



John M. Harlan High School Alumni Association, NFP

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence is not an act, but a habit"
Aristotle

THE HARLAN TIMES

Volume 2

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EXTRA.....EXTRA.....EXTRA.....EXTRA

HARLAN CELEBRATES THEIR 50th ANNIVERSARY IN 2008

*Stay tuned for further information on planned events in honor
of this milestone in our history.*

FALCONS ON THE BENCH

The Illinois Judicial Review

On March 22, 2008, Jerry Crimmins, writer for the attorney journal, *Illinois Judicial Review*, interviewed Mr. Thompson for an article entitled "*Eight Cook County Judges Came from the Same School*". He provided pertinent memories and comments that assisted in the development of this article. This article was published in the *Illinois Judicial Review* on Saturday, April 21, 2007: 49th Annual Law Day Edition.

Harlan has the elite honor of having 8 judges who preside over various courts. Our "Falcons on the Bench" are:

David Atkins (Class of 1965); Darron Bowden (Class of 1980); Michael Brown (Class of 1972); Marsh Dumminie Hayes (Class of 1965); Nathaniel Howse (Class of 1969); Sybil King Thomas (Class of 1968); Lewis Nixon (Class of 1967); and John Steele (Class of 1965).

CAN Television Production “Thread the Needle”

Dr. J. Byron Hooks, Executive Producer of CAN TV production “*Thread the Needle*” filmed at Harlan Community Academy our 8 “*Falcons on the Bench.*” The judges were dressed in full judicial robes, provided cameo personal information for the program opening and then were interviewed by the students of Harlan Community Academy. As the students listened, they became aware that they did not have to be at the top of their class to be successful.

NOTE: *This program is still being edited and will be televised at a later date. Once the date has been determined, we will notify you via our website and email.*

MEMBERSHIP “Honoring our Heritage”

In December 2007, renewal notices for membership dues and donations will be mailed. Membership applications are also available on the website. Our database is **2,300**. Dues will remain at \$25.00 per year; slightly higher if paid via PayPal on our website.

Ms. Massey and Mr. Thompson attended the 1967 Class Reunion, which was held at Harborside Golf Course on June 29, 2007. It was a memorable event and everyone had a great time.

Currently we have 165 members. Recruitment numbers from our activities are as follows:

Back to Roots	34
Career Day	11
Class Reunion ‘77	3
Class Reunion ’67	15
Picnic	35

Please contact Richard Thompson, Mr. T., Chairman of the Membership Committee, at 773: 225-5106 for more information.

501c3...CHARITABLE DONATION STATUS

Your donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. There are many ways in which you, as alumni, can help us in our efforts to assist Harlan students through your financial gifts via 501c3. Please consider a donation at any time or when renewing your membership each year to help us with our programs at Harlan. If you would like to make a donation, please contact one of our board members or visit us online.

Please remember that there are increasing needs for materials, equipment, and services that directly affect students at Harlan Community Academy. Your donations make a difference in supplying needed materials, supplies, and services to the students.

HARLAN HOMECOMING

Harlan Community Academy’s Homecoming Game was held at Gately Stadium on Thursday, September 20, 2007. Harlan hosted Crane High School and the “Falcons” won with a score of 32 to 6.

CHEERLEADING UNIFORMS

At the Homecoming Game, it was noticed that the cheerleading squad were missing uniforms. The Harlan Alumni Association got involved by purchasing the remainder of the needed uniforms.

TROPHY DISPLAY CASE

There have been many academic and athletic awards and trophies awarded to Harlan Community Academy students over the years. Due to a lack of funds and space, these hard earned treasures have been in storage. The Harlan Alumni Association recognized the need for a new display case. As a joint effort with Mr. William James, the Woodshop Instructor, and the Harlan students, a new display case has been designed and is due to be completed in January 2008, in time for Harlan's 50th Anniversary.

WEBSITE

We encourage you to visit our website to get the latest information and updates. The address is:

www.jmhaa.org

We will also keep our old website, which you can also visit. The address is:

www.groups.msn.com/JohnMHarlanAlumniAssociationIncChicagoIL

PICNIC

Our annual picnic was held on Sunday, July 22, 2007 at Grove 5 in the Dan Ryan Woods. It started at 10:00 AM and ended at 7:00 PM. Coach Sherman Howard was greeted by many of his former students, as were other teachers who joined us for the picnic.

Food, beverages, and music were provided and everyone had a WONDERFUL time networking with their friends. Each year the picnic becomes larger and we are noticing more and more alumni who come in from out of state to attend this event!

HERB KENT'S "BATTLE OF THE BEST"

Thanks to Seth McCormick, Harlan and Hyde Park were participants on the April 22, 2007, "Battle of the Best." The artist's chosen for Harlan's battle was *The Five Stairsteps*. Harlan's representatives were Seth McCormick and Mr. Thompson

Unfortunately, we lost, but we have requested a rematch. Stay tuned!

KUDO'S

Paula Lingo, Class of 1961, is being endorsed by the Democratic Party to run for Judge. If she wins the election in February 2008, she will be the 9th "Falcon on the Bench."

Lewis Nixon, Class of 1967, is the 3rd Vice President of the Illinois Judges Association. He was formerly their Treasurer. This Association appoints positions by succession. Therefore, by 2010 he will be President.

The Illinois Judges Association sponsored the unveiling of an Abraham Lincoln DVD highlighting "*Lincoln the Lawyer*." *Lewis* was instrumental in having Harlan Community Academy invited to the Harold Washington Library on April 30, 2007 to be one of only 3 schools to premier the video at the library. This DVD will also be shown to selected high school audiences in Chicago and Springfield. Copies will be distributed at a later date to schools in Illinois for their libraries.

John Steele, Class of 1965, is a nominee for the Appellate Court. This election will be held in February 2008.

Richard Thompson, "Mr. T", was in the 1st edition (1974-75) of **Who's Who in Black America**. He was one of the only teachers to be listed and has had the distinction of continuing to be listed subsequently in each year after that.

Presently, he appears in the 2007-2008 editions of **Who's Who in America** and **Who's Who in American Education**.

TRANSITIONS

The following Falcons made their transition:

Julius Huff, Class of 1964

November 2007

Max Matierre, Class of 1964

Lafayette "Stanley" Stallings, Class of 1967

August 20, 2007

**We'd like to note that Stanley made a surprise appearance at his 1967 Class Reunion, which was held on June 29, 2007 at Harborside Golf Club, prior to his passing. He gleamed and laughed the majority of the night and refused to miss taking part in the class picture. He stated how happy he was to be able to be there.*

Audrey Williams McGee, Class of 1975