



TCCHS ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION EMAIL
NEWSLETTER
“CELEBRATING OUR PAST, PRESENT,
AND FUTURE”

www.tcchsalumni.org

Volume 1, April 2014

INITIAL FOUNDING OF TCCHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
An Answered Vision

On May 17, 2013, Mike Kenner, TCCHS Class of 1975, former Todd County Schools’ Superintendent, and former principal at TCCHS; Kim Higgins Sears, Class of 1980; and Carolyn Wells, Class of 1968 and former teacher at TCCHS, discussed briefly

**Approved Mission Statement of
the TCCHS Alumni Association ...**

“THE TCCHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
REACHES OUT, CONNECTS, AND
CELEBRATES ITS ALUMNI AND
FRIENDS, EMBRACING THE PRESENT
WHILE LOOKING TO ITS FUTURE TO
BUILD LIFELONG RELATIONSHIPS
AND SUPPORT OF TODD COUNTY
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL.”

a vision that Mike Kenner had embraced for some time. That vision centered on Todd Central and his belief that many alumni and friends of TCCHS wanted to commit themselves to founding an alumni association, an association that would bring together the many graduates who have exited the doors of TCCHS since its first opening in September 1963 along with the many friends who share an interest in TC.

That initial meeting led to a second more formal meeting in June 2013; this time those attending the meeting included the former three along with Dr. Dusty Griffin Reed, Class of 2000; Todd

Marshall, current TCCHS principal; and Wayne Benningfield, current Todd County Schools’ Superintendent. Again with a concept embracing the future, those present discussed more about the formation of the association, and arrangements were made for another meeting to be held at the Todd County Board of Education last July. Each person was asked to generate more interest for the association by enlisting the support of other graduates from their decade; thus, the momentum began for securing the names and addresses for all of the graduates of Todd Central from 1963 until 2013. That undertaking, one that is difficult to fathom, has been overpowering since the early years

“CELEBRATING OUR PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE”

at TCCHS, like all schools everywhere, did not have modern technologies allowing for much easier collection and maintenance of data.

Since those initial meetings, the TCCHS Alumni Association has been formed, adopting bylaws for the organization and also electing a slate of officers/directors and directors-at-large as well. Obviously, with any organization in its infancy, changes have been made because of the obligations generated by so many folks having quite a few work and personal obligations. Two original officers, Catherine Graves Darnell and Jackie Boyd Weathers, have had to step down from their leadership roles because of new commitments in their lives. Because of the many responsibilities others have had, the number of directors overseeing the organization has also been pared down to include four officers/directors along with three directors-at-large. Two other district employees, Connie Bellar Wofford (TCMS principal, Class of 1975) and Todd Marshall (TCCHS principal) remain as non-voting directors-at-large.

Because of the vast number of friends of Todd Central, the association is also interested in involving the general public and not just alumni only. To become a member of the association for a year as either a graduate or a friend, the membership fee is \$10.00, and for a lifetime membership, either for former students or friends of TC, a minimum contribution of \$200.00 is requested. Since the association is working under the umbrella of the recently founded Todd County School District Foundation for Excellence in Public Education, Inc., the alumni association has tax-exempt status, thus making donations to the organization tax deductible. We sincerely want to involve others in the alumni association, and we ask that you consider attending our meetings. Currently we are meeting the third Thursday night of each month at 6:00 PM in the media center at TCCHS. Obviously, we want to involve you, and we know folks have commitments; however, we ask you to share information about our organization with others and attend events as much as possible.

GOALS OF TCCHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

- To provide gatherings between alumni and TCCHS students for networking and mentoring to promote successful futures of TCCHS graduates
- To have fund raising events to establish scholarship funds for TCCHS grads
- To establish a database of all the graduating classes of TCCHS
- To create a Wall of Fame honoring outstanding alumni
- To publish an email newsletter

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITMENTS

One of the primary goals of the TCCHS Alumni Association members has been to commit the alumni organization to providing scholarships for TC seniors. Jackie Boyd Weathers, Class of 1965, has been very instrumental in laying the framework for the scholarships to be offered. This year four scholarships will be offered to seniors – two in

the area of academics and two in the area of technical training. Another scholarship opportunity hopefully will be offered later in memory of deceased graduates and friends of TCCHS. For more information about applying for the scholarships, please talk with Mrs. Tiffany Wood, TCCHS guidance counselor.

TCCHS'S 50TH YEAR CELEBRATION

May 17, 2014

As most Todd Countians are aware, TCCHS's 50th graduating class exited its front doors last May 2013 at the end of the 50th school year of TCCHS. To honor Todd Central's first 50 years, the alumni association is planning a "celebration" for May 17, 2014; the event, which will begin at 10:00 and conclude at 3:00 PM, will see the return of many faculty and graduates from that first year. Invited guests include former Todd County Schools' Superintendent Henry Malone along with faculty members of 1963-1964 who are able to attend the event. Out of the original faculty, many of those 'first-year' teachers still live locally, and invitations have been sent to those educators.

Plans for the "Celebration" include memorabilia displays to showcase the 1960's, the 1970's, the 1980's, the 1990's, and the years 2000 through 2014. Those five eras will have 'artifacts' of their decade available for visitors to see during the hours of 10:00 until 12:00. Tours of the building are also planned; for many graduates and faculty the 'new' items include the renovated restrooms of the late 1990's, the new student lockers, the central heating and air, the 'new' look of the gymnasium, the new classroom doors throughout the building, and the disappearance of the catwalk. The state-of-the art auditorium, a facility that opened in the fall of 2006, is also a 'must see' for any visitor to TCCHS.

A 'thank you' is extended to Mrs. Patti Glover, TCCHS PTSO president, for her enthusiasm and her willingness to assist the alumni association in its efforts to celebrate this milestone in the history of TCCHS. A huge 'thanks' is also extended to the administration and faculty of TCCHS as they make plans for the May event as well. Mr. Wayne Benningfield stated that he is indeed very thankful that a celebratory event will mark the beginning of an auspicious start to the second 50 years for TC.

FIRST LIFETIME ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBER

Ann Brooks Mudge, Class of 1965

Our first alumni association lifetime member is Mrs. Ann Brooks Mudge, Class of 1965. Below you will see information about Mrs. Mudge and the value she places on the education she received at TCCHS. Her answers are in italics.

- College or Education: *"BS, Business Administration, University of Louisville"*
- Profession After TCCHS: *"Payroll Administrator for Logan County Hospital until I became a stay-at-home mom for several years. When I returned to the*

workforce, I spent almost 20 years at Logan Aluminum Inc. as the Human Resources Administrative Assistant and lastly as an HR Rep. Fortunately, I have been able to spend the last 15 years volunteering for a fundraiser for breast cancer victims and at my church in the Human Resources Department. Eight grandchildren also keep me busy.”

- *What you remember best about TCCHS? “We are the second graduating class from TCCHS; that means we went into our junior year with much anticipation over consolidation of several schools. The transition was flawless. Many new friendships were developed over the next two years.”*
- *Did any teacher really make a deep impression on you? “We were fortunate to have dedicated teachers. Ironically, those who had the reputations for being really tough turned out to be the ones that impacted me the most. I just didn't realize it at the time.”*
- *What makes you proud to be a TCCHS graduate? “Our class has always had reunions, and it is delightful and one of my favorite events when we get together. It is as if we are still in high school and almost 50 years have not passed. These friendships that were established many years ago are evidence that many educators at TCCHS influenced us positively. I am very grateful that they cared enough to try and keep me on track. Of course, I didn't appreciate it at the time but have reflected on it all my life.”*

We applaud the efforts of the Class of 1994; within a matter of weeks, members of this class were able to collect contact information on almost all of their classmates. That task, a very arduous one, is indeed one that deserves commendation! We salute your efforts!

THE ASSOCIATION EXPRESSES THANKS TO

Elkton City Council and Elkton Mayor Nancy Camp, Guthrie City Council, Gary Traugher and Elkton Bank & Trust Company, Laura Brock (City Clerk of Elkton), Lorilee Thompson Rager and Thrive Creative Group of Clarksville, Ms. Rowena Everett, Catherine Graves Darnell, Wayne Benningfield and the Todd County Board of Education, Todd Marshall and the Faculty and Staff of TCCHS, Debbie Johnson of the TCCHS Cafeteria, Patti Glover and the TCCHS PTSO, Larry Rager, Jackie Boyd Weathers, Judge Executive Daryl Greenfield, JNJ Decal Shop, Sharon Shemwell and “Something Special,” Ryan Craig and the ***Todd County Standard***, Brittney Addison, Ann Gardner, and the many graduates and friends of TCCHS who have made this endeavor one that all Todd Central alumni can be extremely proud of. We are very thankful for the generosity of Kenny and Heather Clayton of L & R Soda Shop in Elkton for their willingness to sponsor the “Alumni Night” at L & R Soda Shop and donate 10% of their proceeds to the scholarship fund. We also extend our appreciation to Mrs. Ann Brooks

Mudge, Class of 1965. Mrs. Mudge became the first lifetime member of the association, and we are so thankful of the confidence she demonstrated that the alumni association is 'here to stay.' We also express our thanks to the many graduates who shared their contact info for their peers. Having that information has allowed us to collect names and addresses on 45 of the 50 graduating classes of TCCHS. We applaud their willingness to assist with our goal of creating a spreadsheet of information on 50 years of TCCHS grads.

ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

At this time the alumni memberships total around 235 members and friends of TCCHS who have opted to join the association for a year. Another 23 graduates have elected to have lifetime memberships in the organization. It is through these memberships that the association has been able to mail out to 45 of the 50 classes; those monies generated have also provided monies for postage, mailers, envelopes, and partial funding of the planned senior scholarships.

OUR ALUMNI MEMBERS

Contributed by Catherine Graves Darnell, Class of 1969

Ask any member of the board of directors of the TCCHS Alumni Association why he or she joined and, in some form or fashion, you'll get the same answer — *Payback*. Most of them will tell you they received an excellent education there, then returned to Todd County's educational system, doing double duty — first, as a student, then a teacher of students. Third time's the charm, so they say, and now they are part of a group determined to make a difference in Todd County and at Todd Central, particularly in the area of giving scholarships and providing a means to connect alumni with each other.

If you are interested in who is doing all this work for people that matter to you, here is a glance at several of them.

After graduation from Todd Central in 1966, **Linda Stokes Fritz** attended college and received her B.S. in Elementary Education. At that time she was hired to teach sixth grade in a local elementary school. Linda shared, "I had obtained my goal of becoming a teacher, a goal I had since the age of four. I continued my higher education by studying and obtaining my Masters and onward to a Rank I plus 45 hours in Guidance and Counseling including Testing." She added, "I give many thanks to my alma mater for keeping me focused on my goal as well as preparing me for college studies."

"I will also have to give thanks to another teacher I was first introduced to when I returned to Todd County in the sixth grade. That teacher was Miss Louise White. I was again fortunate to have her as a sophomore and even as a junior; her strong determination for students to learn gave me the survival skills in many college courses." Linda

acknowledged Miss White was a stern and disciplined teacher whose goal was for her students to learn the content of her classes. She noted that at the time she sat in her classes she did not realize the impact she was having on modeling me to reach my goal and become the best teacher and counselor that was within me.

On a lighter side, Todd County Central High School gave Linda the opportunity to pick up her baton again and to perform with a marching band. She commented, "I had not been able to do this since I moved from Bowling Green, KY where I was a mascot twirler. Twirling had always been a part of my life in elementary school until I moved back to Todd County. So, TCCHS gave me the opportunity to twirl, perform, and become the first solo twirler of Todd County Central High School."

Linda's college degrees opened many doors and provided many opportunities, allowing her to touch many students' lives in Kentucky and Tennessee as a teacher and as a counselor. Her education also provided numerous opportunities for traveling abroad to England, Canada, Mexico, Germany, and many other European countries.

In response to the 'why' of membership in the alumni association, Linda added that her life and career have been full and enriched because of the education I received. "I encouraged my students, whether in the role of a teacher or counselor, in obtaining a full education, and I would like to continue to encourage students of today, for they are the greatest resource this country has. I would also like to give back to the alma mater that provided a path for me in obtaining my goal."

She concluded, "I do hope that by working as a member of the Todd County Central High School Alumni Association I can help to instill in students the importance of obtaining their career goals and the importance of studying hard to become their best. She emphasizes today's students are competing with students all around the world, not just American students. "I hope I can use my guidance skills in raising the graduation rate and to provide the spark for that stronger desire to attend college or training schools."

Jackie Boyd Weathers, Class of 1965, serves as chair of the scholarship committee and has also worked diligently with the membership committee and has served in the capacity of treasurer for the association. Jackie grew up in Elkton, and with her husband Bill, Class of 1965, moved back to Elkton in 2012. Jackie graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in home economics. She also has a master's degree in early childhood and elementary education and another one in theatre arts. Now retired, Jackie taught in public schools for 29 years.

Her experiences as a student at TCCHS instilled a positive attitude about the benefits of higher education for all students, especially women. Citing her most memorable teacher as Mr. Arvin Crafton, the chemistry teacher, Jackie commented, "He was such an excellent teacher with high standards for all his students. So much so, the first year of college chemistry was a repeat of his high school teaching."

Jackie joined the alumni association to help create a strong networking for all alums and establish scholarship funds for deserving students. Most enjoyable has been reconnecting with old friends.

Membership Chair, Website Manager, and a member of the scholarship committee, **Carolyn Wells** has been up close and personal with the students at Todd for many years, having recently retired from teaching English and social studies there. She has wonderful and bittersweet memories about her tenure, often hearing the awful refrain of “nobody successful graduated from here,” or “made a difference,” or something to that effect. She would then regale them with stories of students who had indeed risen to a level of what would be considered a success — business owner, lawyer, or doctor.

In addition to highlighting success stories, she says she is most interested in giving scholarships to deserving students. “The value of an education, whether it be at the college level or at the technical college level — is one that can bring to the graduate a lifetime of blessings,” she says.

Charlotte Morrow, Scholarship Committee, who also graduated in 1968, retired from teaching Family and Consumer Sciences and Special Education at TCCHS. She says she feels that the Alumni Association is all about Todd County, and “I wanted to be a part of it.” Personally, her goals are “higher graduation rate for students, more students attending college or vocational school through the association’s scholarships for qualifying students, and a ‘Wall of Fame’ or plaque recognizing successful graduates of TCCHS.” Ms. Morrow was just recently recognized as the 2014 Heritage Bank Scholarship Honoree.

Although he hails from nearby Christian County, TCCHS Principal **Todd Marshall** was a natural choice for the Alumni Association’s Board of Directors since it is the school for which he is responsible that is benefitting from alumni assistance. He serves on the awards and recognition committee, that project having been tabled until the Alumni Association is fully up and running. “I hope to help the Alumni Association become a stronger presence here at our school and in our county.”

In fact, keeping up with old classmates was one of the reasons Licensed Social Worker **Anna Jo Parmley** became an active member of the association. At her first meeting, she liked what she heard about the group’s mission, particularly when it came to scholarships.

She remembers a career day in her teens when she heard speakers talk of the rewards in their career. “I decided I was going to college and major in English and history and minor in sociology,” she says. “I was interested in teaching and helping the poor. Mrs. Malcolm Lunceford taught the sociology class; Mrs. Louise Tilley taught the history, and Mrs. Luther Weeks taught English. Each of them inspired me to do something with my life that would make a difference in someone else’s life.”

Phyllis Hardison Traugher was a member of the 1964 graduating class, the first class to graduate from Todd Central. She watched as her alma mater was being built. “It was wonderful to be the first group to enjoy the new school and to belong to a larger community group,” says the retired elementary school teacher.”

My three now-grown children all graduated from TCCHS and got the studies needed to go on to college and complete their education. Presently, I have three

grandchildren in the county; they, too, will eventually be a part of Todd Central. Therefore, my goal is to support the school as an alumni member with hopes of keeping this school strong so that our Todd County youth might be provided the background needed for college and future careers.”

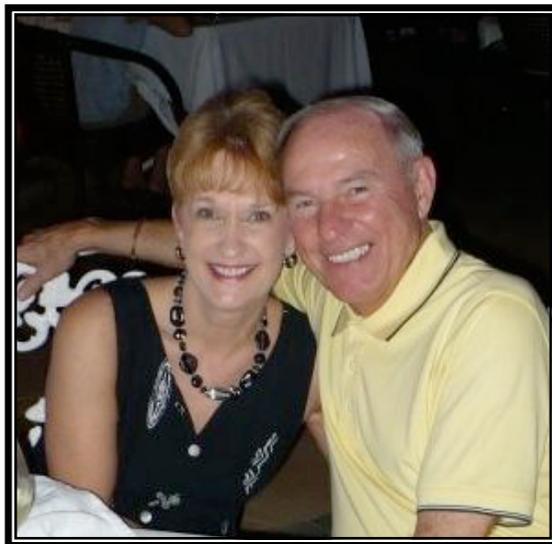
Former columnist for **The Tennessean** newspaper in Nashville and former alumni president **Catherine Darnell** left Todd County when she graduated from high school in 1969 to return home many years later to be nearer to family. She credits high school teacher Algie Smith — an instructor in the creative arts – for inspiration that led to a successful career in writing.

Upon her return, as a substitute teacher she saw too many lackluster students without much hope for their futures, questioning the need to learn new words they felt they would never use again. When she heard of the new alumni association, she saw membership a way to make a difference at the high school as well as a chance to make new friends.

THREE TCCHS GRADUATES LATER RETURN TO LEAD THEIR ALMA MATER AS PRINCIPALS

We believe it is only fitting that the first email newsletter highlights three TCCHS graduates who returned to their alma mater in the role of principal. Two of the three, Fred Harper and Mike Kenner, also served for many years as teachers prior to their assuming administrative positions. Mrs. Joe Nell Waters served as an educator and administrator in Clarksville prior to returning to TCCHS as principal for several years.

FRED HARPER Class of 1964 (TCCHS’s First Graduating Class)



Pictured above are Fred Harper (Class of 1964) and Linda Hyams Harper (Class of 1970). Mr. Harper served as a teacher, coach, athletic director, assistant principal, and principal at TCCHS. Picture is via Facebook.

- College and Education: *“BS - Western Kentucky University, MA - Western Kentucky University, and Rank I (Administration) - Western Kentucky University”*
- Professions after TCCHS: *“Head Boys’ Basketball Coach and P.E./Health Teacher at TCCHS as well as Assistant Principal of TCCHS, Todd County Central Office Staff Member, Principal of Ohio County High School, Principal of TCCHS, Interim Principal: Russellville Middle School, P.E./Health Teacher at Rossvie Middle School, Clarksville, TN and Girls’ Assistant Basketball Coach at Northeast High School, Clarksville, TN, Head Boys’ Basketball Coach and P.E./Health Teacher at Rossvie High School, Clarksville, TN, and P.E./Health Teacher at West Creek Middle School, Clarksville, TN.”*
- What I remember best about TCCHS? *“During my high school years, my years of coaching, and in an administrative position, I remember TCCHS having rigorous academics and outstanding extra co-curricular activities.”*
- Did any teacher make a deep impression on you? *“Mr. Arvin Crafton – he was my Algebra II, Physics, and Chemistry teacher.”*
- What makes me proud to be a TCCHS graduate? *“Having my three children, two step-children, three granddaughters, and wife also graduates of TCCHS makes me very proud. Having another granddaughter there as a sophomore and a daughter-in-law teaching at TCCHS are also proud moments for me.”*

MRS. JOE NELL GLENN WATERS
Class of 1973



- Colleges and Education: *“Trevecca Nazarene University, Nashville, TN, Master’s Degree, Educational Administration and Supervision; Austin Peay State*

University, Clarksville, TN, Bachelor's Degree in English with a Minor in History."

- *Profession after TCCHS: New Providence Middle School, Clarksville, 8th Grade English Teacher; Draughon's Junior College, Clarksville, English I and II and Speech Instructor; Kenwood Middle School, Clarksville, Assistant Principal; Montgomery Central Middle School, Clarksville, Principal; Todd County Central High School, Principal (2007-2011); Chandler's Elementary School and Adairville Elementary School, Administration."*
- *What I remember best about TCCHS: "I remember how some of my teachers' interests in me helped me to strive to be successful in whatever I chose to accomplish after high school. They believed in me! The memory of marching band and concert band will always have a lasting impression in my life. The professionalism and caring attitude of our band teacher was always evident. He put together the first marching band for football for Todd Central. He made this group of students have a sense of belonging to the school in supporting and playing for football and basketball games and other school functions as well as events held in the county. Being part of the marching band focused my attention on becoming part of the band's Majorettes. What memories those were! We shared the closeness of friends, a family like atmosphere with each other, and when we marched in half-time shows or competitions or just parades, we marched with "pride" as we carried the name of Todd County Central High School! I can't leave out our principal, the late Mr. Andrew Renick. He led our high school longer than any other principal. As I look back, I 'thank' him for his leadership.
"I also must mention my classmates. The class of '73 will always be special to me; we were a great class. There are still three classmates whose friendships I valued during high school and that I still value today. We still get together each month and continue to share memories from our high school years. We have laughed and cried together for over forty years, which, I believe, is true friendship. Thank you, Vickie Suddeath Gilliam, Mary Charles Covington King, and Teresa Sanders Turner for the memories before, during, and after our high school days.
"I can't forget my 'best teachers,' my parents, Bill and Belvie Glenn. They made sure my brothers, Eddy and Glen, and I were present at school and completed our schoolwork. I had perfect attendance for two years, and I carried pretty good grades along with many awards and honors. My parents supported our teachers and the administration, and they attended our school functions even after a long day of work. They were tired, but they were there.
"I could continue at length because my memories as a student at Todd Central were good ones; they were memories that I will always cherish and hold dear to my heart."*
- *Did any teacher make a deep impression on you? Yes, there are five teachers that made a lasting impression in my life. Those five were Mrs. Mildred Bellar*

(science), Mrs. Helen Crutcher (English), Mr. Art Douglas (government), Ms. Laura Roos (speech), and the late George Mills (band). Thank you for your hard work and your dedication. You were good 'role models' for me."

- What makes me proud to be a TCCHS graduate? "During my experiences, I have noticed that most people who have been raised in small communities and have graduated from small high schools hesitate on sharing information where their 'roots' are and from what high school they graduated. Even though I lived in Clarksville, Tennessee, for ten years and chose The Clarksville-Montgomery County School System as the location for my career, I always took great 'pride' in answering those questions to anyone. Today, I am still proud that I am a Todd County Central High School graduate because of the education I received, and it is my home, but I must be honest, I have served as an educator in two other counties, and I still have great concerns and love for my 'Alma Mater.'"

MIKE KENNER

Class of 1975



- College and Education: "BS, MA, and Rank I all from WKU"
- Professions: "I worked briefly for The Soil Conservation Service, but other than that few months my career was all in education."
- What I remember most about TCCHS: "I recall the friendships, the family atmosphere, and the fun we had and the skills gained in athletics and clubs, particularly FFA."
- Teachers who made an impression: "Miss Carolyn Wells made an impression through all the writing which came in very handy. Mrs. Virginia Howard really

helped me gain confidence in math; Arthur Green made a very strong impression through agriculture classes, and FFA helped me gain leadership skills that led to my career in education. Art Douglas brought history to life, and while it was not my major, I still have a love of history. While I was definitely not a gifted athlete, Coach Douglas taught me much about teamwork and the game of baseball. I could go on and on, but these are a few who had the most influence on me.”

- What makes me proud to be a TCCHS graduate: *“One fact that makes me proud are the number of graduates in my class of 1975, as well as the other classes over our 50 years, who have been very successful in their careers. We have doctors, lawyers, educators, businessmen and businesswomen, news anchors, and journalists. This list too is a very lengthy one. I am proud that I was able to serve the Todd County School District for 33 years. Hebrews 12:1 describes being surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. TCCHS has blessed us with many models, mentors, and examples that have enriched my life. I look forward to seeing what the next 50 years of the TCCHS legacy gives us.”*

TCCHS GRADUATE KEVIN MOORE
Class of 1998



Pictured above are Kevin Moore, his wife Chassidy Gant Moore, and their two children. The Moore family lives in Clarksville. Picture is via Facebook.

We are highlighting Kevin Moore, Class of 1998, in our first TCCHS Alumni Association Newsletter.

- *Background: “My dad, Carson Moore, is a native of Todd County and retired from the Air Force in 1988 and still lives in Todd County. My mom, Chin Sun Ko, is from Korea, and my parents met and married while my dad was stationed in Korea. My mom now lives in Los Angeles, CA. My older brother, Thomas Moore, is currently in the Air Force and stationed at Moody Air Force Base in Valdosta, GA. I am married to Chassidy Gant Moore, my high school sweetheart. We have two children, Elly Moore (8 years old) and Thatcher Moore (3 years old).”*
- *College/Education: “Bachelor's of Science in Mechanical Engineering (BSME) from the University of Kentucky in 2003. Currently pursuing my master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology.”*
- *Profession After TCCHS: “Flight Test Engineer (FTE) for the United States Army Special Operations Aviation Command (USASOAC) Systems Integration & Management Office (SIMO) at Fort Campbell, KY. We basically flight test weapons, engines, avionics systems, and any other piece of equipment that is integrated on Blackhawks, Chinooks, and Little Birds. As a FTE, I fly in these helicopters during tests, travel around the country, work with the military, and perform engineering design work.”*
- *What I remember best about TCCHS: “I recall most my close friends that I grew up with and the memories we shared going through a small town school where everyone knew each other. Memories that stand out in my mind are the proms, attending and traveling to TCCHS sports events (home and away games), and the daily grind of AP classes with the ‘AP gang.’”*
- *Teacher who made an impression: “Actually out of all the teachers I had during my days at TCCHS, I would have to say Ms. Carolyn Wells made the deepest impression upon me. As an adult and a working member of society now, I understand and appreciate her sincere desire to teach an AP group of unappreciative and ‘know it all’ students the fundamentals of the English language. Her enthusiasm as well as her authentic passion to teach us how to read and write stood out in my young mind, and even then I felt she cared for us and really wanted to share her knowledge and wisdom of the English language to a group of students who were more worried about being cool or daydreaming about what the weekend would entail. Despite the pitfalls of high school life, she was still able to reach me, and what she taught me in AP English helped me tremendously during my undergraduate days at UK and even in my daily job today. Writing is a lifelong skill, and I still use the basics of what she taught in AP English to write engineering reports that drive million dollar decisions in the Department of Defense (DOD).”*

- What makes me proud to be a TCCHS graduate: *“Our TCCHS graduating class of 1998 had less than 100 graduates, and even though TCCHS did not have all the resources and educational opportunities offered by larger communities with greater financial support, the AP/Honors education we received by the hard working teachers at TCCHS was still relevant in the real world. Stepping foot onto the enormous campus at UK in Lexington, KY with my fellow peers, I was just as prepared for the challenge of pursuing an undergraduate engineering degree.”*

**TCCHS GRADUATES GARY AND BETTY JO HARRIS
VIOLETTE**
Class of 1969

Contributed by Catherine Graves Darnell



Pictured above are Gary Violette and his wife, the former Betty Jo Harris. Both are 1969 graduates of TCCHS. Picture is via Facebook.

After they graduated from Todd Central, Betty Jo Harris Violette and Gary Violette were married in 1971, after a couple of years in community college. Afterward, they headed to the University of Kentucky where Gary earned a degree in architecture while Jo worked for the university, putting him through school. The tables later turned, and Gary got a job while Jo worked her way through a bachelor’s degree in interior design.

They felt a need to move closer to home, so in the 1980’s they did just that. In 1987 they opened Violette Architecture/Interior Design, now in two locations, Clarksville

and Hopkinsville. Since then Gary has designed many buildings in the area. Check out <http://www.vioarc.com/vio2010/index.htm> for a peek at Gary's projects.

In 2005, Jo began making jewelry. "I don't know why I chose jewelry, but I stay busier in that than interiors." Her work can be found in museum shops and in boutiques all over the country. She has had her work in the Smithsonian catalog and Reagan International Gift Shop. Her handiwork can also be found at whatfaux.etsy.com.

CONTACT US

Please contact us via our website – www.tcchsalumni.org. We meet the third Thursday evening at 6:00 PM in the media center at TCCHS, and visitors are always welcome. We encourage you to become involved as we continue our work to unite the many alumni and friends of TCCHS. We ask you to maintain an accurate mailing address so that all classes can easily send out information about reunions and other items of importance to each class. Carolyn Wells is maintaining a master spreadsheet on all classes and can be contacted via tcchsaa@gmail.com. We are still missing names and addresses on the Classes of 1974, 1986, 2000, 2004, and 2005. Any help is appreciated.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION IN ITS FIRST YEAR

- Bylaws for the organization along with a motto and purpose
- Selection of officers/directors and directors-at-large
- Membership mailings to all classes except the Classes of 1974, 1986, 2000, 2004, and 2005 (Every person in every class has not been contacted because of lack of info and/or interest in joining the association.)
- Groundwork for four alumni scholarships
- Launching of the website for the association – www.tcchsalumni.org
- Support of the "Daddy-Daughter Dance" held at the Milliken Memorial Community House
- Monthly meetings held the third Thursday of each month in the media center at TCCHS
- Membership drive at Harvest Fest and at several home football games
- Public relations via newspapers, morning reports, Facebook, alumni website, email newsletter, and mailers
- Purchase of TC alumni polo shirts for sale
- Planning of "TCCHS's 50th-Year Celebration" for May 17, 2014
- Preparation of PowerPoint slideshow to showcase all classes of TCCHS
- Creation of an Excel spreadsheet with names and contact info on 45 of the 50 graduating classes

- Promotion of fund-raising activities including casual days at TCCHS and TCMS, membership drive, and “Alumni Night” at L & R Soda Shop
- Purchase of 20 folding chairs for Todd Central
- Seeking proclamations of May 17, 2014 recognized as “TCCHS’s 50th-Year Celebration” for both Todd County and Elkton

POLO SHIRTS

The association is very pleased to announce that gray polo shirts with a red stitched TCCHS Alumni logo on them are now available for sale. Shirts are \$20.00 and available in sizes S, M, L, XL, and XXL. Sizes are limited, so please purchase soon. The shirts are available at “Something Special” on the Square in Elkton. You may also contact Mrs. Phyllis Traugher, Class of 1964, at 270.265.5611. Postage and handling are extra to defray our costs.

POLO SHIRTS



JNJ Decal Shop of Elkton printed our shirts.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 17 – TCCHS Alumni Association Meeting at 6:00 PM in the Media Center at TCCHS

May 17 – “TCCHS’s 50th-Year Celebration” at TCCHS

Registration in Foyer Area – 10:00 – 1:00

Refreshments in Cafeteria – 10:00 – 12:45

Tour of Facility – 10:00 – 12:00

Memorabilia in Media Center – 10:00 – 12:00

PowerPoint Slideshow in Media Center and Auditorium – 10:00 – 12:45

Program in Auditorium – 1:00 – 3:00 PM

INVITED GUESTS INCLUDE TCCHS FACULTY FROM 1963-64 AND FORMER TCCHS PRINCIPALS. PROGRAM INCLUDES MUSIC FEATURING TCCHS GRADUATES AND A CURRENT STUDENT.

Todd County Central High School Alumni Association Membership Form

Please print and complete one form per member.

The TCCHS Alumni Association meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM in the media center at TCCHS. We invite you to attend at any opportunity. We also encourage you to check out our website at <http://www.tcchsalumni.org>. Since the association is working under the umbrella of the recently founded Todd County School District Foundation for Excellence in Public Education, Inc., the alumni association has tax-exempt status, thus making donations to our organization tax deductible. As a perk to membership in the association, members with email addresses will be emailed an alumni association newsletter. We thank you for printing your own membership form(s); that allows us to use our funds wisely.

Alumni's Name _____ Class of _____

Friend of Alumni Association's Name _____

Maiden Name if Applicable _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State Abbreviation _____ Zip _____

Home Phone Including Area Code _____

Cell Phone Including Area Code _____

Personal Email (Please print.) _____

We ask that you assist us by maintaining a current mailing address so that a master spreadsheet of all TCCHS alumni may be maintained. Even if you do not desire membership at this time, please email your current mailing info and your year of graduation (and maiden name if applicable) to tcchsaa@gmail.com. This information will be shared with those planning reunions for different TC classes.

Membership Fees:

- \$10.00 Yearly Per Person (Amount Enclosed) _____ Check # _____
- \$200.00 Lifetime Membership Per Person (Amount Enclosed) _____ Check # _____

Scholarship Donation: (Amount Enclosed) _____ Check # _____

Please make check payable to **TCCHSAA**. Thank you.

Mail to: Linda Stokes Fritz, Vice-President (Class of 1966)
P. O. Box 72
Fairview, KY 42221

- I would like to aid the **TCCHSAA** by
- ____ Serving on a committee.
 - ____ Becoming an officer or director.
 - ____ Assisting with an event.
 - ____ Other (Please explain below.)

Please check as applicable.

____ Renewal of Yearly Membership

____ First-Time Member

_____ **Cut and Detach Here Please for Your Records** _____

For your records, a receipt for 2014-2015 TCCHSAA Membership:
Date _____ Amount _____ Check # _____

Mailed to or Received by _____

Thanks for your support of the TCCHS Alumni Association.