

# Chattanooga Central High School

## Alumni Association

### Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2021

The July meeting of the Chattanooga Central High Alumni Association was held on July 8, 2021, online using Zoom. Buffy Hoge called the meeting to order.

### **Acceptance of Minutes**

Buffy made a motion to accept the approved July minutes. Lucy Bottorf made a motion to accept the approved minutes with the addition of Zane's last name, Ferrying. Judy Phillips seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Tara Randolph gave the treasurer's report. There were no incoming or outgoing expenditures. The balance is \$33,672.52 with an available balance of \$25,596.42. The scholarship balance is \$8,076.10. Heather Randolph made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. James Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Principal's Report**

The first session of summer school closed out successfully. Nearly 100 credits were recovered. Some students are still working independently in order to complete additional recovery credits. Students not completing a recovery course will be reassigned the course upon return to school.

The second session of our summer program is the Freshman Acceleration Academy. This program is for incoming 9th graders and will provide them with a head start as they get acquainted with Central. Dates are July 7- 27. There are 35 students participating.

We are still waiting on final results from our state EOC testing.

Currently all but 1 teaching/staff positions are filled for the coming school year. 4 Exceptional Education teachers relocated and were replaced. 1 English teacher is moving out of town and 1 History teacher moved out of state. Our band director relocated to Northeast TN. This position has been filled. Joshua Singleton is the new band director. One additional position has opened as Ms. Shurette, in our PE department, accepted a position in a neighboring district. This position is currently open.

Summer cleaning and maintenance is occurring. A security addition is being added to the front door/walkway. Plans are underway for a return to school with all students attending in person in August.

Staff return on August 5 students return on August 12

Ludy asked if Brielle Farrow was one of the teachers leaving and Mr. I assured us she wasn't leaving. She is pursuing advancement in her career in administration but she isn't moving now.

Heather asked about the 4 exceptional ed teachers leaving and expressed her regret that Ms. Shurette is leaving. Mr. I explained that she is moving to either Bradley Co. or Cleveland City schools because her son is moving to middle school and they will be in the same district. He explained that 1 exceptional ed teacher moved to pursue other interests and the 3 other teachers were moving due to family or personal reasons. They all moved out of state due to life situations. The band director moved to Kingsport.

Lucy asked about how many of the 100 credits were Seniors. He said very few were Seniors. There were only about 9 in summer school with 6 having success.

John Crawford asked what the plan was for softball with Shurette's leaving. Mr. I asked for recommendations. Lucy expressed that Heather would be a good candidate and Heather expressed that although it would be a dream come true but she had too many years teaching in Georgia. Heather did express that she would love to help/give advice etc. on the incoming coaching vacancy since she is still connected in the softball world. Mr. I said he would pass the word along to the athletic director and John suggested that they run the names through Heather because she would be in the know of who a good candidate would be. Katheron Latham reminded Mr. I that we would also need a new FCA leader.

Buffy asked if there would be freshman orientation. Mr. I said that Monday August 9 at 6:00 is the tentative date and time. She asked if the alumni could give the freshman bracelets this year during the orientation. Mr. I said this would be a great idea.

Preston said he had heard that the journalism class wasn't going to be a class and he expressed what a great class this was and what a great impact it had on him during his high school career. Mr. I said there had been conversation about changing some classes/scheduling and that journalism was not looking like a class that was going to be eliminated. The journalism class structure will not be changed. Mr. I expressed that our journalism class etc. was top notch. He said they are committed to keeping this class and that they do a great job.

### **Student Officer's Report**

Sarah Katheron said there wasn't a lot going on for students right now during the summer. She said that at the end of school the Ruriteen club started the project of updating the planters and they had thought about finishing it this summer. They are going to talk with someone at Ooltewah Nursery about a more sustainable way to maintain these planters. James interceded and gave her the names of a couple of Central alumni that work there if she needed help making contact with them. Sarah said she is staying busy with her internship this summer and her mission trip this summer went great.

## **Old Business**

Preston reported on the brick fundraiser. He said we were up to 26 bricks. He asked about the paypal issue that Tara and Buffy were working out. He said he thinks they are ready to be ordered. Tara stated that she wanted to make sure that the individual, she thinks it was Ray Adkins, who sent a check a few weeks ago gets his name on the list and his bricks ordered. Tara said she would go back and look at her spreadsheet after the meeting and inform Buffy and Preston. He sent a check to Tara and printed what he wanted on his brick to Tara in an email. Preston said it can be manually added. Lucy asked if the check was on the report and Tara said it was on the last report. Buffy is waiting to hear from Tommy McDaniel.

John said he spoke with Joyce Parson Patterson. Buffy has spoken with her as well. Tara said we believe her check and information for bricks was given to David Sharpe and somehow was lost in the shuffle. The alumni association will be covering the cost of her brick order because we couldn't find her check or order form. Joyce also had an issue when she donated for the locker room plaques and as an alumni association we want to make sure she has a good experience. Tara and Heather know her personally and know that she gave to both of these fundraisers with her money and information a long time ago. John stated that the plaque was also taken care of.

Buffy asked what needed to be done to get the bricks ordered. Tara explained the process. Buffy asked if she could put it on her credit card to get the process moving since Tara is going out of town Saturday. Tara said we could wait a week to get the order in that it wasn't necessary for Buffy to do this. Buffy agreed that this would be handled when Tara got back in town.

Preston asked if Tara had a chance to look at the DAHOF press release. Buffy said she thought it looked great. Tara said she would look in depth at it after the meeting and email him.

Buffy asked Mr. I if the SHOF BBQ dinner would be allowed to take place in the cafeteria due to covid concerns. Mr. I said as of right now it was a go but things could change. John reported on the SHOF induction and dinner. He stated that we would induct 2 classes. We voted on the Class of 2020 last year. Those inductees are: Ken Hudgens, Thomas Kelsey, Marty McDaniel, Stan Robbs and Coach Bang Bang Bales.

The SHOF committee is recommending the following nominees for the Class of 2021: Jerry Summers, Mark Matlock, J.C. Cooper (deceased) and Ken Connelly. The association needs to vote on the 2021 class. Jerry Summers' accomplishments are well known to the association. Mark Matlock graduated in '76 and played at Vanderbilt. J.C. Cooper graduated in '58 and was a left handed pitcher on the state championship team and signed with the Washington Senators. Ken Connelly was a baseball and basketball player that graduated in '59. During his research John discovered that our baseball teams in the '50s were outstanding. James asked if John was making a recommendation to approve these individuals. Tara asked what Ken Connelly had accomplished after high school. John stated that he played at Austin Peay. Heather stated that as a committee member she felt this was the easiest class they have put together. John agreed.

James made a motion to accept the Class of 2021 as recommended by the SHOF committee. Tara seconded the motion. The motion passed.

John said that J.C. Cooper passed away in 2006. He is having a hard time finding an address and phone number. His wife's name is Jill Porter Cooper and lives in Bakewell. Buffy said she would try to find this information. Lucy asked his first name. John doesn't know this information. Lucy tried to find it in the directory but couldn't. Tara looked up his obituary and said one of his sons is J Cooper.

John spoke with Vivian Pettigrew. She will be limited with what she can do to help with the BBQ dinner. He asked if Judy could help. Vivian will be available to help after August 21. Judy asked if any contacts had been made and John stated that he had not. Heather said she can make some contacts and help until she goes back to work on August 2. John asked for someone to check with Sweeney's on Hwy 58 to get a quote and if someone would check with Rib & Loin. Heather said she would contact Sweeney's. Tara said that Buffy had asked for all the charges for 2019. We paid Rib & Loin \$714.80 including tip at the last dinner. Vivian was reimbursed \$13.98. Tara stated we bought the chips ourselves. We paid \$40 for tickets to be printed. Tara said we had talked about not printing tickets since most people purchase their tickets at the door.

Buffy made the distinction that Judy was not the chairman. She will assist Buffy. Vivian is the chairman but is busy with her class reunion coming up so Buffy will assist her. Judy said she would call Rib & Loin. Heather asked how many people we needed to plan for. John said between 100 & 150 people. Tara said that at the last BBQ dinner we almost ran out of food and that we usually based it on 100 people. The group agreed we needed to probably plan for 125 people.

Buffy said that we had paid the cafeteria workers \$242.21 at the last BBQ dinner. She said that due to Covid still being a concern we need to hire the workers to pre-load boxes and hand them to guests as they come through the line instead of a self-serve plate. Heather said we would need more than two workers. Lucy said she wasn't sure about the boxes. Katheron said that for a spring luncheon from Rib & Loin for the teachers it came pre-packaged. She said the restaurant might do this for us. Judy suggested that we not hand people a box of food for an evening event. She said there are several selections (4-5 plus dessert) and she doesn't feel this will be successful. Tara agreed with Judy and said that a plate would be better even though she understands the concerns. She stated we had a hard time getting cafeteria workers in the past as well. Katheron said that Rib & Loin did a picnic on the grounds for Bayside Baptist Church at a past event and workers from the restaurant came and served the meal. She expressed the need for servers if we have a line with people filling plates. Tara said this may be cheaper than getting cafeteria workers to serve. Judy said we can't do without them because they understand how the equipment works. Tara said we would still need them but wouldn't necessarily need as many to serve. Tara said it was just hard to find people to work. Buffy said it was because of the low pay and that the county required us to meet their pay scale. She asked Heather and Judy to include this addition (servers) when speaking with the restaurants to

get a quote. Heather said we need 2 people from the cafeteria and she asked Mr. I if it was okay to bring other servers in. He said it was okay. Lucy said we need to go ahead and pay someone from the restaurant to come in and serve. Tara said we need servers in addition to the cafeteria workers. Tara said in the past we had paid the cafeteria workers more and we found out we couldn't pay the workers cash so it was hard to find workers to come back up to the school to work. Buffy remembered this. Heather and Judy will get quotes including servers.

John asked Buffy if she would have the anvils and she stated she would. He will get the pictures soon. Letters will be sent out notifying the families in August. Lucy said she would find out Ken Connelly's children's names. Buffy asked if he could go ahead and make phone calls to the inductees and let them know a letter will follow. John said he would do the best he could because he doesn't have all the phone numbers.

John said he knew that arrangements had been made in the past with Elder's Ace Hardware providing ferns for the stage. He asked who could get this taken care of. Heather stated that Vivian probably had it in her notes. Buffy said she would take care of this.

John asked how many tickets per family did we want to give the inductees for the BBQ dinner. Judy said as many as they asked for and the group was in agreement. Tara asked about the football tickets. We had gotten them free in the past but when Curt Jones became the coach he started charging us for the football tickets. Heather stated that we didn't need football tickets that the inductees and their guests should be put on a pass gate list. John agreed with this. He asked Tara if she would be at the table when people come into the dinner. He said we can make our pass list at that time. Tara said she would sit there. We won't pay for tickets to the game. John suggested we give \$4 a ticket as a donation to the football team and several spoke up and disagreed with this. It was stated that the alumni association does a lot for Central High School and that it isn't asking a lot to let the people we are honoring in. It isn't taking money away from the school. James said we need to get the pass list and let the inductees and their guests in. Mr. I said as the principal he doesn't have a problem with this. He said the seats didn't cost anything for them to sit in. He said we just need to make sure there isn't any confusion at the pass gate. If there are no tickets involved it shouldn't be an issue on behalf of the school. John said he knows how much it costs to run a program. Tara said if we didn't help them out it would be different. Mr. I said they weren't losing anything so he feels like it's okay.

John asked Tara about a flyer that they were getting together. He said he will get the information on both the Class of 2020 and the Class of 2021 to Tara for the press release. Tara said Preston was the one who wrote the press release John was referring to. She asked Preston if he could write the release for the SHOF. Preston agreed. Tara said she would help him get the press releases where they needed to go. John will send the information to Tara and she will get it to Preston. Preston leaves to go back to school on the day of the golf tournament. John will go on the radio during the first couple of weeks of September and by that time everyone will have been informed of their induction. Tara asked him to include his contact information so they can put it on the press release. Heather said make sure everyone is contacted before the press release goes out. The press release will go out 3 weeks before the

SHOF induction and BBQ dinner and will work in conjunction with the release being sent out for the DAHOF.

Buffy reported on merchandise sales. She will be setting up a merchandise booth with Jerry Summer's books, mugs, and brick flyers. She is inviting the quarterback club to sell their decals. They are the old pounder man decals. Her donation to the quarterback club was the purchase of the decals for their resale. They sold 21 decals during registration at their golf tournament for \$10 each. She thinks this will be positive for them and stated that she hoped no one had a problem with this. Several in the group stated they wanted to purchase a decal.

John asked if Buffy was coming to his class reunion, % '68 on Aug. 6 at the Weston at 6:00. She put it on her calendar.

Tara said we had not covered tickets regarding the SHOF BBQ dinner. Buffy asked if paypal worked in the cafeteria. John said that wifi was good in the school. Tara suggested that we not print tickets because we don't use them. She said we can put a link online for people that want to prepay. Judy said most people pay when they get there and said she doesn't feel tickets are necessary but that a list of attendees and their guests is necessary. Buffy said it might be a problem with people paying online. Tara said she would have a list of people who had paid online. Judy said she had plenty of tickets. We aren't going to print tickets but will have some tickets available. There was a discussion on what needed to be charged for the BBQ dinner and everyone agreed we needed to continue to charge \$5. Everyone agreed that this has never been a fundraiser.

Buffy asked James if he was going to be able to help on the golf tournament. James stated that he would. He said that Barney usually helps with the flyers. He asked Preston if he put a flyer on the website last year. Preston said there was a flyer already there. Lucy said that Laurie would make a flyer if he would get the information to them. He wants a flyer to take to businesses and to hang up at different locations. He will get with Waffle house and take care of getting the plaques. James will also talk with the people who have insured the hole in the past. Judy asked if we were going back to goody bags. James said we are doing the \$10 bills, not the goody bags. Judy told James to get with Barney about the hole insurance. Tara said she would talk to her friend about being a corporate sponsor. She also suggested James talking to Eddie Gillette about Camping World being a corporate sponsor. Tara said he would probably want to bring a camper and set it up. James said he had done this for different events in the past and he would reach out to him. John said to go to Gene McGhee at the restaurant Rain and he might do more.

Judy asked if James was going to do the fundraiser form that needed to be filled out. Buffy said she would do this for the BBQ and golf tournament. Judy asked if James was taking care of the registration form. He said that Laurie was developing something to print off. Tara said we need both. James said the form would be on the website. He said the flyer was to put up at the golf courses. Judy asked if we need both. She said she would do the donation letter again but wants a form to send out with it. The form (tri-fold brochure) from last year can be tweaked.

Buffy said she had worked with Becky at Advantage Printing and she would take the form and get the changes made. Lucy asked if Barney was still on the Zoom call and Buffy said we lost him (he was on an airplane).

James said that at the football golf tournament this year everyone that had not prepaid wanted to pay with a card. He said people started to use Venmo to pay him. He asked if we needed to look into setting up a Venmo account. Tara said she would look into this. Tara said we didn't even need to try using paypal at the golf tournament because of the connection and it was a huge mess.

Buffy is going to work with Barney on getting signs for the sponsors. She asked everyone to work on getting door prizes. They are working with David Champion at Waffle House to get the food. The plaque engraving will be taken care of by Buffy and James. Buffy will take care of morning coffee and snacks. There will be a merchandise table. James said to make a note for morning snacks that he has a contact at Dunkin Donuts. We used prepackaged food last year due to covid.

Buffy stated we can all take turns at the putting contest, mulligans, 50/50 and registration table. Judy said that Naomi Hay will do the mulligans. Judy will do 50/50. Tara usually does registration. Tara said that Pam and Diane usually help too. Judy said we need to really try to get them to fill out the cards at registration. Buffy said everyone usually brings a case of water. Judy will contact Coke to get drinks donated. She will need to know by the next meeting how many drinks are needed.

Tara said we would send the press release for the golf tournament at the same time as we send the release for the SHOF induction. James will reach out to Sport Talk and he said that Brian Smith will get them on FOX as well.

James will go ahead and reach out to Dunkin Donuts. The Club House will be open at the golf tournament.

We will have 6 weeks from the August meeting until the golf tournament.

James let the group know he has put his name in to serve on the school board. He is going to find out if he can still hold his VP position for the alumni association. He can still volunteer regardless. There was a lot of discussion and support given to him. He let the group know that to show support for whatever candidate they wished to see be appointed an email could be sent to all of the commissioners. Tara asked when a decision would be made. The date is August 4.

## **New Business**

Katheron reported that right before school was out she applied for a VEC grant and the alumni sponsored the choir in order to receive this grant. The choir needs new music and some students can't afford to purchase their uniform. VEC granted the choir \$1250 and Buffy will pick this up Monday. She expressed her gratitude for the sponsorship. Tara asked who the check

would be made out to. Katheron said that it would be made out to the alumni association. When the check comes in Tara will get a check written to Central for the choir.

The Dutch Foundation Fields of Honor sent an email inquiry. This is a group in the Netherlands. They work with World War II Battlefields and Memorials. They have found a Central alumni, J.R. Crockett, % '44. He was a pilot killed in action. They are doing a short history of everyone buried in the cemetery there. Buffy was able to get a photo from the Champion and from his nephew to send them. Buffy is going to send all the information to Sarah Katheron if the Digest wants to do a story and she is going to do a FB post as well. Sarah Katheron asked if Buffy would forward her all the emails so she could have all the information.

Buffy said there are 5 reunions coming up. % '59 Oct 8th at Council Fire, % '60 Sept 24/25 , % '61 Aug 21 The Chattanooga, % '76 Aug 21 The Renaissance Pavilion, % '81 July 31. The class of '61 and '76 have approved the alumni association to have a table set up to give out information on the bricks. Buffy asked if someone could go to the Aug 21 % '61 reunion. She will be at the % '76 reunion on the same night. Judy said she would go. Lucy said that her brother, Gordon McGlohon would be there and would probably help. She is trying to get with Joey McNutt to find out where the % '81s reunion is. Heather said she had texted Joey McNutt and asked where the reunion was and will get the information to Buffy when he gets back with her.

Buffy said she had emailed us a request from the quarterback club for a request to pay for paint in order to finish the stadium steps. She said that since the email had been sent that Barney Ottinger had said he was personally going to pay for the paint.

Heather let the group know that Joey McNutt had texted back and the % '81s reunion is at Kendra Davis Cameron's barn in Birchwood. She will get an address and send it to Buffy.

James said that the paint requested from the quarterback is to paint the steps purple and gold. Elder's Ace Hardware gave the quarterback a deal. Buffy let everyone know that they are also doing a clean up this coming Saturday.

## **Miscellaneous**

Tara reminded the group that for our protection we as a board need to make decisions together when allowing groups to use our name for grants etc. She said that although we would have all been in agreement to allow the choir to use our name to receive their grant, we might not want other groups to use it in the future and if we turned them down they might want to know what our process was in making these decisions. This way we are protected and everyone is treated equally. She stressed again how excited she was for the choir but with love and caution felt she needed to remind the group that we needed to follow the same procedures and process so that everything is handled in the same way. James spoke up and agreed as did Buffy and the group.

John asked for prayer for Mark Matlock who is having major back surgery tomorrow.



Lucy said the husband of a former classmate who passed away this year brought her a brick from Dodds Ave. Central. She asked what we had decided to do with these old bricks. Buffy said that Melinda Martin was still asking for old bricks. We are not going to try to insert them in the brick pathway because of weathering (they would deteriorate quickly). Buffy is arranging a meeting with Ed Hoback who has some bricks. They are holding onto them for now and will decide at a later date what to do with the bricks. Many spoke up and said they didn't feel they would deteriorate. Buffy said we could look at this later down the road.

Buffy stated that the next meeting she would like for us to meet in the library. She doesn't know if zoom will work but said we can set up a phone meeting. Mr. I said that zoom will work. This is the first day of school. Buffy shared that August 11, 1911 was the very first alumni association meeting.

Next alumni meeting on August 12th at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded. Motion passed.

Heather C. Randolph

Secretary

### **List of Attendees**

Lucy Bottorff  
John Crawford  
Preston Fore  
Admiral Vance Fry  
Charlene Fry  
Buffy Hoge  
Mr. I  
Katheron Latham  
Sarah Katheron Latham  
Barney Ottinger  
Judy Phillips  
Heather Randolph  
Tara Waldrop  
James Walker