

It's been an amazing first year for the Alumni Association thanks to our hardworking board and committees as well as the generosity of the community and support of the school.

We have been excited by the success of our two major fundraisers. The first one in December was the raffle of the PGA Championship tickets for the 2023 PGA Tournament at Oak Hill being held this week. Close to \$4000 was raised.

The second was our first Annual Casino Night which was a huge success and great fun. The response was positive and looks like it could be an annual event. Thanks to all our sponsors, our committee members, and those who attended, everyone had a great time. Chairperson Rick Francis '70 ran a smooth casino floor and Upstate Vegas used their expertise to help everyone win.

Over 70 gifts and door prizes were given out. Our sponsors generosity covered all our expenses so that we were able to raise \$7000 for our Scholarship and Grants Fund. Speaking of scholarships...The winners have been selected. All are well deserving.



Scholarship Winners

The Hilton Alumni Scholarship for a senior entering a trade or technical school for \$1000 went to Charlie Streb. He was chosen by our scholarship and grants committee members and recommended to the Board for approval. The scholarship and grants committee is made up of Larry Gurslin '66, Dr Kathy Peterson '75, Maureen Werner, Esq '83, Allen Taylor, '70 and David Dimbleby, former HCS Superintendent.

The Scoppa Memorial Scholarship for a college bound senior entering the teaching field will go to: Victoria Velyk and Sophia Streiner. Each received \$500. Recipients were chosen by the Scoppa Family.

The John Buell Memorial Scholarship for \$300 went to Aidan Morrealle who will be majoring in art. Recipient was chosen by the Art Faculty of the High School.

We were able to administer two family memorial scholarships for the Scoppa family in memory of their parents and Rick Francis in memory of his brother, Kevin. The monies given for these scholarships have been invested with Charles Schwab through Wealth Management. Any donor who sets up a scholarship for us to administer has signed a letter of agreement with us, so we know how to invest and how to use the money.



In the 2022-23 school year we awarded a \$3000 grant to Sources of Strength, a peer counseling program for the prevention of suicide and enhanced student to student support. A second grant for \$4000 went to the High School for a logo mural just completed in the main foyer by the Art teachers, and we contributed \$1000 grant to the 8th grade class for their trip to DC.

The Scholarship and Grants Committee will be reviewing the grant proposal application process to simplify it to see if we can attract more teachers to apply.

A surprise source of donation came from families who designated the HAA as a memorial donation for their loved ones when they passed on. The Lemcke and Simmonds families graciously made these donations possible.

Allen Taylor and Norm Kennard are working on drawing up paperwork so that we can accept bequests as well.

As we come to our first anniversary as an incorporated organization, we are working to fulfill our mission of connecting alumni, educators and community through our events, newspaper articles and great support from the school.

In May, Nancy was named a Friend of Education by the Board of Education for the work of the Alumni Association in supporting the schools and students in the district. This is our mission, and it was an honor to be recognized for our work. We are having an impact!

Two board members are leaving the board this year and we thank Debbi Dean and Allen Taylor for their work on the board. It was Allen's idea to give back to the school for the great foundation they gave us and over a 3 year period with lots of hard work and expertise from Allen and the Board the HAA was born. Allen will be staying on to consult and work on committees and for that we are grateful. Nancy will continue for a new three-year term. We have two alums who have stepped forward to serve on the board. Joey Dean Danzig, Class of 95 and Jena Jollie, Class of 04 both bring skills and connections that will serve the Association well. There is still one board opening and we are looking for someone who is super organized, likes administration, and has experience in leading meetings. If you are that person or know someone who is, please contact us at hiltonalumniassociation@gmail.com.

Special thank you to the entire board for all the hard work and many hours they put into make this year such a success. I want to give a shout out to Rick Francis and Erik Edelman who put in hours on our fundraising materials and events. They would not have been successful or as professionally produced without them. Our alumni are a very talented and committed group of individuals who continue to make a difference in the world and for their alma mater.



Looking ahead there are several areas where we need to put more emphasis and hopefully 2024 will bring results as we do. Briefly, we need more alumni to register, to volunteer for specific standing committees and to help us get the message out of what we are doing.

Board of Directors 2022-2023

Nancy Leport, President	Class of 70	2022-2023
Sue Mullen, Vice President	Class of 78	2022-2024
Debi Dean, Secretary	Class of 71	2022-2023
Kim Perry, Treasurer	Class of 69 (Rush Henrietta)	2022-2025
Norman Kennard, Esq.	Class of 70	2022-2024
Kara Engle	Class of 10	2022-2024
Erik Edelman	Class of 09	2022-2025
Rick Francis	Class of 70	2022-2025
Allen Taylor	Class of 70	2022-2023

At Large:

Sen. Josh Jensen	Class of 06	2022-2025
Edward Mascadri	Class of 97	2022-2025
Kristen Paolini	Class of 98 (Greece Athena)	2022-2025

2023-24 Board Nominees

Nancy Leport	2023-2026	Class of 70
Joey Danzig	2023-2026	Class of 95
Jena Jollie	2023-2024	Class of 04