



The Marionette

Please Help our Scholarship Funds

Beginning with the first graduating class at Harding Charter Preparatory high school, your alumni association has been able to fund scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$5000 dollars. With the addition of Harding Fine Arts Academy we included scholarships for their graduates as well. Our alumni have been generous over the years but we are in jeopardy of not reaching our goal of funding as many scholarships this year as we have in the past. Contributions to the association and espe-

cially to the scholarship funds are down. We urge each alumnus to consider making a contribution to the fund of their choice as part of their annual giving. It is only through a commitment from you that our scholarship program will continue. Remember that even a little will go along way if everyone participates.

These small scholarships may not seem to be of very much help but those student who have received them report that they make the difference in providing the things

other types of scholarships and loans do not cover. For students who can only afford to attend community college, a one thousand dollar scholarship is especially helpful. Remember, although students in these two schools come from a wide spectrum of socio-economic backgrounds, at least 50% of them qualify for free lunch at school. The help that we give to them will definitely help fulfill their college dream. Donations can be made using the form on page 4 or at www.hardingalumni.org

Kudos to HFFA Students

Two HFAA students, **Ester Devanney** and **Gabrielle Coffee**, were part of a six member team of central Oklahoma high school students that received the First Oklahoma ArtScience Prize. In response to the team of the contest "The Future of Water" the team developed a biodegradable water

bottle. As part of the prize the team will spend a week this fall in Paris and attend Le Laboratoire, an institute that explores the creative process as a fusion of art and science.

HFA students also took part in the 25th national "Brass Ring Awards" competition held at Oklahoma

Christian University last March. With over 2000 entrants from 27 high schools and 70 universities across the US. HFA students **Sharoya Minnus**, **Cara Belt** and **Kaiser Volt** swept the awards winning 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the high school division.

Inside this issue:

Outstanding Alum—Mike Evans '63	2
Changes for Harding Building	2
Fallen Eagles	3
Harding Fine Arts Reports	3
Class of '61 Celebrates 50 Years	3
Dues/ Donations Form	4

Class of 1962

50-Year Reunion

**Save the Date
June 1-2, 2012**

**Details are Pending
Contact Robin Johnson
rdeejohn@aol.com**

Outstanding Alum—Mike Evans '63

Mike Evans graduated from Harding in 1963. After attending The University of Oklahoma, where he received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 1967, he entered law school and received a Juris Doctorate degree in 1971. For the next 30 years he was CEO of the Evans Furniture Company located in Oklahoma City.

In 1988 Mike began developing his interest in art and began to cast in bronze and crystal. He studied with Tasso Pitsiri, a classically trained Greek sculptor. Mike spent the summers of 1992 and 1993 studying with Martine Vaugel in Anger, France.

After retirement, Mike moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico in 2003 where he sculpts full-time in his studio located at 1807 Second Street, Studio 41. Mike is at home in the artist's community and is very happy.

Mike is described as a Realist Figurative Sculptor. His art focuses upon life experiences which have fiercely challenged his emotions. He explains "I begin telling stories and reliving memories, using tools to turn a feeling or emotion into something tangible."

Mike has shown his work at several galleries, both in Santa Fe, as well as Oklahoma City. He participated in several shows at the Independent Artists of Oklahoma Studio in Oklahoma City. Pictures of Mike's work are available at his website

www.mikeevanssculpture.com.

I recently visited Mike at his studio in Santa Fe. He explained the meaning of his sculptures and explained the process of the lost wax casting.

For those who remember Mike as a kind and gracious fellow, you will be glad to know that he has not changed. Mike's wife Lynn is



Mike Evans '63

a native of Shattuck, OK. He has one son, David, who lives in Oklahoma City. Mike's sister, Phyllis HHS '66, also lives in Santa Fe.

Submitted by Marty Sanger McCharen '63

Changes in Store for Harding Building

There is great news concerning improvements to the Harding building. Harding Charter Preparatory High School was awarded a federal grant as part of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. The funds, which total over one million dollars, will be used to improve the energy efficiency of the building. Some of the improvements included as part of the project include new exterior

doors, improvements to lighting and new heat and air systems.

Frankfurt-Short-Bruza Associates P.C. will oversee the project. Since the Harding building is on the national registry of historic places, all changes to the building will be in compliance with guidelines for such facilities.

If you have ever visited the building in the summer, you

*Want more information about your Alumni Association or your class?
Go to www.hardingalumni.org
Links to class websites are found there as well.*

know that the air conditioning system is inadequate. The new air conditioning system, in conjunction with other improvements will allow faculty, staff and students to be more comfortable and will lower energy costs to the schools.

Fallen Eagles

Bill Cornelius, Jr. '67, 8/30/11, Oklahoma City, OK.

Robert Durden, Teacher, 4/10/11, Ballston Spa, N.Y.

Sandra Parker Elam '61, 6/8/11, Oklahoma City, OK.

Martha Kite Farrington '63, 4/23/11, Lewisville, TX.

Peggy Hirsch Gray '62, 4/20/11, Albuquerque, NM.

Robert Warren Price '60, 7/14/11, Oklahoma City, OK.

Tracy Silvester '58, 7/15/11, Oklahoma City, OK.

Wayne Taylor '62, 4/14/11, Hinton, OK.

*Report recent deaths at
www.hardingalumni.org*

Harding Fine Arts Reports

Harding Fine Arts Academy is off to a great start. With 322 students, every available space is used, but it is working. Some classrooms were divided this summer to make room for everyone, and students, teachers, and administrators are all comfortably moved into their new classrooms and offices.

The faculty has expanded to 33 including full and part-time teachers, administrators, and staff. We have welcomed new teachers to the math, science, dance, music, special education and foreign language departments as we continue to expand our academic and arts offerings.

The End of Instruction scores from last spring have arrived, and we are pleased to share them with you. The pass rates are as follows: Algebra I—91%, Algebra II—70%, Geometry—90%, English II—94%,

English III—99%, Biology—87%, and US History—92%. These scores are a great indication of the success of our arts-integrated program and are considerably higher than the district high schools. The specialized curricular approaches of the two schools in the Harding Building offer Oklahoma City students and parents a real choice and an opportunity for greater academic achievement.



Class of '61 girls return to school. Left to Right: Barby Burnett Sidon, Carol Green Longmire, Virginia Byrd Henry, Donna Smith Watson, Becky Blackstock, Barbara Kite Spencer.

Class of '61 Celebrates It's 50th Reunion

The class of 1961 gathered the weekend of June 10-June 11 to celebrate 50 years since their graduation from Harding. A brief period of rain could not wet the spirits of classmates as they gathered for a backyard barbeque catered by Earl's barbeque on June 10. The party was held in the beautiful home and yard of Suzanne Peck Neff and her husband David Neff. Suzanne and David are the daughter and son-in-law of class of '61 member **Annabel Givens**. With a turnout of 97 class members and guests the reunion was one of the best ever. The class remembered the 40 from the class who are know to be deceased by taking a moment to remember each one individually and release a balloon to the heavens in their honor.

Members of the class who traveled from both the east and west coasts included **Carol Green**

Longmire, Sharon Butler Buchanan, Marc Kadyk, James Thompson, Howard Fagin, John Ashworth, Paul Booton, Donna Smith Watson and Bob Van Horn. Sarah Fugitt Reid came from Illinois. Other states represented included Texas, Colorado, Nevada and New Mexico.

Saturday morning brought the option of playing golf at Gaillardia Country Club or attending an open house at Harding. The golfers had a great time in spite of hot weather and enjoyed a beer afterward at the home of their hosts **Barbara Kite Spencer and her husband Dennis**.

A number of class members took advantage of the open house where they learned about the two charter schools that occupy the building and their teaching missions. Everyone attending enjoyed the opportunity to walk the halls and see what has change or not about the school they fondly remember.

Lunch for the class was held at Johnnie's on Britton Road which still has some favorite Split-T burgers on the menu. The restaurant was packed as the 1961 class from N.W. Classen was there as part of their 50th reunion. Harding and N.W. graduates had a great time interacting with their friends from each school.

The reunion was concluded by a dinner dance at Remington Park. Ronnie Kaye provided the 50's and 60's music. By the end of the evening group dancing added to the festivities.

Thanks goes to the reunion committee **Becky Blackstock, Janet Kamber Price, Annabel Givens, Hugh Sprague, Judi Johnson Worsham, Ed Mitchell, Farrel Roper, and Marleen Moulden Harris**.



**HARDING HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION OF OKLAHOMA CITY**

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Oklahoma City, OK 73154

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DON'T FORGET YOUR DUES AND SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS!!

Your dues are what keep this newsletter coming

Yearly dues are \$25.00 (for the year beginning 6-1-11 through 5-31-12) and lifetime dues are \$150.00

First Name _____ Last Name while at Harding _____

Last Name _____ Spouse _____

HHS class _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

I have included payment for : Annual dues _____ ; Lifetime dues _____.

I have included a \$ _____ donation for the 2011-2012 HHSAA scholarship fund(s).

Please indicate which scholarship fund: General (B) _____ ; Sayre (CP) _____ ; Miller (B) _____ ; Promise (FA) _____ ; Campbell (CP) _____

Parenthesis indicate where the scholarship(s) will be awarded: Both Schools (B), Charter Prep (CP), Fine Arts (FA)

My \$ _____ contribution is for the general gifts/memorial fund: _____ . if this donation is in memory of a deceased alum please indicate their name: _____

Your Dues and Contributions to the HHSAA Are Tax Deductible

Make checks payable to the HHSAA

Donors receive recognition as Scholarship Sponsor -Platinum Eagle Donor (\$1000+) Golden Eagle Donor,(\$500-999), Silver Eagle Donor (\$250-499), Bronze Eagle Donor (\$100-249) or Eagle Donor (\$1-99).

Mail to: HHSAA, P.O. Box 54307, Oklahoma City, OK 73154