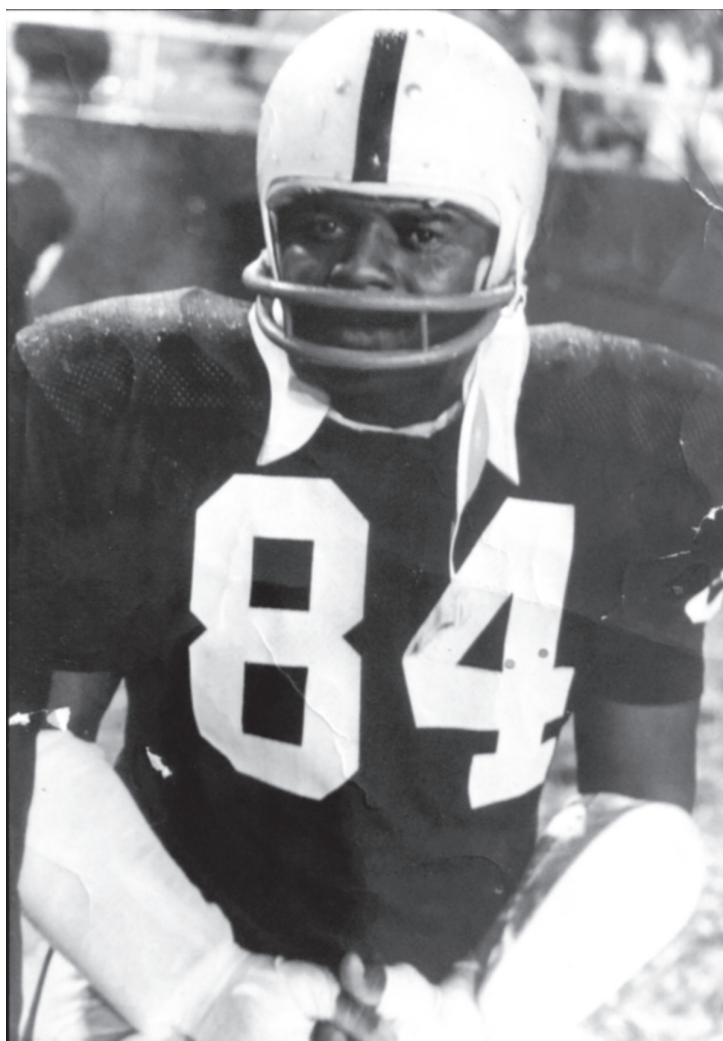
Alvin T. McKinney attended Bryson High School and is a member of the class of 1961. He played football and also lettered in track and field.

Alvin played semi pro baseball and he also played semi-pro football with the Greenville Bulls.

Mr. McKinney gives generously to donations of the Sheriff Office, contributes to church functions and always willing to help.

Alvin is a Deacon at Union Baptist Church for over 25

years, Usher Board and Sunday School Superintendent (approx 35 years). He is President of Enoree River Usher's Association.



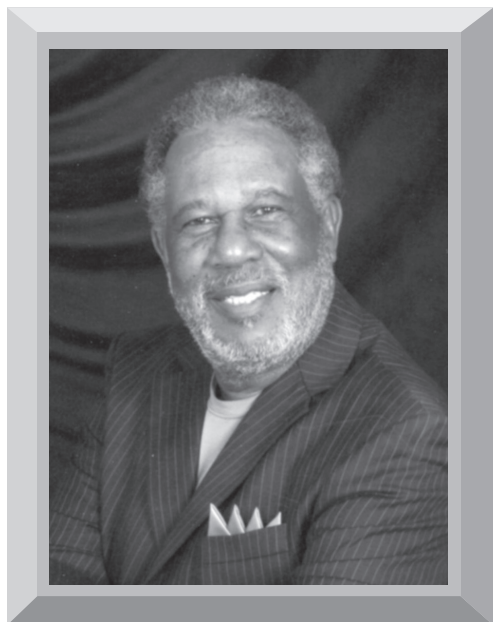
INDUCTEES



ROZELL W. SULLIVAN

Rozell Sullivan attended Bryson High School from 1954-1955. While there she lettered in Basketball.

INDUCTEES



JOHN THOMAS SULLIVAN “Tom Sullivan”

John Thomas Sullivan was the fifth of nine children born to the late Alexander and Ella Mae Sullivan.

John is a 1966 graduate of Bryson High School where he played baseball and football. After graduation John was drafted into the U.S. Army.

After his military duties were over, he married Louise Walker and they had one son (Zedric)

John then started working for General Electric until his retirement in 2002. After retirement John picked up a hobby of Golf, and on Saturday mornings on the golf

course is where you will find him.

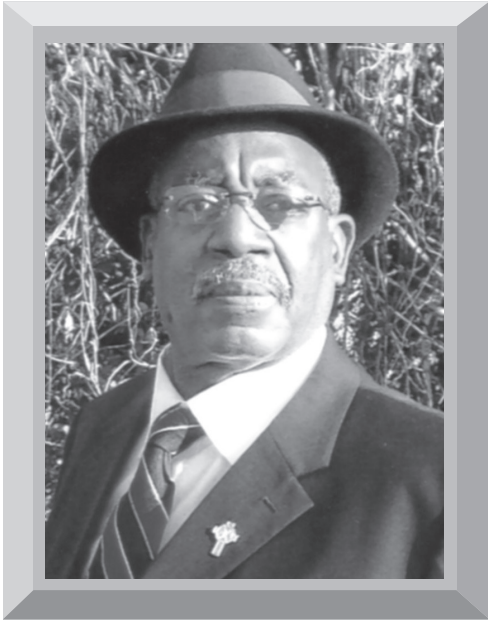
When John is not on the golf course he enjoys spending time with his “best friend* his great grandson Tristin. John has one grandson and a total of 3 great grandchildren.

John attends Poplar Spring Baptist Church in Simpsonville, SC.

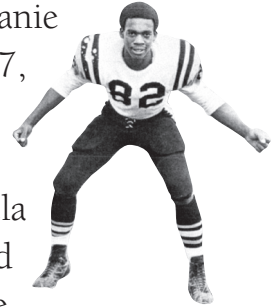
PIEDMONT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME

INDUCTEES

HAROLD ALEXANDER BRUNSON



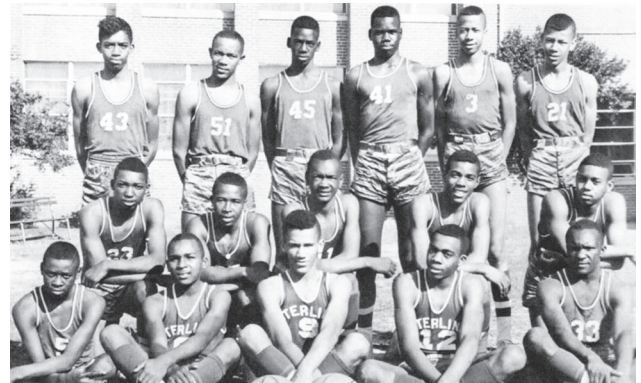
Harold Brunson is the son of Mrs. Janie Fant. He was born on December 27, 1949 in Greenville, SC. He is the third child of 5 children. Harold has 4 children Andre Dandy, Angela Ellison, Harold Brunson Jr and Melanie Brunson Carter. He has 5 grandchildren and 8 Great-Grandchildren.



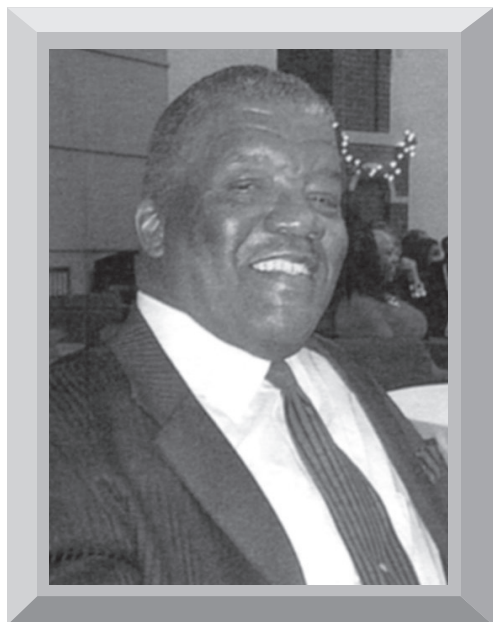
Harold began playing JV basketball at Sterling high school in 1964, under Coach Mathis. In 1965, he transferred to Joseph E. Beck High school and played football under Coach Louie Golden. Harold graduated



from Beck high school class of 1968. After high school Harold received his degree in Pipe Welding at Greenville Technical College. Harold was a part of the local union #399 sheet metal worker. He worked for Action Electric in Alabama for many years.



INDUCTEES



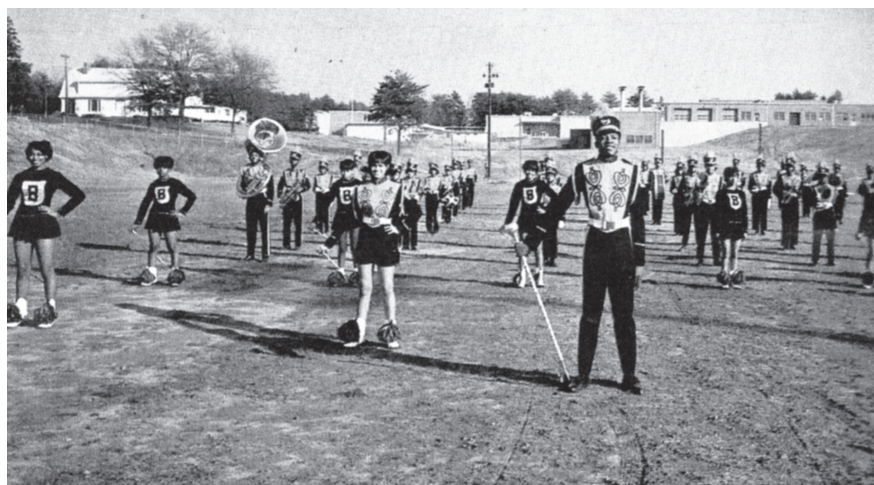
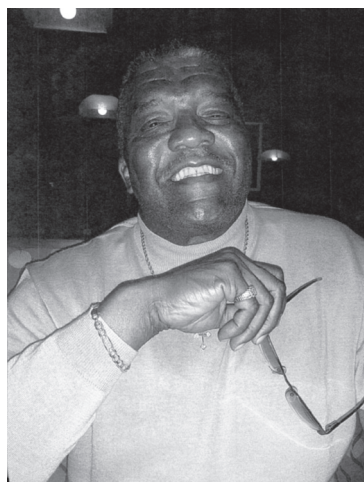
MORRIS MADDUX “Big Mo”

Morris Maddox was born and raised in Greenville, SC. As a small child he grew up in Little Texas and attended Allen Elementary.

Then as a young teenager, his mother, Mrs. Early Maddox and Morris moved to the Nicholtown Community where he attended Nicholtown Middle School. After graduating from Nicholtown Middle, Morris attended Sterling for one year. The following year J.E. Beck high school was opened on McAlister Road so he was transferred to J.E. Beck.

Not long after transferring to J.E. Beck Morris met Mr. Devore the band Director. Shortly after their meeting, Mr. Devore asked him had he ever thought about becoming the Drum Major. He had no idea what a Drum Major did. Mr. Devore saw the potential in Morris that he didn't see in himself. They called themselves The Marching 101. They were like family. Even after fifty two years people stop Morris on the street and ask him if he was the Drum Major for Beck back in the day. It really made him feel good to be recognized as a positive role model after all those years.

Morris thanks God for the opportunity to be a part of the “Marching 101.”



25th Anniversary

The PAA Story: What a Great Idea

In 1970, for the most part all of the five black high schools were closed as high schools in Greenville county. Progress in moving toward better education also left an empty place in the memories and hearts of those that grew up in that era and attended those schools.



THE FIRST CLASS

Years had passed and the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame was revitalized in 1972. Great athletes from around the state were selected and inducted into the Hall of Fame. After a few years the question was asked...why are there not more athletes and coaches from the upstate considered for induction into the Hall of Fame? People like Bill Thompson, Ernie Brock, Coach Joe Mathis and so forth.

That question led to another question of why can't we create a hall of fame that would embrace the Upstate's athletic programs and recognize with dignity, glamour and prestige, those athletes and coaches who are so deserving?

That question became an idea. From that idea came a purpose. Alumni from Sterling, Bryson, Beck, Lincoln and Washington High were called together. From the moment anyone hear this idea and purpose, they would say that this is something great. After a number of noon day lunch meetings at the Ramada on Church Street, late night telephone conferences with many people; another meeting was held in the latter part of 1991 at Phyllis Weatley Center. A representative from each school was present.

There, at the meeting, the final question was asked and answered. What will we call this Hall of Fame that would embrace all the schools and it's area of interest. The initial Founders said "The Piedmont Athletic Association Hall of Fame"

The rest, as they say, is History. Clyde Mayes was made Executive Director and following the first class of inductees in 1992, Clyde spent the next two years organizing the PAA's structure and building a formulation for perpetual existence:

- ◆ Articles of incorporation and by laws
- ◆ Registration with the Secretary of State office
- ◆ Tax status under 501(C)(3)
- ◆ Creation of Hall of Fame logo, symbol and stationary
- ◆ Scholarship program guidelines and criteria

With the organization structurally in place Mr. Emanuel Sullivan became the PAA Hall of Fame second Executive Director in 1995. Emanuel added present day community sports programs to the PAA's agenda; (1) High School Basketball Player of the Week; (2) County Basketball All Star Game; (3) Membership Appreciation Night; and (4) the including of Women Athletes for induction into the Hall of Fame.

Over the past 25 years seven coaches were inducted into the Hall of Fame under the Clyde Mayes administration and presently 240 coaches, players and supporters have been inducted under the Emanuel Sullivan administration.

Forever thankful, the PAA is mindful of the public support the people of the Upstate has given the Hall of Fame. This did turn out to be a good idea and a lot of fun.



THE SECOND CLASS

The initial Founders put together the very first meeting of The Piedmont Athletic Association Hall of Fame at The Ramada Hotel, 1001 Church Street, Greenville, SC. The following people were present:

Dr. E.D. Dixon*	Mr. Sam Zimmerman, Sr.*
Coach A.C. Duckett*	Mr. Wilfred Walker
Rev. J.D. Mathis*	Mr. Charles Gardner
Mr. Louie Golden	Attorney Ernest Hamilton
Mr. James Floyd	

25th Anniversary

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL of FAME RESOURCE AND HISTORICAL CENTER

11724 Plaza Circle / P.O. Box 20626 / Kansas City, Missouri 64195 / 816-464-5400

Brice B. Durbin
Executive Director
NATIONAL FEDERATION

July 23, 1992

Mr. Ernest Hamilton
Piedmont Athletic Association
Hall of Fame
P.O. Box 10672
Greenville, SC 29603

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

On behalf of the National Federation of State High School Associations and its National High School Sports Hall of Fame, we offer our congratulations to your first class of inductees into the Piedmont Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

Our congratulations to Louie Golden, Al Duckett, Thomas "Sporty" Williams, Rev. J.D. Mathis, James T. Floyd, Eddie Jones and Dewey Tullis for their accomplishments and contributions to high school coaching.

I applaud your efforts in launching the Piedmont Hall of Fame as a way of recognizing outstanding coaches and educators in Greenville County, South Carolina. I wish you the best in the years to come as you continue to salute additional worthy individuals.

If there is ever anything I can do to assist you from a national perspective, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce L. Howard
Bruce L. Howard
Hall of Fame Director

BLH:pa

c: Louie Golden
Al Duckett
Thomas "Sporty" Williams
Rev. J.D. Mathis
James T. Floyd

LIZ PATTERSON
4TH DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA
230 CANNON BUILDING
202-225-6030
DISTRICT OFFICES
P.O. Box 1230
SPARTANBURG, SC 29304
803-682-4422
P.O. Box 10408 - FEDERAL STATION
GREENVILLE, SC 29603
803-232-1141
P.O. Box 804
LINDEN, SC 29379
803-627-2005

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4004

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, FINANCE AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
ECONOMIC STABILIZATION
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
SUPERVISION, REGULATION
AND INSURANCE
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CARE
EDUCATION, TRAINING
AND EMPLOYMENT
SELECT COMMITTEE ON HUNGER

July 31, 1992

Mr. Eddie Jones
5 French Lane
Greenville, South Carolina 29603

Dear Mr. Jones:

I saw in the newspaper where you have been inducted into the Piedmont Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Congratulations.

I am sure you must know that your teaching and coaching career has made a difference in people's lives. Your dedication to our young people is appreciated by many folks in our area.

Best wishes to you. Please let me know if there is ever any way that I can be of assistance to you.

Cordially,

Liz Patterson
Elizabeth J. Patterson
Member of Congress

EJP:bw

THIS STATIONERY PRINTED ON PAPER MADE OF RECYCLED FIBERS

TER, JR., PRESIDENT

WILLIAM M. TURNER, VICE PRESIDENT

South Carolina High School League

H.A. PETE AVOUB, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 153
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202-0153
TELEPHONE (803) 777-9116



July 17, 1992

Mr. Thomas W. Williams
1002 Diggs Avenue
Columbus, Georgia 31906

Dear Thomas:

I read with great interest your induction into the Piedmont Athletic Association Hall of Fame. It is a great honor and one I know you are extremely proud of. I would like to extend my congratulations to you for this honor and for what you have done to improve athletics in South Carolina. It is always good to recognize outstanding gentlemen and coaches for the positive input they have made on so many young people. Your guidance and leadership will never be forgotten by these athletes.

Again, congratulations for receiving this most deserved honor.

If I may ever be of service to you, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Matthews
Ronnie Matthews
Assistant Executive Director

RM:bw



South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame

July 31, 1992

Mr. Ernest Hamilton
Piedmont Athletic Association
Hall of Fame
P. O. Box 10672
Greenville, SC 29603

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

We would like to congratulate the inductees recently inducted into the Piedmont Athletic Association Hall of Fame. It is indeed a tremendous honor to be recognized for accomplishments in sports and the many contributions these individuals have made to the State of South Carolina.

Sincerely,

Grant Bennett
Grant Bennett
President

GB/tj

P.O. Box 21215 • Columbia, South Carolina 29221 • (803) 798-4270

25th Anniversary

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Scholarship Award is set up to fill a needed void between the good high school players who played a big supporting role in most cases for their gifted teammates that get the full scholarships to colleges. Secondly, this type of grant encourages high school students to participate in athletics, to excel in class, to go to college. This unique scholarship awards athletic performance and class work. The criteria is that a student must have earned two letters in one or a single letter in a combination of two or more varsity sports and did not get a full scholarship, yet did enroll in a college after high school.

Funds for the scholarship award program are set aside yearly by the Board of Directors from our different fundraisers...ie, donations, membership dues, Senior Showcase Games proceeds and Banquet proceeds of the PAA's General fund. As can be expected, the number and amount of the awards are made possible by the availability of funds. To date the PAA scholarship award program has awarded over \$100,000.00 to Greenville county students. For the most part, most of the students enrolled into instate colleges.

1996

Corey Boggin	Riverside High School	Greenville Tec. College
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1997

Terry Young	Travelers Rest High School	Benedict College
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1998

William C. Staggs	Blue Ridge High School	USC-Spartanburg
LaShanda Maxwell	Carolina High School	Denmark Tec. College
Andre' D. Brantley	Wade Hampton High School	Benedict College

1999

Christopher H. Harvey	Blue Ridge High School	North Greenville College
Lakia N. Griffin	Greer High School	USC-Spartanburg
Adrian M. Harris	Hillcrest High School	Newberry College
Lynatte N. Jackson	Travelers Rest High School	Charleston Southern Uni.
Maya N. Grady	Greer High School	Lenior-Rhynne College
Latonya N. Davis	Hillcrest High School	Berea College
Michilla L. Jackson	Carolina High School	Anderson College

2000

Roderick Henderson	J.L. Mann High School	Wingate College
Charles Clark	Southside High School	Spartanburg Methodist College
John Phelps	Hillcrest High School	Voorhees College
Erie Williams	Greer High School	Wingate College
Craig Johnson	Greer High School	Greenville Tec. College
Barney Jackson	Berea High School	Pikeville College
David Little	Wade Hampton High School	North Greenville College
Demetrius Pepper	Greenville High School	Morris College
Kevin Allen	Carolina High School	Mars Hill College
Karen Hunt	Southside High School	Hiwassee College
La'trese Davis	Hillcrest High School	Spartanburg Methodist College
C.W. Bankhead	Mauldin High School	Spartanburg Methodist College
Natasha Morgan	Hillcrest High School	Johnson C. Smith University
Autumn Skelton	Greenville High School	Francis Marion College
Mathew Chasteen	Woodmont High School	Pfeiffer College
Veronica Thompson	Hillcrest High School	Johnson C. Smith University

2001

Charlena Martin	Berea High School	Walter State Community College
Samuel Mattison	Wade Hampton High School	Brevard College
Charity Williams	Greer High School	Winthrop University

25th Anniversary

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

2001 Continued

Clayton Smith
Tiffany Jones
Jamario Twitty
Brandon Smith
Rodney Taylor
Jauron Martin
Stacey Mars
Danielle Welborn
Lakita Backum
Melissa Griffin
Herbert Brooks Jr.
Samuel Brown
Jada Blakely
Jada Sullivan
Crystal Pyles
Barry Wilder
Darin Jenkins
Ryan Hamilton
Erie Williams

Woodmont High School
Hillcrest High School
Berea High School
Wade Hampton High School
Carolina High School
Woodmont High School
Woodmont High School
Mauldin High School
Southside High School
Greenville High School
Southside High School
J.L. Mann High School
Carolina High School
Hillcrest High School
Hillcrest High School
Eastside High School
Carolina High School
J.L. Mann High School
Greer High School

North Greenville College
University of South Carolina
Clemson University
University of South Carolina
South Carolina State University
Berea College
Erskine College
North Greenville College
Greensboro College
Greenville Technical College
East Tennessee State University
University of South Carolina
South Carolina State University
U.S.C. Spartanburg
U.S.C. Spartanburg
University of South Carolina
Johnson C. Smith University
Wake Forrest University
Wingate University

2002

David Gibson
Edward Strange
Maurice Brockington
Nakisha Bennett
Travis Irby
Tivarius Thompson
Timothy Carson
Jarvis Robinson
Martin Vernon
John Lawton
Travis Hawthorne
Kimberly Jamieson
Brandon Thomason
Michael Brockman, Jr.
Princess Putman

Southside High School
Travelers Rest High School
Riverside High School
Greenville High School
Hillcrest High School
Berea High School
Riverside High School
Southside High School
Carolina High School
Travelers Rest High School
Mauldin High School
Eastside High School
Woodmont High School
Woodmont High School
Hillcrest High School

Antoine Freeman
Chinessia Lee
Jonathan Jones
Tiffany T. Jones
Kelly Westermeier
Benjamin Baily

Amanda McKinney
Arthur Sitton

Nakiy Gardner
Jonathan Lee
Morgan McCain
Jarvis Pickering
Shadae Thompson

2004

Allen University
Lander University
S.C. State
Limestone College
Clemson University
North Greenville College

2005

Southside High School
Greer High School

2006

Southside High School
Carolina High School
Mauldin High School
Southside High School
Greenville High School

2003

Brittany Whitaker
Julian Swinger
Koyett Miles
Zachary Grant
Victor Duck
Bobby Downs
Travis Morris
Jonathon Jackson
Margaret Williams
Brandon Williams
Lisa Jackson

Blue Ridge High School
Carolina High School
Southside High School
Eastside High School
Eastside High School
J.L. Mann High School
Berea High School
Hillcrest High School
Blue Ridge High School
Southside High School
Riverside High School

Amber Joy Ryals

T.C. McGreen
Courtney Croft
Karman Gaffney
Lakia Mansell
Alex Jamison
Taylor Payne

Bradford Hamilton
Keema Blakney

2007

Southern Wesleyan University \$1,000.00

2008

Travelers Rest High School
Wade Hampton High School
Greer High School
Southside High School
Hillcrest High School
Riverside High School

2009

Eastside High School
Southside High School

25th Anniversary

2010

Lauren Brailsford
 Chauncey Mattei
 Deonte Cargild
 Douglas Mack
 John Clark
 Sharonda Tate

Riverside High
 Greenville High
 Greer High
 Greer High
 Southside High
 Riverside High

Coker College
 Newberry College
 Coastal Carolina University
 Benedict College
 North Greenville University
 Spartanburg Methodist

2011

Jacob Ramiro
 Keziah Brown
 Quelere Mack
 Anthony Dickey
 McKinnely Leverette

Woodmont High
 St. Joseph High
 Greer High
 Berea High
 Carolina High

Anderson University
 South Carolina State University
 Coastal Carolina
 Printa College
 USC

2012

Cortez Starks
 Dammond Duckett
 Alexis Miller
 Jaylyn Walker
 Marquiz Evans

Greenville High
 Eastside High
 Greer High
 Southside High
 Hillcrest High

Garnder Webb
 USC Upstate
 Winthrop University
 Winthrop University
 Greenville Tec

2013

John C. Dogan
 Genesis Medina
 Delmy M. Salaza
 Andrew O'Neal Hunter
 Kayla M. Wyles

Southside High
 Berea High
 Berea High
 Berea High
 Travelers Rest

Greenville Tec
 Greenville Tec
 USC
 Spartanburg Methodist
 Furman Univeristy

2014

Derayshon L. Mustata
 Elias M. Nicholson
 Marques D. Sullivan

Southside High
 Travelers Rest
 Brashier Middle College

E. Georgia State
 Southern Wesleyan
 Liberty University

2015

Brishauna Wright
 Julia A. Mayes
 Falen Tatum
 Sonyelle Gray
 Kyah Hawkins

Limestone College
 Spartanburg Methodist College
 The University of South Carolina
 North Greenville College
 Spartanburg Methodist College

❖ *25th Anniversary* ❖

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES

of
The Great and Legendary
BECK HIGH SCHOOL
Est. 1965 thru 1970

The former High School is now
Beck Middle School
The Academy of Languages

The Black and Gold Panthers
School's Motto:
"Service, Simplicity, Sincerity"



Beck High Panthers

25th Anniversary
HALL OF FAME

CLARENCE WHITTENBERG



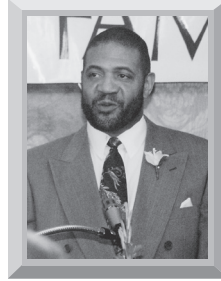
LOUISE WALKER SULLIVAN



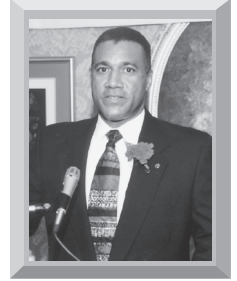
JOHNNY FLEMMING



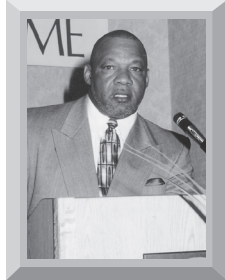
CLYDE MAYES



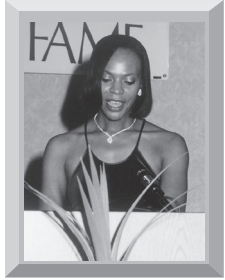
JULIUS GAMBLE



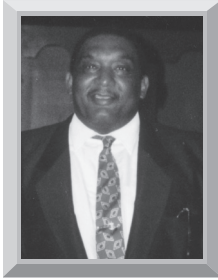
HERMAN ROBERTS



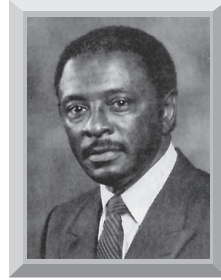
SHIRLEY TRAPP HARRIS



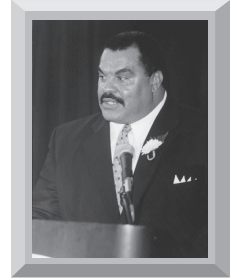
LOGIE GOLDEN



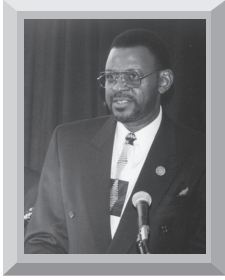
JAMES T. FLOYD



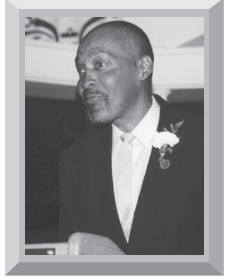
JAMES PERRY HARRISON



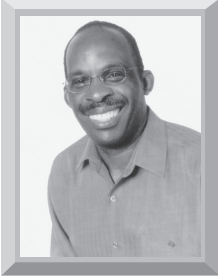
O'LOUIS McCULLOUGH



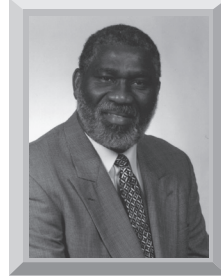
MICHAEL BOOKER



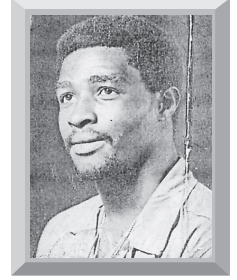
JOHN ROBERT HILL



O'NEAL C. SEWARD



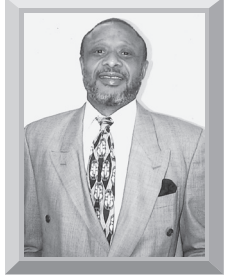
JAMES C. JONES



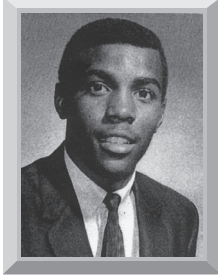
JOAN WILLIAMS-WALLACE



WILLIE D. NEAL



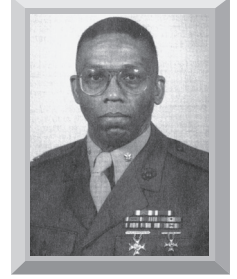
CHARLES E. BOOKER, JR.



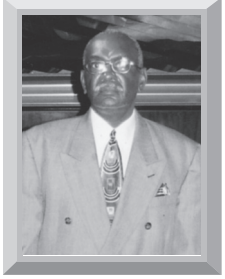
WILLIAM E. LINDSEY



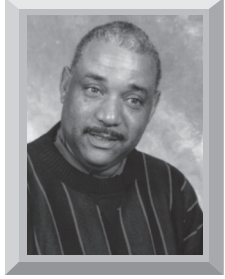
SAMUEL E. ROBERTS, SR.



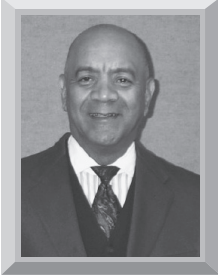
TERRY O. GAMBLE



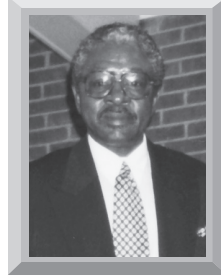
LURAIN YARBROUGH, JR.



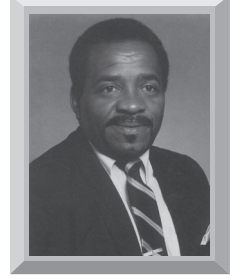
HARRY WALKER



JOSEPH FRANKLIN FLOYD



LONNIE C. HOLMAN, SR.



BECK HIGH SCHOOL



25th Anniversary
HALL OF FAME

SHARLEY HILL



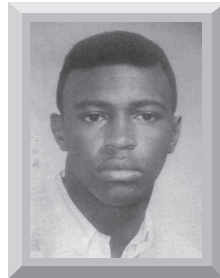
CAROLYN ASHMORE GRIFFIN



MINNIE TRAP DAVIS



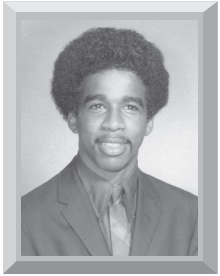
HAROLD JONES



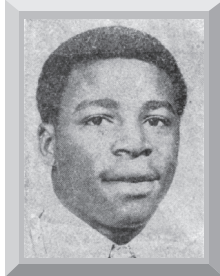
JOHNIE A. DeVORE, SR.



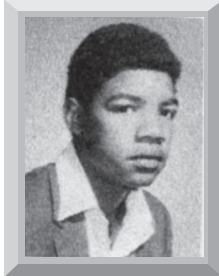
GREGORY THOMAS KNUCKLES



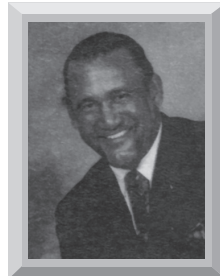
ERNEST HAMILTON



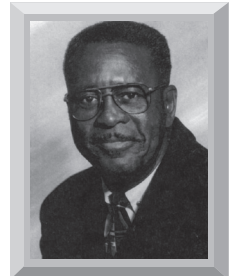
WILLIAM YATES, JR.



BOBBY CHAPMAN



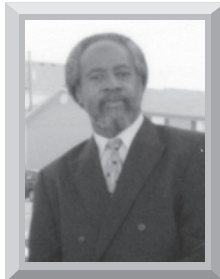
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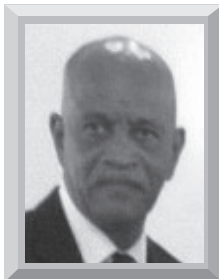
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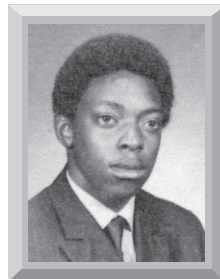
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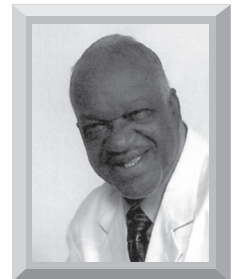
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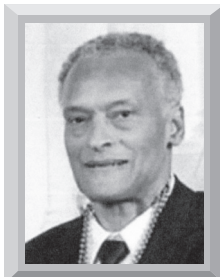
BARRY McCULLOUGH



JOHNNY LEE DRUMMOND



RODNEY ACKER



BECK HIGH SCHOOL



A History of Joseph E. Beck High School

1965-1969

On March 12, 1963, the Board of Trustees of the School District of Greenville County approved a site upon which was to be built a new school called the Nicholtown Junior-Senior High School. The site included twenty-six acres of land in the Green Forest Park area along McAlister Road and was to be purchased from the city of Greenville for the amount of \$75,000.

There were several reasons why Greenville County needed this new school. First of all, the site of the plant was located in the most thickly populated Negro section of Greenville, which at that time had no junior-senior high school in the community. Secondly, Sterling High School was operating on double and

25th Anniversary

triple sessions and was badly in need of relief. Thirdly, the entire Nicholtown area was steadily increasing in population, and future need would increase the demands for a new school. Finally, a school was needed specifically to take care of students in the Nicholtown, Allen, Backer's Chapel, Roosevelt, and Fieldcrest areas of Greenville.

After a building committee was set up and the final plans for the school were approved, the contract to build the new plant was given to the Triangle Construction Company. In a meeting on November 10, 1964, the Board of Trustees of the Greenville County Schools voted to change the name of the new school from Nicholtown Junior-Senior High School to Joseph E. Beck High School in honor of the late Mr. Joseph Elbert Beck. Mr. Beck was an African-American educator who had spent thirty years in Greenville County school work including serving as principal of Sterling High School for twenty-one years.



The Joseph E. Beck High School was occupied for the first time in August of 1965. The new building's construction had cost \$1,425,715.65 and equipping the school brought the figure up to \$1,584,846.75. The McPherson Company served as the architect in the project.

The plant consisted of forty classrooms, library for 120 students, vocational shop complex, a 600 seat auditorium, science laboratories for science and home economics. The band, choral, and art departments were housed in areas that did not interfere with regular class activities. The gymnasium, which seated approximately 1500 people, was provided with an electrically operated panel that could divide the gym into two separate areas.

The principal chosen to lead Beck High School was Mr. Lemmon A. Stevenson. His assistant was Mr. Albert A. Richburg, and the services of Mrs. Nancy G. Griggs were secured for the position of dean in charge of guidance.

Although Beck was built to serve at least a thousand students, only 700 were expected during the first year. However, almost all of that one thousand students came that first year, and in the following years there were never less than that number. The first faculty consisted of thirty-nine teachers, but due to a consistently high enrollment, the number was increased in following years. J.E. Beck High School had a total of 253 graduates: twenty-eight the first year, 105 the second, and 120 in 1968.



A student council functioned as the parent club of the school. Its first action was to adopt a school motto ("Service, Simplicity, Sincerity"), colors (black and gold), and an alma mater. The council also produced a student handbook containing rules, guidance, and activities for the student body. Other products of the active council was a monitoring system, clean-up plans, an annual homecoming festivity, and charters for various clubs and organizations within the school.

A school choir began at Beck in 1965, and the Beck High School Band had its beginnings in 1966 under the direction of Mr. J. A. Devore. The first band had sixty members, but the following year it doubled in size and became known as the "Marching 12." During its brief history, the band won top honors in several contests and festivals and it was the first organization to bring a trophy into the school.

During the 1965-1966 school year Beck High School had both a football and basketball team. The next year track and baseball were added, and in the 1967-1968 school year two junior varsity teams began in basketball and football. Beck participated as a AAA conference school in 1968 with its basketball team that year becoming the Class AAA State Runner-up team.

The Panther, Beck's yearbook, was published in the spring of 1966. It continued during the following years under the leadership of various faculty members and student staffs. In 1968 the school added a completely equipped dark room and developing lab to its facilities. This was a great advantage to the yearbook staff since the audiovisuals director of Beck was engaged to take and develop all the pictures to be used for the yearbook.

J. E. Beck High School was always a forward looking institution, seeking to improve the quality and the quantity of the education available for its students. Each year there were improvements made in the school's facilities and in the courses offered. In its second year, Beck added for its students courses in band, art, auto mechanics, masonry, industrial art, trigonometry, shorthand, comparative government, advanced typing, and advanced cosmetology. In the 1967-1968 school year, Beck began offering a program in health education led by the school nurse. Further additions included courses in Spanish, business math, economics, and journalism. Later courses were added in developmental and remedial reading, driver education, office practice, speech, sociology, string music, advanced French and Spanish, business math, economics, and journalism.

During this time, school accreditation was not the only thought in the minds of the faculty and administration of Beck. They were becoming aware of national and local concern over the problem of school integration. Before 1967-1968 there were no white personnel at Beck. Preferring to achieve integration on a voluntary basis, Beck's staff began working toward another goal - integration of school personnel. In the fall of 1967, a part-time school nurse who was white was employed. In February of 1968 a white social studies teacher was added. Then, in the fall of 1968, Beck's staff included eleven white persons, all of who were employed before district pressures were placed on schools to have them integrate their faculties. This achievement was the outstanding one in the integration of school faculties in the state of South Carolina.

Beck's history was relatively short, having seen only four years of operation, but the advances the school made in its educational program and in the programs of the district and the state in such a short time had been remarkable. If past performance and effort could have been continued within the school and coupled by full administrative and financial support from the School District of Greenville County, Joseph E. Beck High School could not help but have become one of the outstanding high schools of South Carolina.



❖ *25th Anniversary* ❖

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES

of

The Great and Legendary

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Est. 1962 thru 1970

The former High School is now
Washington Center

The Blue and Red Falcons



Washington High Falcons

25th Anniversary
HALL OF FAME

ALFRED LEAMON



EDDIE JONES



MARY ANN BROOKS



ROSALIND G. BRYANT



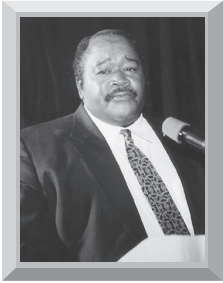
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WILMA WATTS



EUGENE TATE



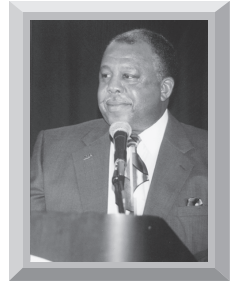
BENNY L. SMITH



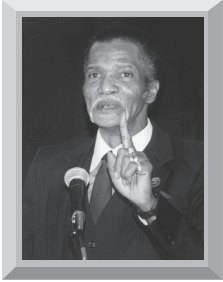
HILLIARD G. GLENN



LEON FERGUSON



JOHN DOUGLAS JONES



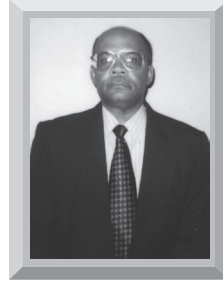
DR. JESSIE M.S. REEVES



PEGGY ADAMS ROBINSON



JESSE E. ALLEN, JR.



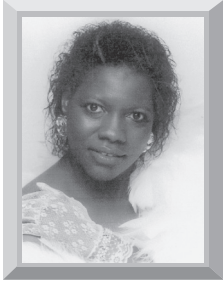
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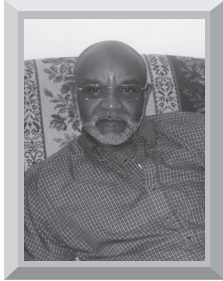
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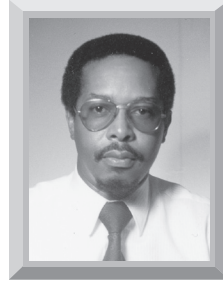
ESTHER FLEMING ROBINSON



BOB POOLE



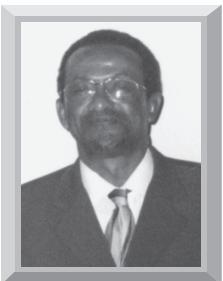
DAN AVERY



ABBIE ODELL COLLINS



EUGENE CLEVELAND



LEROY LEWIS



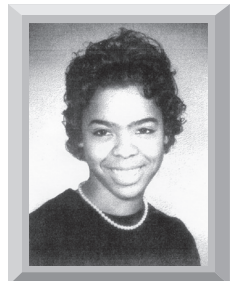
SHIRLEY "FAYE" FOWLER WILSON



BRENDA MCBEE SCOTT



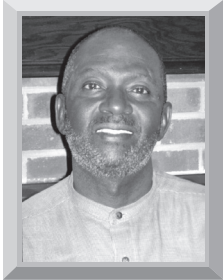
ETHEL TAYLOR



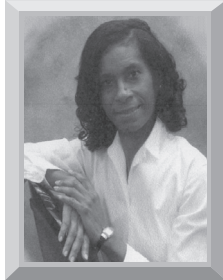
25th Anniversary

HALL OF FAME

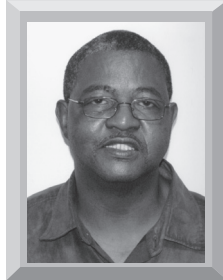
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SIMONE DEVLIN



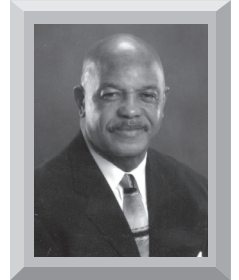
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LINDA BRUTON MAYES



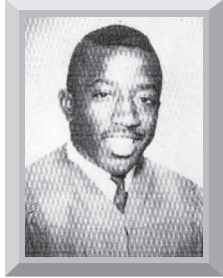
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CLARECEE PETERS SCHELL



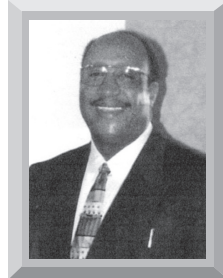
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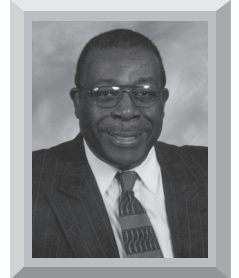
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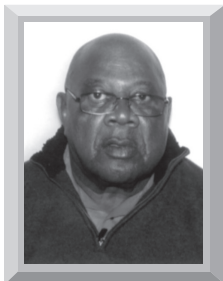
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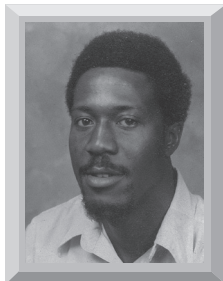
RAYFORD NANCE



GEORGE DAVIS



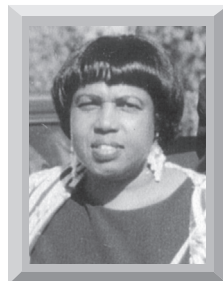
HORACE R. ANDERSON



BIRDIE LEE BEATY



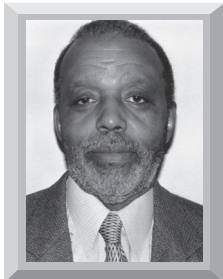
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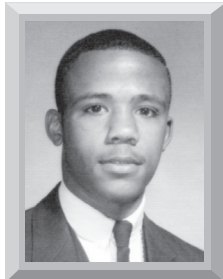
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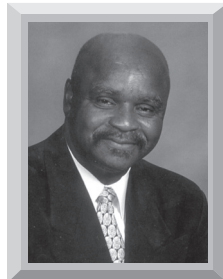
JAMES SMITH



MARSHALL ALLEN



CALVIN POOLE



CHRISTINE PEARSON



VARDREY E. FLEMING, SR.



WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL



A History of Washington High School

1961-1970

Originally called "Happy Hearts" elementary and high school, it was later officially named Washington Elementary and High. In 1971, the building was abandoned as an elementary and high school. For many years afterwards it served as a school providing special education services for handicapped children. The building is currently unoccupied.



25th Anniversary

The first to graduate was the 1961-1962 class and the last to graduate was the 1968-1969 class. In January of 1970 students from Washington would integrate into other schools in Greenville County as would many of the Teachers and Administrators. Mr. J. Wilbur Walker was the Principal and Mr. Jesse C. Beck would serve as Assistant Principal.

Washington was the last of the 17 school projects to be completed in 1961. It replaced the old Brutontown School and was built to take some of the load from Sterling High School. Some students came from nearby Lincoln High School. Originally Washington had 36 teaching stations, including 14 elementary and 22 high school classrooms. It was planned for 1020 students. In addition to the traditional studies, the school provided classes for drafting/ welding, industrial arts and auto mechanics. Later, additions would be made to the school to expand the elementary and high school areas and completion of new sections to accommodate classrooms for music, cosmetology and electronics. Long after the school closed, many continued to achieve much in life built on the education and skills taught and learned at Washington. Also, the school had an Adult Education Program designed to help adults take their places adequately in a complex society.

The school served the surrounding communities and the people of the communities took even greater pride in serving and supporting Washington High School. A PTA was quickly organized to promote child welfare, to raise the standards of living, to secure legislation/ and to develop intelligent co-operation between parents and teachers in meeting the children's needs. Organizers moved quickly to adopt the School Alma Mater, to select a Mascot/ and to choose the original school colors as red and gray. Later/ the school would use a combination of red, white/ and blue. Another purpose for the building was for it to be designed in anticipation of use as a community center. Years later it was briefly used as a summer recreational facility. During the early years parents made some of the Cheerleading and Majorette uniforms and helped in other ways to outfit the Band until uniforms could be purchased.



Many teachers and students have gone on to many noteworthy accomplishments after Washington officially closed. While at Washington, Eddie Jones served as coach, teacher, athletic director and department head. Coach Jones was inducted into the First Piedmont Association Athletic Hall Of Fame in 1992. He would become the first head football coach at Eastside High School and later would serve as both Assistant Principal and Principal. Throughout his career in the Greenville County School District he would serve as a motivator and demonstrate a degree of caring and understanding of the problems many of the students faced because of their environment and economic conditions. In 1989 he was nominated for the William B. Harley Administrator of the Year for Outstanding School Administrators. Reverend James W. Johnson taught English and Social Studies at Washington High School in addition to being Director of Student Activities, Advisor to the Student Council, and Chairman of Homecoming parade and activities. Reverend Johnson retired as a Guidance Counselor from the Greenville County School District with 30 years of service. He was given Special Recognition by the PAA in 2009 for his achievements and outstanding service.

Dr. Margaree Crosby taught elementary school at Washington and her adult years have been filled with achievements. She was a full professor of reading and language arts at Clemson University. She received the first South Carolina Women of Achievement award given by the Miss South Carolina Pageant and she was the first female of any race to be appointed to the Greenville Hospital Board of Trustees. Dr. Crosby was a pioneer of the civil rights era. She was one of several students whose protest led to the integration of the Greenville County Public Library System.

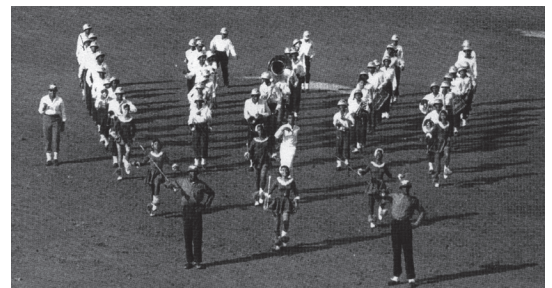
In its brief existence Washington would excel in several sports. Boys competed in Football, Baseball, Basketball and Track and the girls competed and participated in Basketball, Track and Cheerleading. The 1968-69 Falcons would reach the pinnacle of success by winning the State 1A Football Championship with victories over schools in North Carolina and South Carolina. Also, two members of the Mighty Falcons Football Team, Roy Kirksey and Willie Belton attended Maryland State University and later played in the National Football League. The Girls Basketball Team captured the 1965-1966 District AA Championship.

From the beginning until the final days of operation Washington had Great Marching and Concert Bands under the direction of Mr. Cleodis Brown. The band participated in several Christmas and Homecoming Parades. One member of the band, James Thompson (class of 67-68), was one of three students from South Carolina invited to participate in the Macy's Day Parade held annually in New York.

If you happen to drive past Washington High School on a cool autumn Friday night near the vicinity of Poinsett Highway, Rutherford Road, or Pleasantburg, and you look and listen closely, you might see the bright lights and hear:

Oh Red and Blue you look so good to me!

Fly Strong, Fly High, Fly Proud, MIGHTY FALCONS!



The Marching Falcons

❖ *25th Anniversary* ❖

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES

of

The Great and Legendary

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

Est. 1955 thru 1970

The former High School is now
Foothills Vocational Center

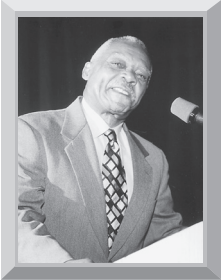
The Green and Gold Rattlers



Lincoln High Rattlers

25th Anniversary
HALL OF FAME

DEWEY TULLIS



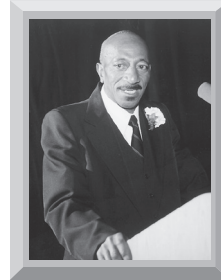
TOMMIE ANDERSON BROOKS



MARVIN DRUMMOND



EDDIE L. DRUMMOND



CONNIE MAYFIELD WILLIAMS



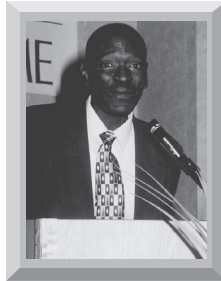
JOHN McCARROLL



ALENE BENNETT BAETY



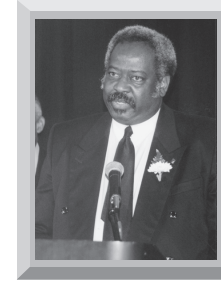
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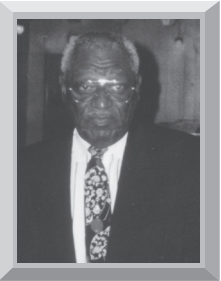
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EMANUEL MONROE



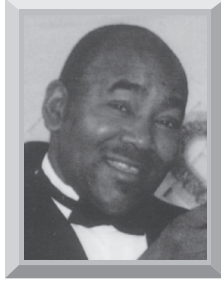
THOMAS M. WILLIAMS



BETTY WASHINGTON GOLDEN



RICHARD BYRD



LULA YEARGIN WILLIAMS



WILLIE B. KIRKSEY



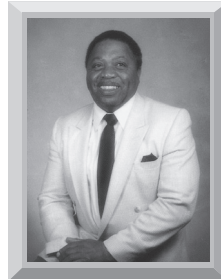
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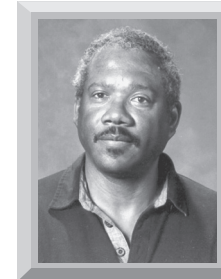
ROBBIE LORETTA SULLIVAN THOMPSON NANCY JOYCE FREEMAN WILLIAMS BROWN



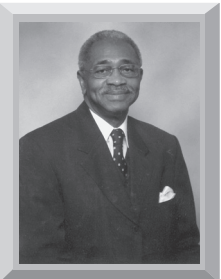
CLARENCE CLINE



WILLIAM GASTON FLEMING



WENDELL L. THOMPSON



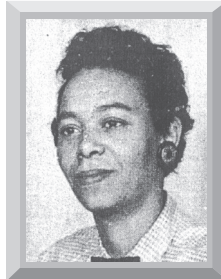
FERRIA MALENDIA LAKE GOODWIN



SMILEY COX



DORIS HEARD FOWLER



ELIZABETH BENETT SMITH

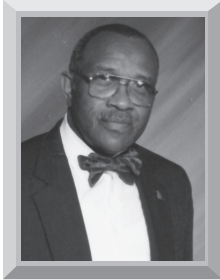


LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

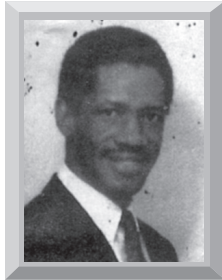


25th Anniversary
HALL OF FAME

LAMAR RUDY PEARSON



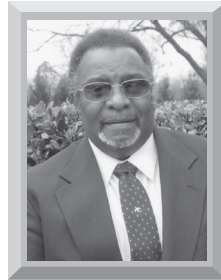
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MARGARETT GREGORY TURNER



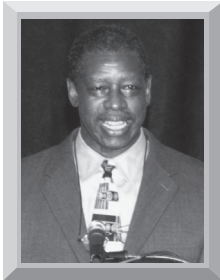
EUGENE G. BENSON



SHIRLEY GREER FULTON



WILLIE WOOTEN



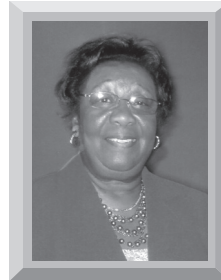
CLARENCE MOODY, JR.



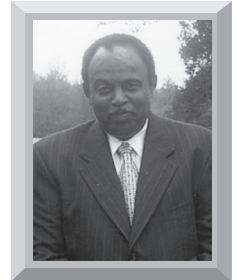
LULA BELL MURRIEL ANDERSON



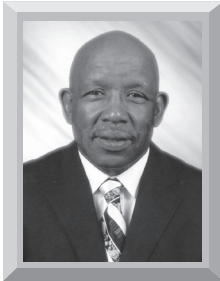
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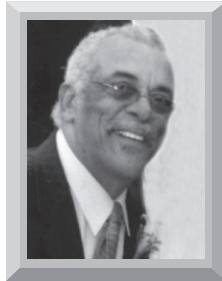
JIMMY DAWKINS



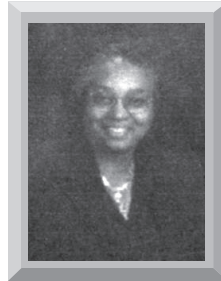
HUBBIE PRINCE, JR.



GENE BROADUS



ANNIE BELL HUNTER



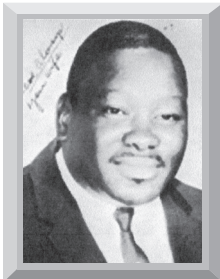
FRANKIE E. WHITESIDE



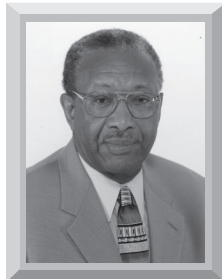
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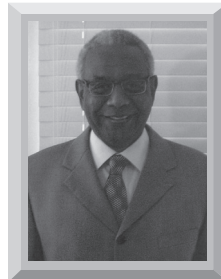
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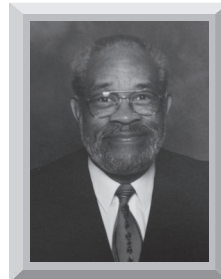
RICHARD B. CARSON



HARRY ANDERSON



REGINALD D. PEARSON



LEE COX



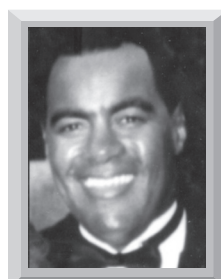
CORA DICKEY



JERELEAN BENNETT



EALTHON PERRY "BUTCH" SMITH



GAIL WRIGHT BLUE



DANIEL "BIG HAWK" HAWKINS



LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL



25th Anniversary

HALL OF FAME

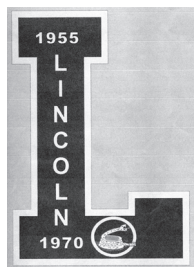
A History of Lincoln High School

1954 - 1970

In the fall of September 1955, Lincoln High School opened its doors for education. It was the only school that offered grades 1-12. The land was owned by Mrs. Daisy Gray Thompson and Robert Anderson. The school served the community proudly for 15 years. At the end of 1970 the doors closed on Lincoln High for good.

School color: Green and Gold (1956)

Mascot: The Rattler, a product of Mr. Nathaniel Hartman patterned after Florida A&M. The name Rattler is a symbol of power and beauty, both of which was found at Lincoln.



R-Readiness
A-Ability
T-Truthfulness
T-Tnacity
L-Loyalty
E-Eagerness
R-Reliability
S-Service

LINCOLN INDUCTEES

1992

Thomas Williams
Dewey Tullis

1996

John McCarrol

1997

Alene Patricia Bennett Baety
Walter "Walt" McCray, Jr.

1998

Bobby Jones
Constance Williams

1999

Tommie Anderson Brooks
Eddie L. Drummond
Marvin Drummond

2001

Betty Washington Golden
Richard "Gist" Bird
Emanuel Munroe

2002

Lula Yeargin-Williams
Willie B. Kirksey

2003

Charles Dawkins
Robbie Loretta Sullivan Thompson

2004

Nancy Freeman Brown
Clarence Cline

2005

William Gaston Fleming
Wendall Thompson, Sr.

2006

Smiley Cox
Ferria Malenda Lake Goodwin

2007

Doris Heard Fowler
Elizabeth Bennett Smith

2008

Rudy Larmar Pearson
William "Casey" Drummond

2009

Shirley Greer Fulton
Margaret Gregory Turner
Eugene G. Benson

2010

Peggy Munroe
Lula Murriel Anderson
Clarence "Sonny" Moody

2011

Jimmy Dawkins
Hubbie Prince, Jr.
Gene Broadus

2012

Annie Bell Hunter
Frankie E. Whiteside
Sandra Anderson Williams

2013

Richard Carson
Reginald Pearson
Harry Anderson

2014

Jerelean Bennett
Lee Cox
Cora Wood Dickey

2015

Ealthon Perry "Butch" Smith
Gail Wright Blue
Daniel "Big Hawk" Hawkins

❖ *25th Anniversary* ❖

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES

of
The Great and Legendary
BRYSON HIGH SCHOOL
Est. 1954 thru 1970

The former High School is now
torn down and
Bryson Middle sits on its campus

The Maroon and Gold Hurricanes

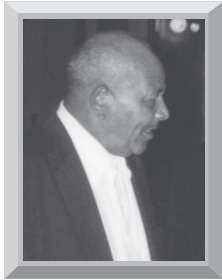


Bryson High Hurricanes

25th Anniversary

HALL OF FAME

AL DUCKETT



QUEEN BERRY BRAILEY



FRED A. DEAN



ERNEST M. BROCK



NANCY D. PINCKNEY



EARL DANIELS



PAULINE WILLIAMS YOUNG



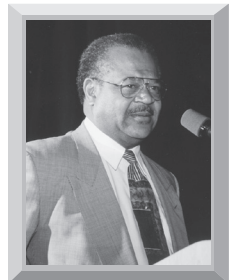
EZELL SULLIVAN



JOHN B. HALLUMS



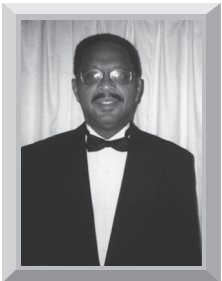
HAROLD W. SULLIVAN



CLARA ETTA KILGORE



WILLIE L. STEPHENS



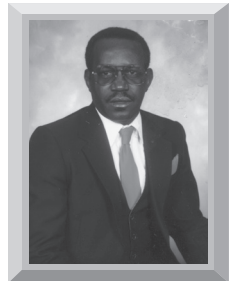
BETTY S. SULLIVAN



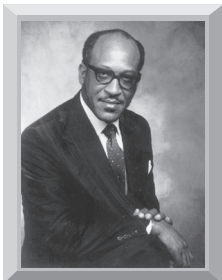
BETTY MEEKINS TARRANT



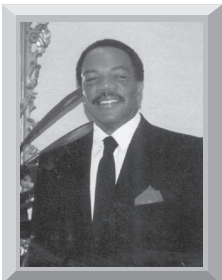
WILLIE BOYD



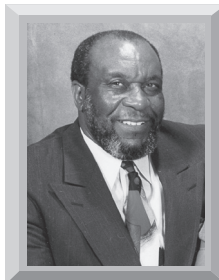
GRADY R. COOLEY



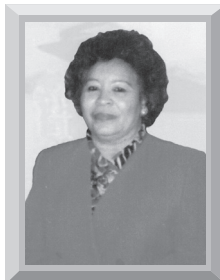
RODGER LEWIS BURTON, SR.



GEORGE LEE STODDARD



YVONNE BERRY TAYLOR



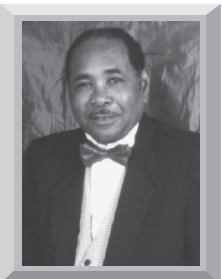
DAVID SHARPERSON



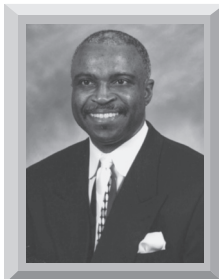
EMANUEL SULLIVAN



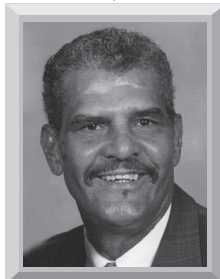
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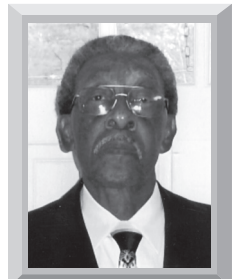
WILLIE MARION CHANDLER



REXELL JACKSON



WILLIE LEE HENDERSON

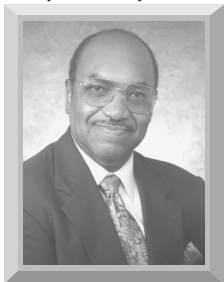


BRYSON HIGH SCHOOL

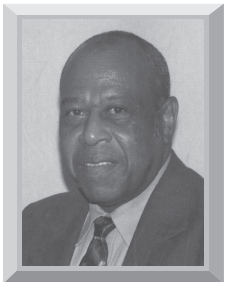


25th Anniversary
HALL OF FAME

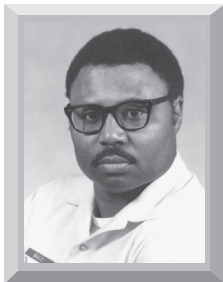
REV. JAMES W. JOHNSON



VIRGIL L. SULLIVAN



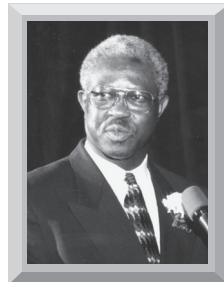
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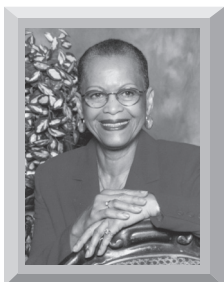
WILLIAM HENRY McELRATH



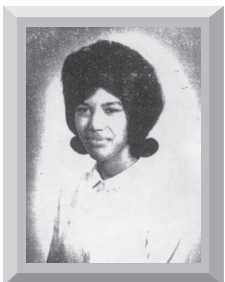
TALMEDGE GRAY



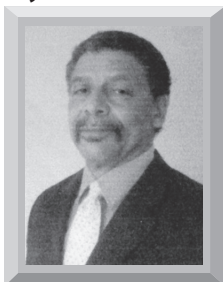
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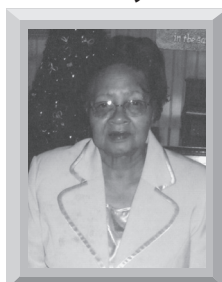
JOAN ELAINE BRYSON PEARSON



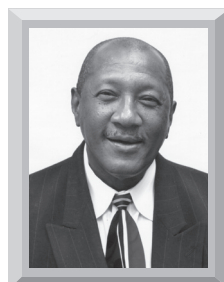
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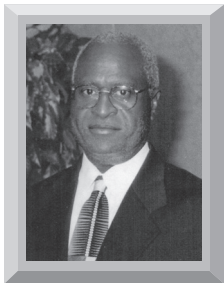
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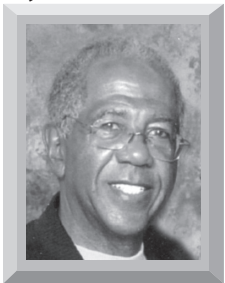
FREDDIE MICHAEL DONALD



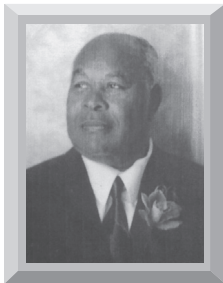
HAROLD CHANDLER



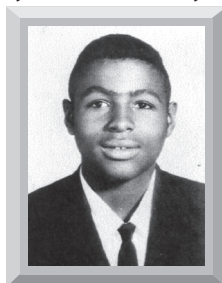
JEROME SUMMERS



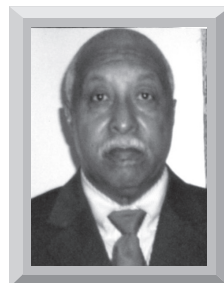
MENTON BERRY



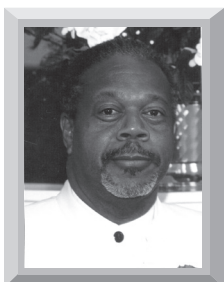
JAMES E. SIMMONS, JR.



WILLIAM DAVIS DIAL



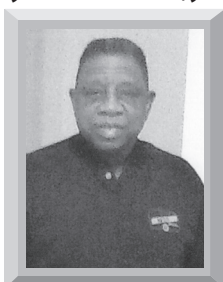
WILKERSON D. SULLIVAN



BOBBIE J. GOLDSMITH



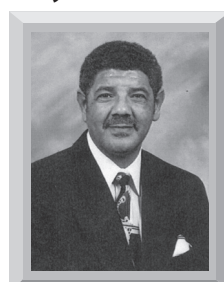
JAMES W. MEEKINS, JR.



ANNIE L. DOGAN SMITH McCLINTON



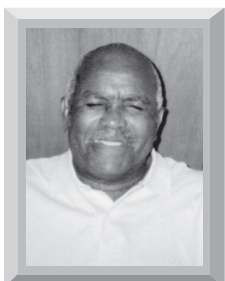
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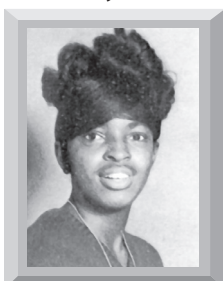
IDA BENNON VALENTINE



RICKEY L. BOLDEN



LAURA J. YOUNG



BRYSON HIGH SCHOOL



25th Anniversary



A History of Bryson High School 1954 - 1970

In 1868 the South Carolina General Assembly enacted legislation providing for a state superintendent of education, who would be elected biennially, and who would have general supervision of the state's public school system. The act by the General Assembly wisely put the people of Greenville County in control by providing that a commissioner of education in each county be elected by popular vote, along with a local board of trustees for each school district.

The people of Greenville County elected a county commissioner of education biennially until 1896 following the action of the general assembly. It is interesting to note that the city of Greenville did not establish a free school system until 18 years after the General Assembly enacted legislation providing for a state superintendent of education. Mr. A. D. Asbury, in his paper, "The Little Red Schoolhouse," dated March, 1961 stated that the first public school system was established in Greenville on May 3, 1866, with school board composed of five members, one of who was black (S. S. Thompson).

It might also be interesting to mention briefly that some two years before the action by the General Assembly, black people in Greenville County had begun efforts to establish the first private school for their children. Their efforts were led by a black man from the lower part of the state named Charles Hopkins. An ordained minister, Hopkins raised \$300 from among black and white citizens of Greenville County and purchased a storehouse that was no longer needed by the army. He later took a three-year lease on land that was located on the outskirts of Greenville and build a schoolhouse there from materials taken from the abandoned army storehouse. (Asa H. Gordon, *Sketches of Negro Life and History in South Carolina*, Univ. of SC Press, 1971, p. 103).

Correspondence between Hopkins and various officers of the Freedmen's Bureau indicated that the school's enrollment eventually reached 300, and the school's staff grew to five, including two white teachers. The school started by the black man is believed to have become Allen Elementary School and was taken in the city school system.

Annual reports of the state superintendent of education in 1870 Greenville County had seventy-eight free common schools with an enrollment of 2,060 white pupils and 597 'colored' pupils. By 1878 the county reported 136 schools with an enrollment of 5,274 white and 2,697 black pupils.

- the previous information came from Dr. J. Floyd Hall's *Highlights of Education in Greenville County: 1811 to 1975*.

Upon the recommendation of the John's Survey that a study be made of school facilities for the Greenville County and outlying attendance areas of surrounding counties, Englehardt, Englehardt and Leggett was employed to make a study of the building needs to accommodate the school district. This study recommended that two high schools for Negroes be established outside the city of Greenville and that one would serve the lower part of our county. It was recommended that this school be located in about the center of the area which it would serve.

The administrative staff and board of education Greenville County began to seek a location for a high school in the lower part of the county. After considering several locations, the present site was selected because of the utilities that were available on what is known as the "Golden Strip." The school was located off State Highway 14 between Simpsonville and Fountain Inn. The school was named by the County Board of Education for the late Joseph Raleigh Bryson, who served as a United States Representative from this Congressional District from January 3, 1939 to March 10, 1953.

Bryson High School opened its doors for the first time on Sept. 3, 1954. Five hundred and sixty-seven students were enrolled in grades seven through twelve. This enrollment represented a combination of five small inadequate high schools that served this area. Growth in student population made it necessary in the fall of 1958 to have only grades eight through twelve. The feeder schools were Bryson, Burgess, Laurel Creek, and Morton.

In 1954 in Greenville County, there were four high schools serving the African American population. Lincoln High served the upper part of Greenville County, Sterling and Washington High served the city of Greenville, and Bryson served the lower part of the county. Beck High School was later added in 1966 to serve the Fieldcrest and Nicholtown areas.

Bryson High School was built fully equipped with a gymnasium, auditorium, administrative area, vocational, agriculture and industrial education shops, three home economics laboratories, two science laboratories, music room, cafeteria, business laboratory and library with modern furniture and equipment in all these areas. The adopted mascot was the Hurricane and the school's newspaper was officially named *The Hurricane Times*.

The late Dr. A.M. Anderson served as principal during the entire existence of Bryson High School's 14.5 year history. Known by many names: "Chief", "Prof", "Mr. or Dr. Anderson", this man was the school's leader. He inspired his students and his teachers to become the best that they could. During his tenure, students were encouraged to think of high school as a stepping stone to greater heights. The evidence

❖ 25th Anniversary ❖

can be found in the many directions students took in positions of leadership in their diverse fields. Not only have Brysonians become good citizens, but also teachers, preachers, musicians, medical doctors, educational doctors, lawyers, business professionals, service men and women, and areas beyond. Much of this success can be attributed to the inspiration of Dr. Anderson. When integration of schools occurred in 1970, the teachers from Bryson who were placed in other schools were most often the holders of Master's degrees in the schools to which they were assigned. From Bryson High eight teachers became principals, five became assistant principals, one became Associate Superintendent for Greenville County Schools and one became State Supervisor of Librarians. All of these person give credit to Dr. Anderson for inspiring them to a professionalism that caused their promotions.

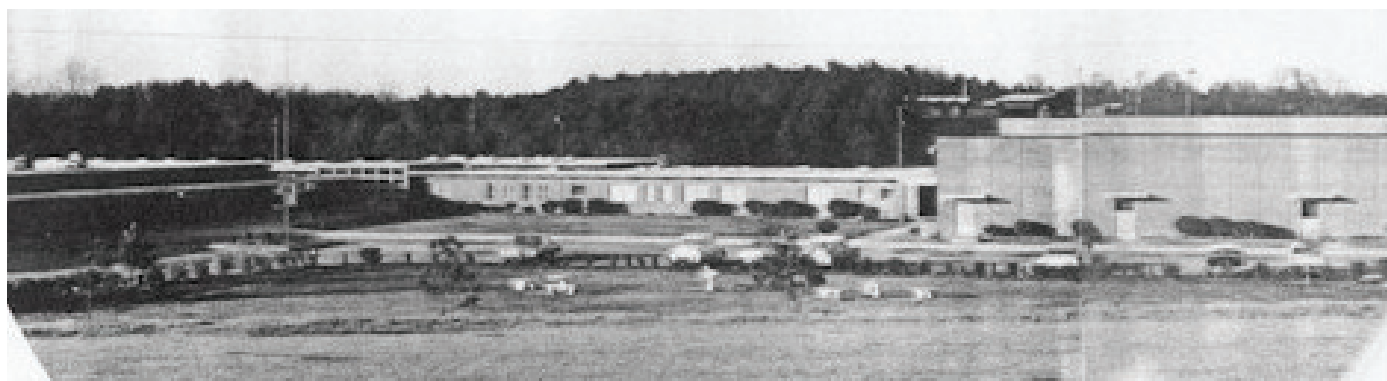
The school was staffed with qualify educators, who were dedicated to their profession. This all Black school represented an outstanding part of the Fountain Inn and surrounding Black communities. Graduating over 1,000 students, instilling in them self motivation, a will to succeed, and a challenge to improve upon the quality of life for all Black Americans. Making Bryson High School a proud chapter of the Black American History.

As a direct result of the 1960s civil rights movement for a racial equality and a right to a quality education in this country, the United States Supreme Court in the winter of 1969 ruled that "Segregation of public schools in unconstitutional" and "Separate but Equal" does not work. The Supreme Court ordered that all public schools be desegregated in this country, and the school district of Greenville County, South Carolina be the first to comply with this court order, with implementation beginning by spring of 1970.

In the spring of 1970 Bryson High School ceased to exist as a high school. All students enrolled except for 9th and 12th graders were transferred to Hillcrest of Woodmont High, both tradition all white high schools. The seniors were allowed to graduate from Bryson, making the class of 1970 the last graduating class of Bryson High School.

With emphases on high standards of education, social behavior and a belief in God as the creator was a positive image set and executed by parents and faculty, giving Bryson High Alumni Family a proud tradition of winning during school years and after graduation. The success of these efforts are given proof by the outstanding accomplishments of individual alumnus in their various professions, as they continue to achieve goals that were inspired at Bryson High. Today Bryson remains a s a middle school, but the Joseph R. Bryson High School Hurricane spirit will remain forever carved in the page of a proud history.

Materials from this article reprinted from the 1993 Bryson Alumni Association Souvenir



❖ *25th Anniversary* ❖

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES

of
The Great and Legendary
STERLING HIGH SCHOOL
Est. 1896

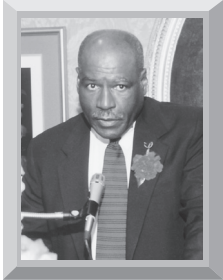
The former High School was destroyed by fire in 1967 and moved to the old Greenville Junior High building until 1970. The original Gym still stands and is regularly used today for all types of community activities and games

The Blue and White Tigers

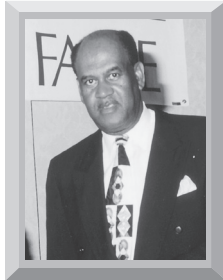


25th Anniversary
HALL OF FAME

LEROY GREGGS



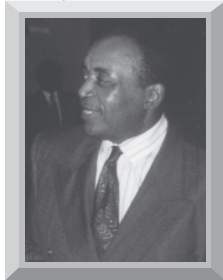
RICHARD KERNS



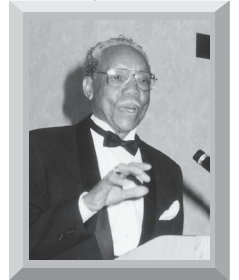
RUBY JONES



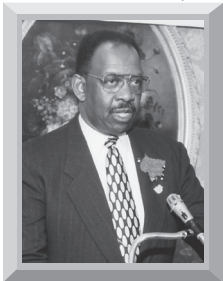
JOE MATHIS



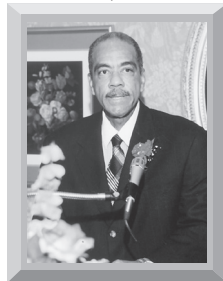
WILFRED J. WALKER, SR.



IRVIN THOMPSON, JR.



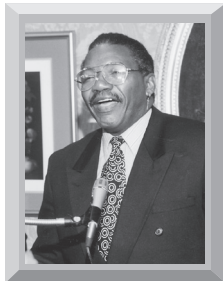
PETE JONES



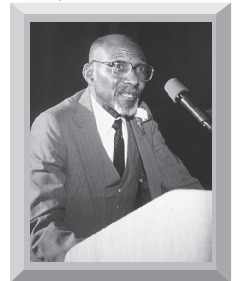
AGNES DAVIS YOUNG



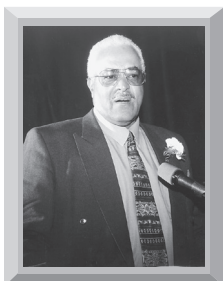
NATHANIAL BOSTON



JAMES SMITH



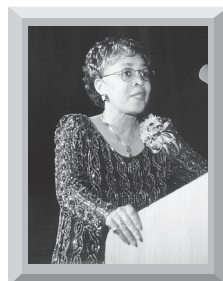
WILLIAM H. CLEMENT



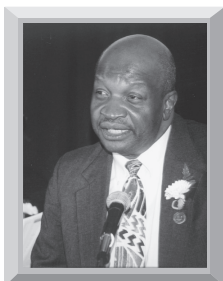
ELEANOR T. BECK



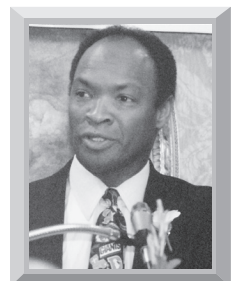
MARY PINSON CORNER



OWEN PERKINS



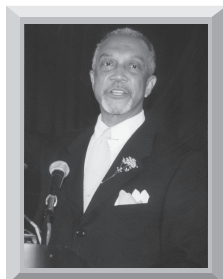
WILLIAM BILL THOMPSON



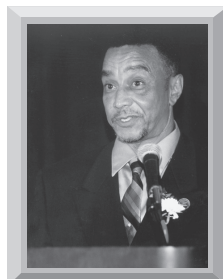
IDA MAE EVANS FLEMING



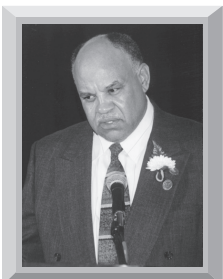
THEO W. MITCHELL



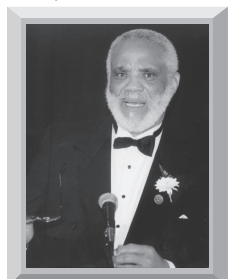
DAVID SAMUEL DONALD



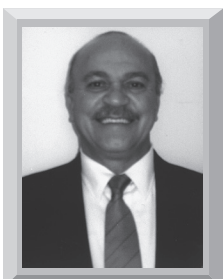
EUGENE HARRISON



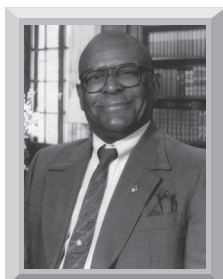
JOHN GAMBLE



JOHN MELVIN AMBERCROMBIE



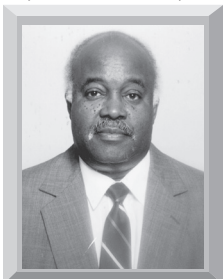
HERMAN BUTLER



O'DELL HARRISON



JOHN WILLIAMS, JR.



GEORGE ALVIN McELRATH

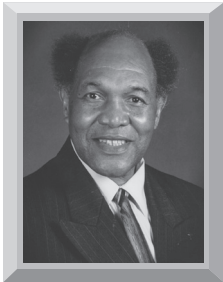


STERLING HIGH SCHOOL

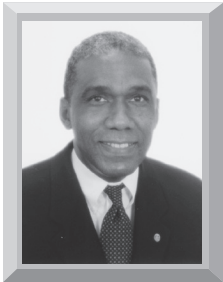


25th Anniversary
HALL OF FAME

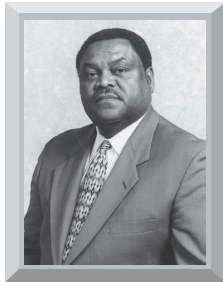
THOMAS BARKSDALE



R.C. GAMBLE



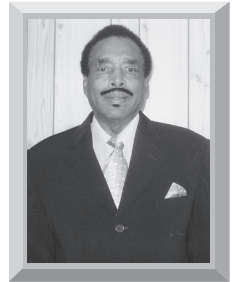
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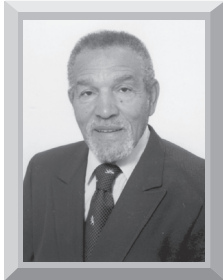
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ERNEST JONES



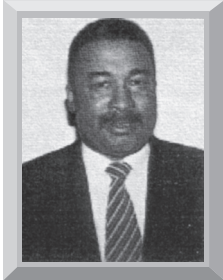
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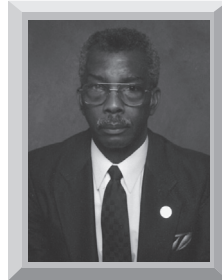
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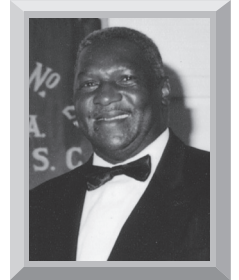
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JOHNNY E. POOLE



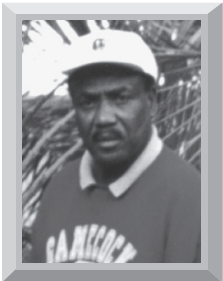
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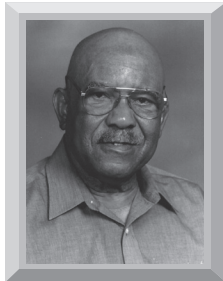
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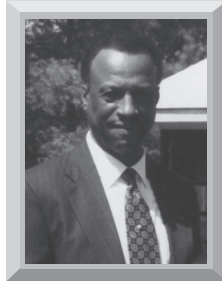
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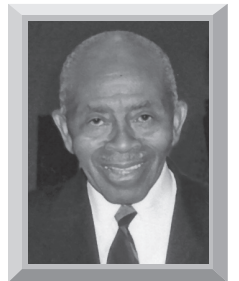
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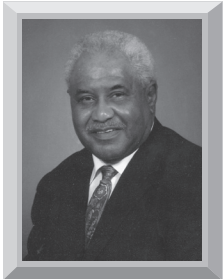
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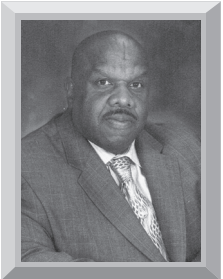
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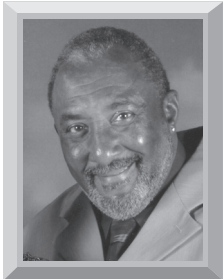
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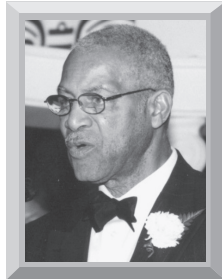
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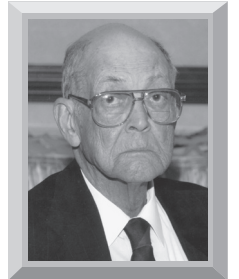
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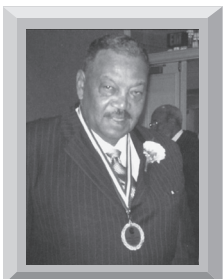
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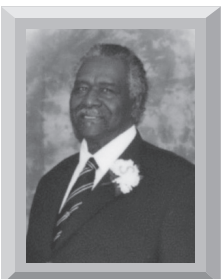
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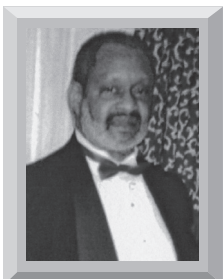
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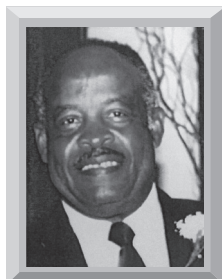
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MELVIN GALLOWAY



JOE MELVIN PERKINS



GRACIE W. CHESTNUT



STERLING HIGH SCHOOL

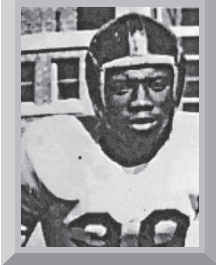


25th Anniversary
HALL OF FAME

GENICE McIVER THOMPSON



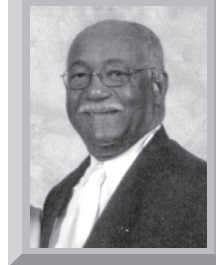
FRANK "RABBIT" JOHNSON



THELMA W. MIKE-PINSON



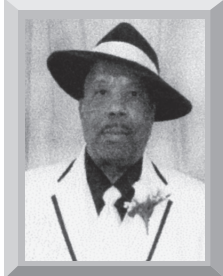
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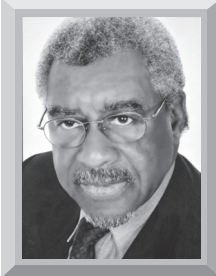
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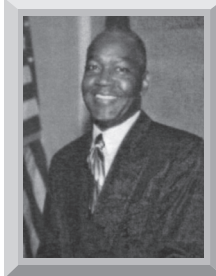
RICHARD CURRY



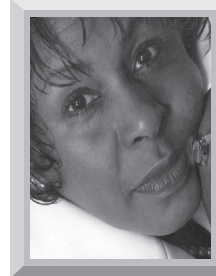
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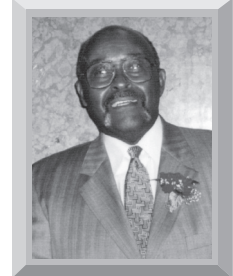
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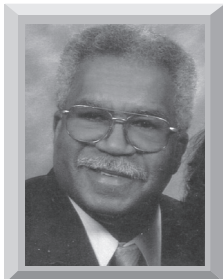
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ELLIE O. JOHNSON, JR.



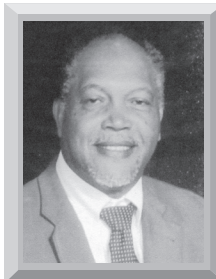
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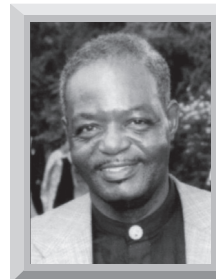
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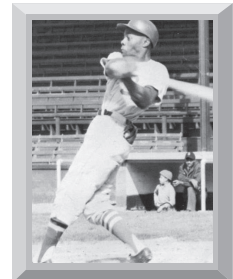
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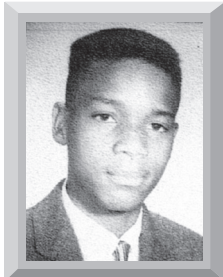
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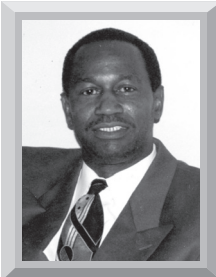
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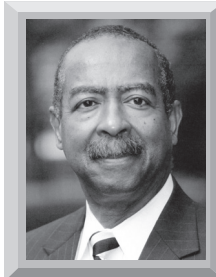
J.C. STARKS



CHARLES E. MCNEIL



KEITH BARKSDALE



STERLING HIGH SCHOOL



25th Anniversary

HALL OF FAME

SPECIAL LEGACY, HISTORY & CULTURE TRIBUTE: *Remembering The Historical Olde Black High Schools*

Sterling High School: *The triumphant story of Greenville County's first black public high school*

By Ruth Ann Butler

The record of Sterling High School, Greenville County's first predominately Black high school, is that of struggle and triumph. It covers a period of nearly seventy-five years. The story of Sterling began in the early 1890's, when the Rev. D.M. Minus was appointed to the pastorate of John Wesley Church in Greenville, the beginning of a great work.



REV. D.M. MINUS

Church needed a new brick building; and (2) the children needed a high school in Greenville so they could prepare for life's duties without leaving their hometown.

Several churches in Greenville waited for Rev. Minus to establish the high school. Finally an educational association was organized. Each member was assessed a certain amount, an attorney was employed, and then a petition was presented to the Secretary of State asking for the privilege to establish such an institution.

After the charter was received from the Secretary of State in October of 1896, the trustees made arrangements with the officers of

John Wesley Church to open the school in the lecture room of the church. Rev. D.M. Minus was elected president of the new school called Greenville Academy.

It continued in the lecture room for two years, after which the school got too large for the room, and the trustees of the school bought the church. The church invested money from the sale to build their new brick building on Falls Street. Finally in 1902, the trust-



(Photo courtesy of Greenville Cultural Exchange Center, via www.hereahigh.org)
A view of Sterling High School, as it existed in the 1960s.

ees decided to sell the church property on Silver Hill and purchase land for the school outside the city limits. Mr. B.M. McGee agreed to sell six acres of land, and Rev. Minus had to pay down a certain amount to secure the land until he could get the help and cooperation of the

trustees. Different individuals made donations. For example, Mr. James Maxwell gave \$5.00 to help meet the first payment. Rev. Minus suggested the names of other good and influential white men, who, he thought,

continued on page 12

Jump/continuation of Sterling High School story

would accept a place on the board. Every man that he recommended accepted. Finally, he had seven of the best white businessmen in Greenville on his Board of Trustees. Minus said that these white men taught him more practical business sense than he ever had. Mr. James H. Maxwell was his endorser at the bank for twenty-five years. He assessed himself \$20.00 per year for the school and also had the black trustees assess themselves.

Mr. Thomas F. Parker made the largest donation to the school. He erected a splendid two-story building, which was worth \$2,500, and gave the school a fine mule at \$250. He also secured aid for the institution and had his bookkeeper teach Rev. Minus bookkeeping and how to balance the accounts of the institution each week. Additionally, he sent the president to Tuskegee Institute in Alabama and a school in Durham, North Carolina, to see and study the methods of those great schools.

Mr. Parker also bought several acres of land around the school and divided it into lots and streets. He named the streets for the President and Founder of the school, and also

for the leading black men on the Board of Trustees. Today, these are Sterling, Middleton, Minus, Malloy, and Valentine Streets. Parker sold the property only to black people, and gave them five to ten years to pay for it; this created a complete town consisting entirely of blacks.

Mr. C.E. Graham was elected chairman of the finance committee. He donated \$100 to the school. For eight to 10 years he served as one of the white trustees of the school. Another influential trustee was Captain James F. Mackey. Recognized as one of the most useful members of the board of trustees, he not only gave his time and experience to this institution, but also his influence, his means, and his best talent to help make the school a success. Every year he donated \$25 to the institution.

Mr. T. O. Lawton, the youngest member of the board of trustees, was by no means the least. He donated \$10 to the school annually. Mr. T.P. Hayne was one of the most intelligent members of the board. For several years he was the secretary of the Board of Trustees for the City Graded Schools, and per-

haps was the most influential man on the board. Mr. W.G. Serrine, Attorney, also rendered priceless aid to the institution.

The black trustees were: Rev. D.M. Minus, President; Rev. J.B. Middleton, Chairman of the Board donated \$280; Rev. N.D. Maloy (\$150); Rev. W.G. Valentine (\$10); Mr. A.B. Davis (\$20); Mr. W.R. Sewell (\$10); Mr. T.J. Bryant (\$15); Mr. J.F. Cureton (\$5); Mr. J.W. Johnson (\$10); Mr. T.B. Simpson (\$10); Mr. A. Tolbert and Mr. Jones W. Thomas (\$20).

Several names were suggested for the school. But finally it was voted to call it Sterling Industrial College in honor of Mrs. E.R. Sterling of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., the lady who paid for Rev. Minus's college education at Claflin University in Orangeburg, South Carolina. Rev. Minus said, "Mrs. Sterling was a great woman and she deserved all of the honor we could bestow upon her for it will take eternity to tell the good she has accomplished for the uplift and elevation of suffering humanity." Mrs. Sterling was consulted and finally agreed to have the school named for her, and she gave the first

donation of \$75.00. At this time she was 87 years of age.

The original building was designed and constructed by Mr. W.R. "William" Sewell, one of Greenville's leading black contractors. Later, it was remodeled, with additions, and a building especially designed for trades was added to the plant.

With such worthy men as Rev. Minus's associates and co-workers, the institution continued to progress. Rev. D.M. Minus will always be remembered as the first founder and president.

Due to the school's growth, Rev. Minus was asked to give up his ministerial work and devote all his time to the school at a salary of \$50 per month. He did this until November, 1913, when he resigned the presidency and returned to ministerial work. He was succeeded by President Carey Jones. When he accepted another position, Sterling was forced to close for a short period.

In 1915, the Enoree River Bap-

continued on page 37

Jump/continuation of Sterling High School story

tist Association had bought four acres of land in the City of Greenville with a nine-room building, an orchard and city water. They changed the name to Enoree High School and the Rev. E.C. Murray became the president, with the Rev. E.E. Riley of Seneca, S.C. the first principal. It was a boarding school and had a very successful beginning. His successor, Professor E.H. Trezevant, was the principal in 1929. This school was operated for 14 years.

In 1929, when the School District of Greenville County purchased the building for \$2,518.39 and changed the name back to Sterling High School. Sterling was the first black public high school in the county. The board elected J.C. Martin as principal. He remained only one school term. In September, 1930, he was succeeded by Professor Robert L. Hickson, who caught the same vision as its founder. Under his 10-year leadership term, the reputation of the school was widely acclaimed, and the physical plant was expanded. The name Sterling High School became quite prominent throughout the country. During his administration the famous Alma Mater was written.

From 1940 to 1960, Professor J.E. Beck from Georgetown, SC served as principal of Sterling. During his tenure, in 1949 the grades were extended from 11 to 12 years. The curriculum was broadened to include many trade courses. An extensive physical education program and various branches of science and secretarial training were added. The Torch, Sterling's high school yearbook, was first published in 1942, and a newsletter, named The Pinta, would be added later. Sterling was admitted to the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges in 1953.

Going to the famous "Huddle" (Soda Shop) became the pastime after school for the students. The football games were played at Serrine Stadium, and all baseball games and track meets took place at the Meadowbrook Park.

Sterling, known as the Tigers, became classified as an "AAA" school and won many championships and awards in all areas of the educational system. The Male Glee Club and Quartet were active from



1941 Sterling High School Mid-term Graduation Class

(Photo courtesy of Greenville Cultural Exchange Center, via www.bereahigh.org)

1935-1960, under the direction of Wilfred J. Walker, Sr. Singers from Sterling often won scholarships to college because of their talent.

In 1960, Rev. H.O. Mims became principal of Sterling. He was truly a home-grown product, having been a student, teacher, assistant principal, and then principal at the school. Under his leadership Sterling continued to grow, and the County School Board voted to renovate the building in early September of 1967.

Unfortunately, disaster would strike before this ever had a chance to occur. On Friday evening, September 15, 1967, the Sterling student body danced at a party sponsored by the Senior Class to raise money for the "Miss Homecoming" drive. At 10:40 p.m. the disc jockey from WHYZ announced this warning over the microphone, "An emergency has occurred. We urge each of you to leave the building quickly and calmly as possible."

Immediately, the students filed out of the building in an orderly and calm fashion, only to find their beloved Sterling had caught fire. Tears streaming down their faces, they watched the leaping flames engulf their school. Firemen from the Parker District fought desperately to extinguish the fire. They remained on the scene well into the next day and returned from time to time throughout the weekend.

The fire destroyed the entire physical plant, with the exception

of the gymnasium, which miraculously escaped major damage.

There were numerous pleas, petitions and even marches to encourage the Board to rebuild Sterling. In addition to telephone calls and personal appearances before officials of the Greenville County School District, over one thousand parents and students signed petitions asking to keep the student body intact. Moreover, four-fifths of the student body marched on the County office protesting any hint that they would be disbanded.

Finally, the Board of Trustees agreed to house students on an interim basis at Greenville Junior High on Westfield Street, naming it Sterling Junior-Senior High School. Mr. Luke Chatman became the principal in 1968. He was the last principal of Sterling High School.

On February 17, 1970, the School District of Greenville County was integrated, and at the end of this school year there was no longer a school named Sterling. The edifice was torn down except for the gym, which has since been converted into a recreational facility operated by the Greenville County Recreation Department.

A realistic portrayal of the development and growth of Sterling High School can be revealed only in an account depicting the diligent and faithful service of many dedicated teachers and the achievements and successes of the students who bring honor and glory to their Alma Mater.

Although the physical plant is gone, fond memories of our school that served generations still lingers in the hearts and minds of scores of people near and far. Sterling High School lives on, in those who walked its halls and benefited from the lessons taught within its walls. Meanwhile, with a large part of the

older black population of Greenville County continuing to identify with the site either as former students or graduates. Sterling High will continue to live on.

These are just some of the notable former Sterling students and teachers who have significantly impacted the Greenville community and beyond: Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.; Dr. Thomas Elliott Kerns; Wilfred Walker; Alberta Tucker Grimes; LTC Paul Adams; Lillian Brock-Flemming; Lottie Beal Gibson; Xanthene Norris; Theo Mitchell; Ralph Anderson; William "Billy" Thompson; Eskew Reeder, Jr. (a singer/pianist who performed under the stage name "Esquerita"; The Dixie Hummingbirds (award-winning gospel ensemble); John Arthur Jones; Lloyd Walker and Dr. Charles Whittenberg.

Rev. Jackson, who graduated from Sterling in the 1950s, began working with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the epicenter of the Civil Rights Movement. Jackson would later become an icon in his own right, establishing Operation Breadbasket in the early 1970s before relocating to Chicago, where he founded Operation P.U.S.H. and the Rainbow Coalition (now known as Rainbow/P.U.S.H.). Widely recognized as a negotiator, he also ran for the Presidency of the United States in 1984 and 1988, becoming the first African-American male to run for the nation's top office.

Dr. Kerns, a 1949 Sterling graduate who later taught social studies and French there, became the first African-American superintendent of the Greenville County School District. Dr. Kerns, who passed away this past November, served from 1989-1994. The district recently built an elementary school near I-85 and named the school for the longtime educator.

Mr. Walker, the school's oldest living staff member, taught masonry at Sterling; his tenure there was part of a remarkable career that saw him teach in the Greenville County School District for 40 years. Mrs. Grimes, a former biology teacher at Sterling, became the first African-American school counselor in Greenville County and went on to become the first full-time African-American counselor in the state. In 1965, she established the first Head Start Program in Greenville, and later

continued on page 38

Jump/continuation of Meadow Fork story

was a founding member of the Greenville Urban League (currently The Urban League of the Upstate).

Others embarked upon careers in public service. Mrs. Gibson, a Sterling graduate, and Mrs. Norris, another former teacher, both serve on Greenville County Council. Mrs. Brock-Flemming, a Sterling graduate, has served on Greenville City Council since 1981. Mr. Mitchell, a former state Senator, became the first African-American to win the Democratic nomination for governor in 1990, while Mr. Anderson, a onetime City Councilman, currently serves in the South Carolina state Senate.

Mr. Thompson became an All-Pro defensive back in the National Football League, playing 11 seasons for the Denver Broncos and appearing in Super Bowl XII. In his rookie season (1969), he became the first professional player (AFL, which the Broncos were a part of at the time, or NFL) to lead the league in both kickoff returns and punt returns, establishing him as a special teams threat. Mr. Thompson, who lives in Aurora, Colo., works as the community relations liaison for the Broncos.

Through the years, the alumni and supporters of Sterling High School have worked hard to permanently ensure the legacy lives on. In 1988, the class of 1955—the first known class to form a combined class reunion—donated a monument and placed it on the site of Sterling High School. It lists the names of the principals of the school.

Another group of alumni and supporters, identified as the "Friends of Sterling," pushed hard to have a second monument erected in memory of the school's 74 years of existence. This one, located at the corner of North Main and West Washington streets in downtown Greenville (the former site of the old Woolworth's drug store), would take shape in the form of a sculpture that recognized the school's contributions to the West Greenville and Upstate communities.

Created by Camden-based sculptor Maria Kirby-Smith, the sculpture, titled "Raise High the Torch of Sterling," consists of two stu-

dents, one male and one female, descending down a set of steps, the male student sporting a sweater with an "S" emblazoned on the front.

On a bright, sunny Sunday afternoon, those dreams were finally realized. The sculpture was dedicated on Nov. 19, 2006 in an emotional ceremony, which took place

at the statue site. A reception was held at the Westin Poinsett Hotel on South Main Street immediately following the ceremony.

Finally, Sterling was officially designated for inclusion in the registry as a historical landmark. The new marker, which will sit on the corner of Calhoun and Pendleton

streets, was unveiled in a ceremony held January 21 at the old Sterling High gymnasium on Minus Street.

Ruth Ann Butler, an alumna of Sterling, is president and founder of the *Greenville Cultural Exchange Center*. **Wanda Stokes** provided additional information for this article.

Prestigious Historical Olde Black High School

Scroll of Honor

In our African-American Legacy & Culture Special Edition, titled *"Honoring, Remembering and Celebrating 'African-American Legacy and Culture' and the Accomplishments of 'The Historical Olde Black High Schools,'" The Upstate Citizen-Advocate* pays special tribute in honor of the Olde Black High School's history and its role in changing the lives of the people of our community. **The Upstate Citizen-Advocate** would like to thank the former students, teachers, staff members, principals and all employees, and the parents, grandparents and descendants of The Olde Black High Schools.

OCONEE COUNTY

Oconee County Training School, Seneca
Blue Ridge High School, Seneca

PICKENS COUNTY

Liberty Colored High School, Liberty
Pickens County Training School, Pickens
Clearview High School, Easley

ANDERSON COUNTY

Anderson County Training School (ACTS),
Riverside/Pendleton
McDuffie High School, Anderson
Reed Street High School, Anderson
Westside High School, Anderson
Spearman High School, Williamston
New Deal High School, Starr
Geer-Gantt High School, Belton

GREENVILLE COUNTY

Beck High School, Greenville
Sterling High School, Greenville
Lincoln High School, Taylors
Washington High School, Mauldin
Bryson High School, Simpsonville
Fountain Inn Colored School, Fountain Inn

SPARTANBURG COUNTY

Carver High School, Spartanburg
Lincoln High School, Spartanburg
Florence Chapel High School, Wellford

SPARTANBURG COUNTY (cont'd.)

Mary McLeod Bethune High School, Inman
Benjamin E. Mays High School, Pacolet
New Bethel High School, Woodruff

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Granard High School, Gaffney

LAURENS COUNTY

Thomas Sanders High School, Laurens

ABBEVILLE COUNTY

J.S. Wright High School, Abbeville

GREENWOOD COUNTY

Brewer High School, Greenwood

UNION COUNTY

Sims High School, Union

YORK COUNTY

Clover High School, Clover
Jefferson High School, York

LANCASTER COUNTY

Barr Street High School,
Lancaster

ASHEVILLE, N.C.

Stephens-Lee High School



2015 Board of Directors

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Marvin DrummondΨ	Lincoln High School
Ernest Hamilton*Ψ	Beck High School
O'Dell Harrison*Ψ	Sterling High School
Alfred Leamon*Ψ	Washington High School
Ernestine Leamon	Washington High School
Sadie Nesbitt	Bryson High School
Emanuel Sullivan*‡Ψ	Bryson High School
Betty Thompson	Sterling High School
Ann Yeargin	Bryson High School
Bessie Young	Bryson High School
William FlemingΨ	Lincoln High School
Frankie WhitesideΨ	Lincoln High School
Shirley Faye WilsonΨ	Washington High School
Carolyn Ashmore GriffinΨ	Beck High School
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Abbie CollinsΨ	Washington High School
Alene Bennett BaetyΨ	Lincoln High School

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Furman Gatewood*	Washington High School
Clyde Mayes*‡Ψ	Beck High School
Algie Dial	Bryson High School
Dan AveryΨ	Washington High School
Smiley Cox*Ψ	Lincoln High School
Grady Brooks	Lincoln High School
Irvin ThompsonΨ	Sterling High School
Stephen K. Fowler	Washington High School
John WilliamsΨ	Sterling High School
Thurman NorrisΨ	Sterling High School

* Charter Board Members

‡ Executive Director

Ψ Hall of Fame Inductee

ALMA MATERS

1991



2016

*Dear Bryson High, Our Bryson High
Our hopes reach high up to the sky.
The more we think of you it's true,
We bring to you, all our love.
And as we stand before thy doors,
Sons and daughters arms unfold;
To welcome those who have not told,
That our hearts are made of gold.
Oh Bryson High, Dear Bryson High,
We'll love thee more as days go by.
And as the years go passing by
Your memories will never die.*

*Sterling High School, Sterling High School
Sterling High School, Bless her name!
Whether in defeat or victory.
We are loyal just the same;
So we'll cheer for Sterling High School,
And for her we'll fight for fame
And we'll sing her praises loud in every land
Sterling High School, Bless her name!*

*From the hills of the Blue Ridge
To the waves across the sea,
Let us hold aloft thy banner,
And proudly sing of thee.
Let us keep the spirit glowing
Throughout eternity;
May thy sons be ever loyal
And stand for liberty.
Let us greet the Green and Gold
With a strong and cordial cheer,
May our hearts be ever loyal
To our Alma Mater dear.
As we stand here at thy portals,
In our hearts the echoes dwell;
It's ever onward forward
From the school we love so well.
Though thy walls are gray and hoary
And our stories are so old,
We will cherish every memory
Of our colors green and gold.
Yes we love our Alma Mater,
Dear old Lincoln is so true.
Thou shalt dwell within our memory
As we love to think of Thee.
We have roamed these hills together
While our hearts were young and free
And as life goes on forever,
We shall always think of thee.*

*As we stand here at your portals,
Dear J. E. Beck High.
Singing loud your hymns of praises
Till they reach the sky.
Hail O Hail dear J. E. Beck High,
Hear the echoes ring;
Hail to thee our alma mater,
Hail O Hail we sing.
As we go along life's byways
We'll always be true;
Heart and mind will always cherish
Fond memories of you.*

*Washington, dear Washington
the pride of all our hearts
Washington dear Washington
to thee we'll never part
we will love and cherish thee
as long as we shall live
so, give three cheers to our dear
school, dear Wash-ing-ton*

CONGRATULATIONS

PAA HALL OF FAME



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Karl Allen
District 7



REPRESENTATIVE
Chandra Dillard
District 23



REPRESENTATIVE
Leola Robinson
Simpson
District 25

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❖ 25th Anniversary ❖

Congratulation Granddaddy Fleming

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William Jr.

Joshua

Selena

Shamaaya

Cameron

Zuri

MaKayla Sexton

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MaKayla Fleming

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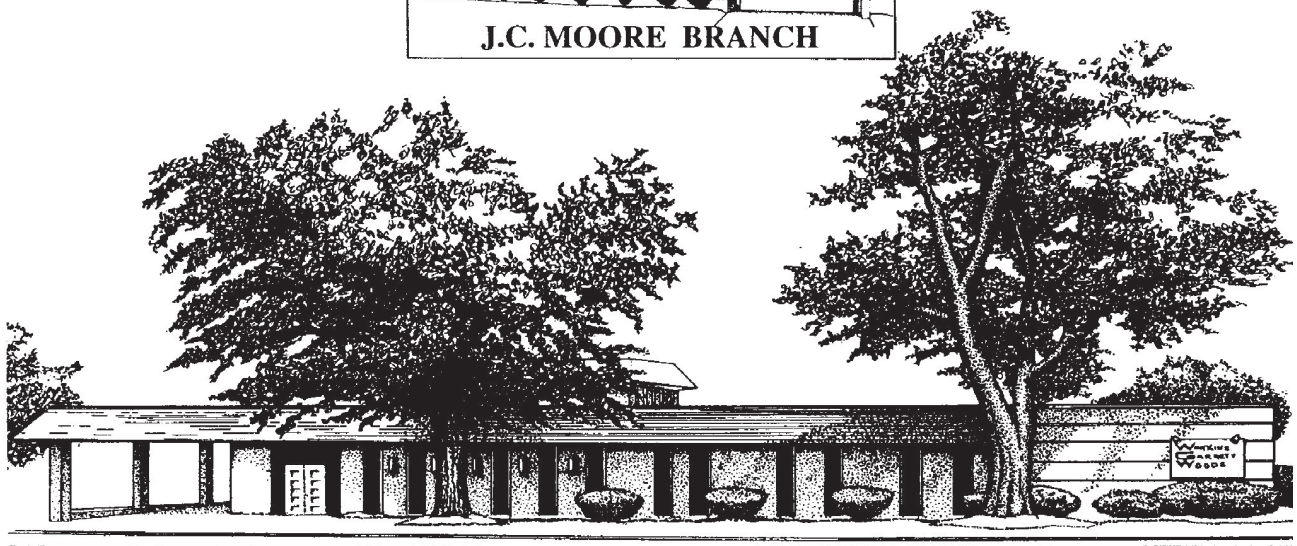


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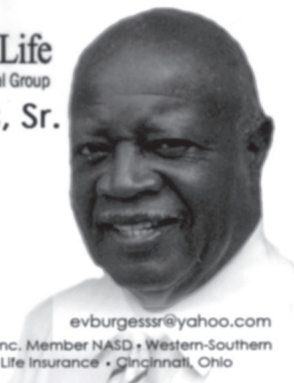
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Congratulations

Alan Mitchell

Sterling High School

Class of "68"

❖ 25th Anniversary ❖

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Ernest & Velma Flemming, Jr.
From your sons
Ernest, Eddie, Charles, William & Monroe

Always Faithful & True

Class Reunion Officers

President: Robert Sullivan
Vice President: Barbara Neal-Whiteside
Secretary: Anita Cleveland Dogan
Assistant Secretary: Thelma Stewart
Treasurer: Mary Johnson Neal
Assistant Treasurer: Sapp Yates
Chaplain: Leon Harris
Assistant Chaplain: Linda Yeargin

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Josephine Burgess
Ronnie K. Johnson
Linda E. Brooks
Linda Yeargin

Decorating
Irene M. Davis
Linda E. Brooks
Thelma Stewart
Josephine Burgess

Program
Brenda M. Lake, Chairperson
Oneita D. Williams
Steve Johnson
Anita C. Dogan
Barbara N. Whiteside

Set-up
Robert Sullivan
Leon Harris
Carman Brown
Sapp Yates
Bobby Stoddard
Steve Johnson
James Brooks

Bereavement (Caring & Sharing)
Delores Martinez, Chairperson
Irene M. Davis
Anita C. Dogan
Carman Brown
Deborah M. Taylor

Nursing Home Visits
Russell Williams, Chairperson
Mary J. Neal
Carman Brown
Robert Sullivan

Fundraising
Deborah M. Taylor, Chairperson
All classmates

Telephone Calling
Bobby Stoddard, Chairperson
Linda Yeargin
Irene Davis
Thelma Stewart
Anita Dogan

Prison Ministry
Franchester Willis, Chairperson
Linda E. Brooks

The Sterling 1972 Memorial Classmates
Would like to Congratulate!- Mrs. Mary Johnson-Neal
On your induction into the Piedmont Athletic Association Hall of Fame

❖ 25th Anniversary ❖

The Sterling High School Class of 1968 would like to acknowledge our Class members who have been inducted into the Piedmont Athletic Association's Hall of Fame. It is with great honor and pride we salute.

Charles Perry Austin	Year Inducted 2013
Doris Bailey Herbert	Year Inducted 2013
Eliza Harris Ballentine	Year Inducted 2014
Allan L. Mitchell	Year Inducted 2016

CLASS REUNION OFFICERS

Mitchell Dillard – President	Lee Roy Benton – Treasure
Michael Hudson – Vice President	Nellie Sullivan – Financial Secretary
Violeita Irby – Secretary	Eliza Ballentine - Chaplain
Cindy Vaughn – Asst. Secretary	

The Terry Family

Rodger "P.D.", Nancy,
Josh & Tyler

Benjamin Banneker
#364 Elk's Lodge
Piedmont Temple 746
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Greenville, S.C. 29611

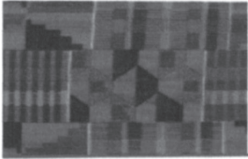


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Jannie Jones*

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25th Anniversary



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On your induction into the
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PROVERBS 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Are you training your child? Can the Bible outweigh the world?
Give your child a Bible Verse to learn every week and don't let them forget it.
They will need it to fight the devil.
PEACE and LOVE.

❖ 25th Anniversary ❖

Sterling High School Alumni Association



Congratulates 2016 Inductees



Alan Mitchell
Class of 1968
Track

John Williams
Class of 1961
Track

Mary Johnson Neal
Track

James Moore Huff Sr.
Class of 1965
Foot Ball

Past Inductees

John Williams Jr.
Life Member
2003 Inductee

Thurman Norris
Life Member
2005 Inductee

Thelma Mike-Pinson
Life Member
PAA Board Member
2012 Inductee

Eliza Ballentine
PAA Board Member
2014 Inductee

Doris Bailey Herbert
2013 Inductee

Sterling Alumni Association Bids a Final Farewell to Our 2012 Inductee
Mrs. Lillie Ruth Workman

SAM PEDEN

Senior Vice President

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on her Induction into P.A.A
Hall of Fame-2016

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Piedmont Athletic Association



HALL OF FAME

❖ 25th Anniversary ❖



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❖ 25th Anniversary ❖

In Loving Memory of
Mr. Irwin Thompson, Jr.

Sterling Class of 1954

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Mrs. Betty Simpson Thompson
Jerome, Alcestis, Georgenia and Theodora
(Children)



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Office of Secretary of State Mark Hammond

This is to certify that

CAROLYN F GRIFFIN

was duly appointed and commissioned Notary Public for
South Carolina. The appointment to continue with term
ending April 15th, 2025.

Carolyn F. Griffin *Mark Hammond*
Notary's Signature Secretary of State

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Mary Johnson-Neal to P.A.A

Hall of Fame 2016

25th Anniversary



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NAACP

Greenville Branch of the NAACP Unit # 5522
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President, Rev. J. M. Flemming
1st VP, Rev. Jonnie Terry
2nd VP, Mr. Patrick Prince
Secretary, Mrs. Georgianna Taylor

Asst. Secretary, Mrs. Kate Franch
Treasurer, Ms. Jessie Wofford
Asst. Treasurer, Mrs. Carrie Wilson

From a secret Niagara Movement meeting in Niagara, Canada, we saw the birth of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 1909 in New York City. The NAACP founded by prominent black and white intellectuals was led by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois.

For 107 years, the NAACP has done an incredible job, never wavering and never being moved from our goals and objectives.

In 2013, we started the Rebuilding the Greenville Branch of the NAACP. Greenville has moved from a chapter standing on the brink of extinction in this state to an award winning branch. We have been awarded the Hamilton Award for the SC State NAACP for the highest percentage of increase in membership. For the first time in 22 years our branch sent youth to participate as champions in the National NAACP ACT-SO Talent Competitions in 2014 and 2015.

In 2015, the Greenville Branch made history and excelled in many areas. Fine Arts student, Olivia Hopkins won a Gold medal winner in the Youth ACT-SO Talent

Competition. This was the first time an Upstate NAACP Branch won any medal in ACT-SO in its 34 year history. Also in 2015, Rev. Dr. Flora Johnson Winestock, was the 1st runner-up for SC State NAACP Woman of the Year. This was the first time in over 20 years. We also won numerous monthly and annual membership awards. We have the largest college and youth membership in South Carolina.

The Greenville Branch of the NAACP needs you. The fight for economic, educational, human, political and social justice is not over!



Rev. J. M. Flemming, President

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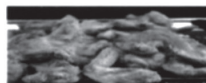


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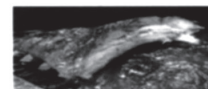
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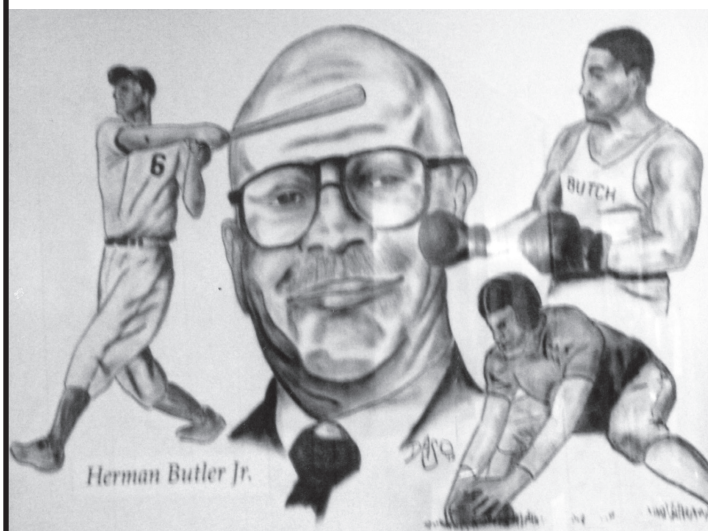
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*Congratulations to my
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Bobby & Barbara Tolbert



Herman Butler Jr.

❖ 25th Anniversary ❖

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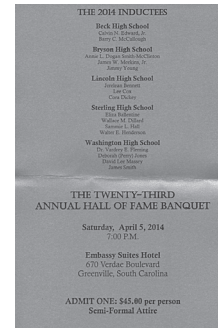
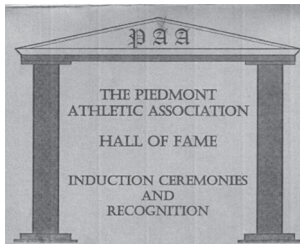
Lola Phillips Skeete

Deanna & Jermaine White

Linda Mingo Wood



25th Anniversary



The Hall of Fame is made up of COLORS:

- The Royal Blue and White of STERLING;
- The Traditional Maroon and Gold of BRYSON;
- The Florescent Green and Gold of LINCOLN;
- The Magnificent Black and Gold of Beck;
- and The Brilliant Red and Blue of WASHINGTON

“The purpose of the Piedmont Athletic Association Hall of Fame is to Preserve and promote the history of these five citadel’s of education and community culture.”

“PRESERVE AND PROMOTE”

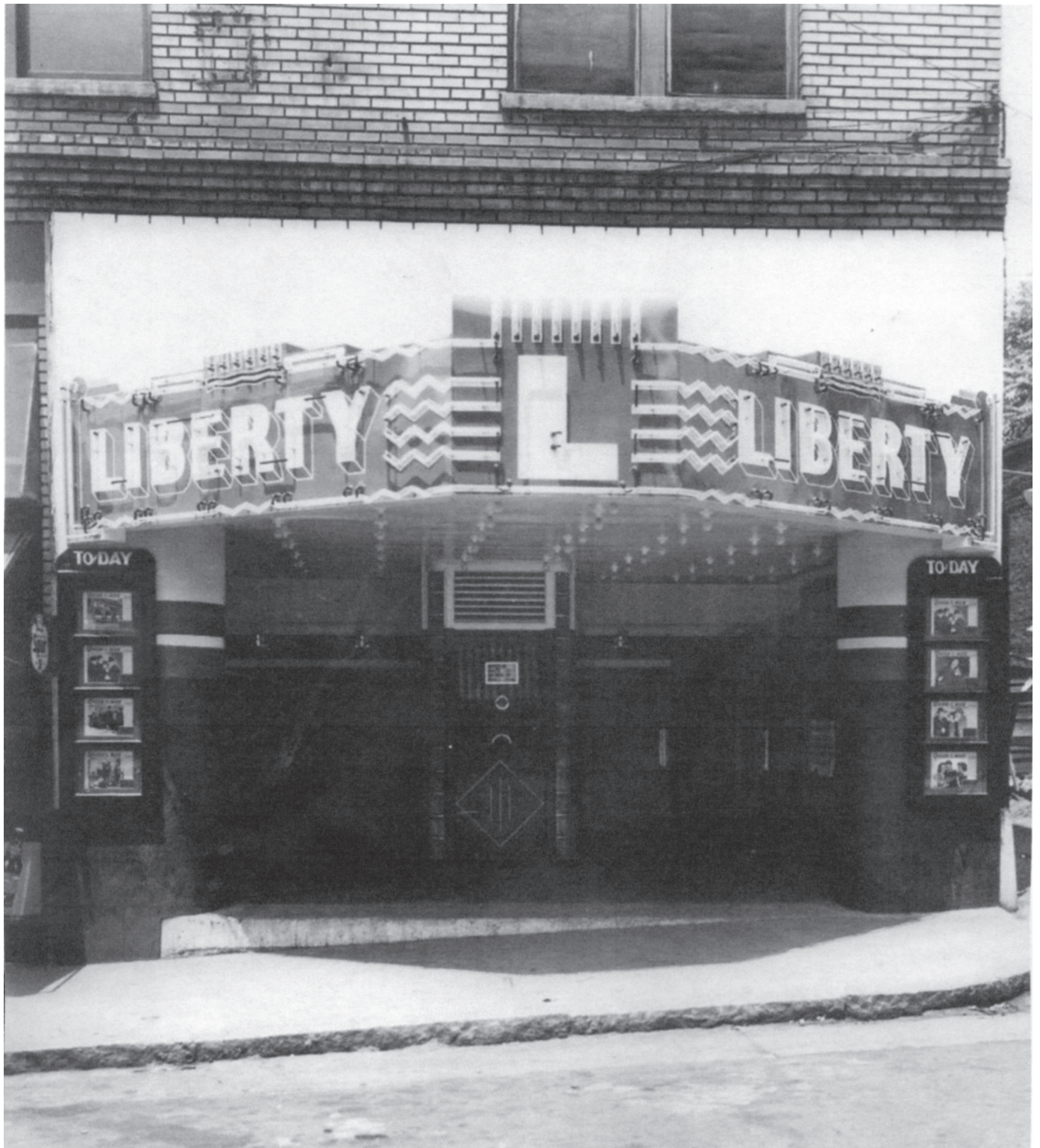
The Mighty Sterling Tigers;
to preserve the Furious Bryson Hurricanes;
and encourage the Fearless Lincoln Rattlers;
the purpose is to maintain the Great Washington Falcons;
and to advance the Awesome Beck Panthers

Ladies and Gentlemen tonight you are our honored guest, we ask that you sit back and relax and join in with us in our celebration on this occasion. Please enjoy one another and the rest of the program. This is your Hall of Fame -Founded in 1991—What a great idea.”

❖ 25th Anniversary ❖



❖ 25th Anniversary ❖



PIEDMONT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME

❖ 25th Anniversary ❖





Established 1991

The Piedmont Athletic Association's Hall of Fame was organized in mid-1991. The purpose of establishing this organization was to commemorate and to preserve the long standing history of five former high schools in Greenville, South Carolina.

The Piedmont Athletic Association's Hall of Fame recognizes yearly, the outstanding accomplishments of former athletes and coaches as well as the faithful service of the many loyal supporters of the now defunct Beck, Bryson, Lincoln, Sterling and Washington High Schools. These individuals are recognized by induction into the Association's Hall of Fame for their accomplishments in high school sports and their exemplary service that continues to bring honor to our community.

Scholarships

Graduating athletes who have been nominated and have met the awards criteria which includes but is not limited to lettering in at least two varsity sports and full-time enrollment into college are awarded scholarships of up to one thousand dollars.

Contributions

The Piedmont Athletic Association Hall of Fame was organized and incorporated under state laws of South Carolina. It is registered with the S.C. Secretary of State Office and holds a Federal Tax Exempt Non-Profit Organization status.

Membership into this organization is based primarily on gifts of financial support that enable the Piedmont Athletic Association to further commemorate and preserve the legacy of Beck, Bryson, Lincoln, Sterling and Washington High Schools. Active membership is regularly informed about the activities of the Hall of Fame Induction Activities and Banquet.

❖ *25th Anniversary* ❖

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