

# Mid-the-Hills

A Publication of the Chillicothe High School Alumni Association

Toni Harris '68, President

June 2015

## *Alumni Director and President's Letter*

### ***From the office of the CHS Alumni Association***

It has been about six months since our last newsletter; we are trying to issue a newsletter every few months to keep everyone updated. Please take time to visit the website: [chillicothealumni.com](http://chillicothealumni.com). Click on the link, Mid the Hills and you will be able to see newsletter and other updates. Also under [chillicothealumni.com](http://chillicothealumni.com), you are able to pay your membership dues or make a donation to the alumni with your credit card. Click on the link: membership/donations and fill in all information. It is a very secure page and we hope everyone will consider using it. I want to thank you if you sent in your membership for 2015. But we still need everyone to consider paying their dues. If you pay by check or by credit card now, we will extend your membership until 12.31.2016.

We will be holding a meeting later this year for planning the 2017 All Class Reunion. We will send out a notice about a month in advance for the time and place. Please think of ideas, date to be held, and etc. for the reunion.

Please call Linda at 740-998-2611 or email at [lshill0806@hotmail.com](mailto:lshill0806@hotmail.com). Or Toni @ 740-772-4229 or [harrisrt@roadrunner.com](mailto:harrisrt@roadrunner.com) with any questions or class information for the website.  
Toni Lewis Harris, '68  
President  
Linda Byers Hill, '69  
Alumni Director

## **Chillicothe Education Foundation**

*Tamra Lowe '84, Chairperson*

On behalf of the Chillicothe Education Foundation, I would like to congratulate the Chillicothe High School Class of 2015.

This year's graduating class, according to Chillicothe High School Principal Mr. Jeff Fisher, set a record with \$10.4 million dollars in scholarship money earned!

The class celebrated with Commencement Ceremony on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> in the Ellis B. Hatton Memorial Gymnasium with inspirational speeches by Senior Class Speaker Kaitlynn Mickey, Valedictorian Jack Whalen, Salutatorian Francis Whalen, Board President Steve Mullins, Superintendent Jon Saxton and Principal Fisher. As a member of the CCSD Board of Education, I had the great honor of watching the ceremony from the stage and in handing out the diplomas with my fellow board members President Mullins, Matt Markley, Jeff Hartmus and Joy Shoemaker.

A highlight of the evening was the very tearful/joyful moment when Bianna Maag, an honors "top ten" graduate, left her wheelchair to take steps to receive her diploma.

Special recognition and honorary diplomas were given to two beloved members of the Class of 2015 who sadly passed away; Jacob Allen Wolfe and Michael Joseph Kelly, as well as recognition for Teacher Mrs. Ann Bozick who passed away earlier in the school year.

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Valedictorian Jack Whalen: Mr. Whalen earned a 4.596 GPA at CHS and will be attending The United States Naval Academy. As a member of the Varsity Tennis, Cross Country, and Track and Field-Distance Teams Jack represented CHS athletically and academically. Mr. Whalen is also a member of National Honor Society, Student Council, Drama Club, Key Club, Tri-M Music Honor Society, Junior Achievement, and Quiz Bowl. Jack has turned in numerous volunteer hours in the community as well as a student tutor, working with the Special Olympics, and much more. In all that Jack has accomplished at CHS he has held leadership roles as Junior Class Secretary, Student Council V.P., National Honor Society President, Band Council Secretary, Tri-M Music Honor Society National Anthem Project Co-Chairperson, Altar Server Trainer, Low Brass Section Leader, Jr. Achievement Chief Financial Officer, and Cross Country Varsity Co-Captain.

Salutatorian Francis Whalen: Mr. Whalen earned a 4.588 GPA at CHS and will be attending The United States Military Academy. Frankie represented CHS in Varsity Soccer and Tennis as well as being a member of the Key Club, National Honors Society, Class Council, and Quiz bowl.

Yes...you did read that correctly. Both the Valedictorian and Salutatorian are named "Whalen" and they are two of a set of triplets. The third highly-accomplished Whalen brother, Nicholas, graduated with honors with his brothers in the "Top 10" with a 4.406 GPA. Timothy & Catherine Whalen are the proud parents of this awesome trio.

Musical selections for the commencement ceremony were performed superbly by the CHS

Orchestra and the CHS Symphonic Choir under the direction of Karen Moore and Mala Kennard. The entire ceremony was beautiful!

Again, congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 2015...Our newest Chillicothe High School Alumni!

Tamra (Hitchens) Lowe - CHS Class of 1984  
Chillicothe Education Foundation Chairperson

## Harris Athletic Complex Progress Report

*Greg Corzine '78, President Cavalier Club*

(The Cavalier Club is still seeking donations to assist with funding the new Harris Athletic Complex. In that regard we are re-publishing Cavalier Club President Greg Corzine's funding appeal letter from our December 2014 Mid-the-Hills.)

Dear Cavalier Alumni,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Chillicothe Cavalier Club. We have just completed our second football and soccer seasons in the Obadiah Harris Family Athletic Complex which brought us some very memorable moments. The soccer team had another undefeated regular season, winning the Southern Central Ohio League title and the football team finished with a winning record at six and four and a spectacular game against the eventual league winner Clinton Massie. The Ohio High School Athletic Association asked us to host two

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football playoff games extending the fall season for the complex until November 22. The athletic complex is serving our kids and the community very well so I have to extend my gratitude to all of you that helped make this much needed improvement a reality. Yes, the Phase I improvements to the athletic project are complete, but the bill still needs to be paid in full.

The Athletic Complex Renovation Project included the installation of a synthetic turf field suitable for football, soccer and lacrosse; installation of a new home side grand stand that accommodates up to 2,300 people, a new press box, and a new track and field complex. The cost for these improvements was approximately \$1,800,000.00 and to date we have commitments totaling \$1,606,000.00. We still need approximately \$194,000.00 to complete Phase I of this project. Your financial help to bring this part of the project to closure would be greatly appreciated. The Chillicothe Cavalier Club is a qualified charitable organization per Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Please consider making a charitable donation to help the Chillicothe Cavalier Club continue to fulfill its mission of supporting Chillicothe High School athletics.

Sincerely,

Gregory S. Corzine

President Chillicothe Cavalier Club, Inc.  
Chairperson of the Athletic Complex Renovation Committee  
Chillicothe High School Class of 1978

## Superintendent's Report

*Jon Saxton, Superintendent Chillicothe School District*

Superintendent's Update  
June 11, 2015

Many believe that when school ends, things slow down. In the Chillicothe City School District summer is among the busiest times of year! During the summer of 2015 we are working on a number of new and very special projects, as well as completing regularly scheduled maintenance and year-end items. Two of our biggest special projects involve student-athlete drug testing and a partnership with the Ohio School Facilities Commission to build two new elementary buildings.

The Chillicothe City School District Board of Education has adopted new policies and procedures for our high school student-athletes who will be drug-tested during their respective sports seasons thanks to the hard work of several key staff members, partnerships with area agencies, and a generous anonymous donation. Chillicothe and Ross County's well-documented drug abuse problems have, for the most part, been kept out of our schools, though we can never be too sure. While we are not able to drug-test all students, due to legal and cost-restrictions, we are able to do so for our student-athletes. This helps give our students one more reason to say "no" to drugs. Not only do we expect this policy to help make a difference in our school, but also in the entire

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community. We are fortunate to be led in this effort by the 2015 OASSA Principal of the Year, Mr. Jeffrey R. Fisher.

On May 18, 2015 the CCSD Board of Education approved a resolution to engage into a partnership with the Ohio School Facilities Commission to participate in a Classroom Facilities Assistance Project with 55% of the funds for two new elementary schools coming from the state of Ohio. Earlier in the year, the board approved a recommendation to move forward with a project to raze the Smith building for the purpose of creating space for a centralized elementary building to house students in grades 3-6. Our goal is to centralize the district into two new elementary buildings located within blocks of the HS/MS complex with the State of Ohio picking up the majority of the tab. After careful study and consideration of facts, costs, and opinions of a variety of stakeholders, the board made the decision to proceed with a "Master Plan" which will allow the new facilities to be built without adding additional millage to the local taxpayer. In November we will ask the voters to approve an approximate 2.95 mill bond issue, but will, by board action, remove the same amount of millage charged to the property owners so the final result is two new, state-of-the-art elementary buildings with the same tax rate. As you can imagine we are excited about the opportunity to join the rest of the Ross County school districts who have completed K-12 building projects. The present Mt. Logan Elementary building and property will still be used to serve students in the neighborhood through a number of programs and projects aimed at providing additional educational services to the district in the future.

If you would like more information about the district including our drug-testing or building project please feel free to contact me at 740-775-4250, by email at [jon.saxton@ccsd.us](mailto:jon.saxton@ccsd.us), or you may visit our website at [www.ccsd.us](http://www.ccsd.us). It truly is a Great Time to be a Cavalier!

## Cavalier Scholarship Fund

*John Wilson '58, Trustee*

At the Chillicothe High School academic awards assembly on May 1, 2015 the Chillicothe Education Foundation presented scholarships to twenty-three 2015 CHS graduating seniors. The funding for the scholarships was provided by the Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund and the David Meade Massie Trust. Since its inception, the Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund has provided more than \$185,000 in scholarship funds for CHS graduates.

The CEF scholarships and recipients for the 2015 CHS graduating class are as follows.

- 1) Mary Ruth Keiser Education Scholarship  
(Four Year Scholarship) \$10,000  
(\$2,500 per year for four years)  
**Awarded to: Colleen Coyan**
- 2) Cronin/Yeager Scholarship  
\$ 2,500  
**Awarded to: Sierra Cydrus**

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3) Cronin/Yeager Scholarship  
\$ 2,500

**Awarded to. Casaundra Parker**

4) David Meade Massie Trust Scholarship  
\$ 2,500

**Awarded to. Nashayia Lett**

5) David Meade Massie Trust Scholarship  
\$ 2,500

**Awarded to. Sydney Bales**

6) David Meade Massie Trust Scholarship  
\$ 1,500

**Awarded to. Tiara Thomas**

7) David Meade Massie Trust Scholarship  
\$ 1,000

**Awarded to. Courtney Parker**

8) Bryant Butt Scholarship  
\$ 1,500

**Awarded to. Brianne Maag**

9) Bryant Butt Scholarship  
\$ 1,500

**Awarded to. Amanda Mares**

10) Larry Cox Scholarship  
\$ 2,500

**Awarded to. Christopher Sabin**

11) Virginia Garrison Scholarship  
\$ 750

**Awarded to. Jack Whalen**

12) Joyce Atwood Scholarship  
\$ 1,000

**Awarded to. Joel DeGarmo**

13) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. Rachael Anna Wood**

14) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. Heather Anderson**

15) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. Hayley Woodbridge**

16) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. Olivia Bennett**

17) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. Nicholas Kennedy**

18) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. Kevin Martin**

19) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. Allison Neff**

20) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. MacKenzie Smitley**

21) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. Taylor Wallingford**

22) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. Nicholas Whalen**

23) Cavalier Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Scholarship \$ 750

**Awarded to. Payne Wissler**

The committee for 2015 was composed of CHS alumni; Tamra Lowe, Jim Crabtree, Toni Harris, Tom Spetnagel, Jr. and John Wilson. The criteria considered included academic performance, financial need, activities and teacher recommendations.

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## CHS Alumni Profiles

### Mike Watkins, CHS Class of 1979

(Much of this article is excerpted from an article featuring Mike Watkins which appeared in the Chillicothe Gazette May 14, 2015. The Gazette article was written by Chris Balusik.)

'79 CHS grad Mike Watkins has a private architectural practice headquartered in Gaithersburg, MD. After leaving CHS, Mike received his BS in architecture from the University of Cincinnati. He spent twenty years with Duany Plater-Zyberk and Co. as lead architect for a planned community, Kentlands in Gaithersburg. He then left Duany to pursue a masters degree in architecture at Georgia Tech. Armed with his masters he opened his own practice specializing in developing new walkable communities. Much of his ideas are influenced from his Chillicothe upbringing.

Mike states that as the "town architect" for the communities he plans, he incorporates several elements that he remembers from his formative years in Chillicothe. What he plans is a mix of uses that are within walking distance of homes, apartments and offices above the shops that line his main streets, a mix of housing types and sizes along the same street or block, streets lined with shade trees and parallel parking and a widespread use of alleys.

He never fully recognized the significance of the unique architectural aspects of his hometown, however, until embarking on his college studies at UC. One of his architectural history instructors would use examples from Chillicothe when teaching. Mike initially thought everyone grew up surrounded by exceptional architecture but he soon learned that Chillicothe is considered an exceptional example...

In translating the classic architecture into creating new and vibrant walkable communities – where the places and services deemed important to residents are created close to home – Watkins also translates his personal experiences from his youth.

"Having the run of the town," he said. "I remember, particularly as a junior high kid, we could bike anywhere, and that was easy to do to get down to the park or a friend's house, that kind of thing – just the form of the town itself was useful, so when we started talking about building walkable places again, I knew it exactly."

The bricks and mortar are only the physical part of the walkable community, though. What gives it its character and heart is its ability to bring people together – another lesson learned from his hometown.

"Chillicothe is a friendly place," he said. "I grew up knowing all my neighbors. In fact, I still see my neighbors when I come back to town, and those relationships are really what it's all about. We architects and urban designers can help shape the physical environment, but the community that's most highly valued isn't the

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physical form but it's the relationships among the people."

He gets his reward from seeing those relationships blossom. For example, he's gotten to know some of the area children in the neighborhood where he lives and works who used to spend 45 minutes on a bus each way to school every day. Now, in the community he helped create that incorporated a school into the design, those children's quality of life has changed.

"An hour-and-a-half on the bus as a kid, what could be more miserable?" he said. "Now they walk to school and they walk with their friends and they walk past the lake and the playgrounds and so getting to and from school is a delight. They can stay after, if they want to do some club or something like that and walk home on their own, they don't need to arrange a big carpool or something like that."

Having developed walkable communities in such areas as Whitehall, Delaware, and Seaside, Florida, to name a few, Watkins spends most of his time urban planning for new communities of 40 to 1,400 acres, creating revitalization plans for existing communities and speaking to architectural groups and planners about the "new urbanism." His current project, being done in conjunction with the Duany firm is Norton Commons in Louisville, Kentucky.

His services have also been utilized to meet revitalization, master plan or design code work overseas in such locales as the Galapagos Islands and Jamaica.

Regardless of where his work takes him, you can bet two things will always go with him – a

fierce passion for architecture and the influence of the town that first ignited it.

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## **Charles (Charlie) Rowland** **Chillicothe High School Class of 1957**

Following graduation Charlie attended the University of Cincinnati studying Chemical Engineering on a work/study co-op program, doing his co-op work at Mead Corp. in Chillicothe.

In 1962 Charlie and Eileen Trego, CHS class of '57, were married and after graduation from UC returned to Chillicothe where Charlie worked as a process engineer at Mead Chilpaco. In 1970 Charlie took a position with Industrial Nucleonics in Columbus, Ohio as a Control Systems engineer developing computer control systems for the paper and other sheet industries. He and Eileen relocated to Columbus and that same year he received his masters degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering from Ohio University.

During a 30+ year career at Industrial Nucleonics Charlie migrated from purely technical assignments in engineering and research to roles in sales and marketing, international assignments and general management. In 1987 the company was acquired by Combustion Engineering and in 1989 Combustion Engineering was acquired by Asea Brown Boveri (ABB). In 2001, Charlie retired from ABB where he was Senior Vice President and manager of the Automation business.

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After an absence of about a year he returned to ABB on a consulting basis and oversaw the development of new innovative marketing programs and the relocation of the business from its location on the northern edge of the OSU campus to Westerville.

Charlie and Eileen have two daughters, Julie who is Director of Radiation Oncology for St. Ritas Hospital in Lima and Jill, who is VP of Sales and Marketing for Cox Broadcasting out of Atlanta.

They have two grandsons, Alex (27) and Max (20) and two granddaughters Maddy (11) and Caroline (9)

With a residence in Lewis Center, Ohio, in the summer they enjoy getting away to their condo at Catawba Island on Lake Erie. Charlie is an avid sailor and he and Eileen raced sailboats for many years. Charlie still sails a Cape Cod Catboat on Lake Erie

Eileen honed her piano skills at The First EUB Church in Chillicothe as a teenager and still enjoys playing and teaching a few students. She also enjoys ballroom dancing and was a freelance ballroom dance instructor for many years.

Since retirement, Charlie has been able to focus on his real passion, art, and particularly watercolor painting. He is self-taught, learning from workshops with other artists, reading and

studying the work and techniques of artists he admires. And as he tells his students "paint a lot, make mistakes and try not to make the same one more than 2-3 times". He is both a prolific artist and also a teacher, He currently teaches regular classes in watercolor, drawing and design at the Westerville Community Center, and conducts workshops for art organizations throughout the state.

He is a signature member and past board member of the Ohio Watercolor Society, the Central Ohio Watercolor Society and Central Ohio Plein Air Painters. He shows his work in a number of galleries including The Terra Gallery in Dublin, Ohio and The Canoe Club in Marblehead, Ohio. His paintings can be found in private and public collections throughout the United States,

His work was featured in International Artist Magazine in an article titled "aster Painters of the World-USA".

You can view his work at his website  
<http://charleswrowland.zenfolio.com/>



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### BRICKS AND PAVERS



We have spaces available for the installation of bricks and pavers in front of the main entrance to the High School. You still have time to purchase a brick or paver for yourself or in memory of a family member or a classmate. The order form is below. Please send a check or money order with the form to the Alumni Office.

**SINGLE BRICK (4 1/2 X 8 inches) \$75.00** \_\_\_\_\_ **Large Paver (8 X 8 inches) \$250.00** \_\_\_\_\_

ENGRAVINGS MUST BE LIMITED TO 3 LINES FOR SINGLE BRICK AND 6 LINES FOR PAVER

1 Line = 13 characters including spaces

Please fill out the lines below indicating how you would like your name and information to appear.

Line 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 5 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip Telephone

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership dues help publish and mail the newsletter, support the All Class Reunions, and cover office expenses.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

First Middle Last Maiden

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tax-deductible Membership Level

Individual \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Blue & White \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Cavalier \$50.00 or more \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and send with your check or money order payable to:

**CHS Alumni Association**  
**421 Yoctangee Parkway**  
**Chillicothe, OH 45601**