



Membership Dues Increase September 2014-2015

At the June 3, 2014 PHSNAA meeting, the body voted to raise the annual membership dues effective, September 1, 2014. The annual membership dues will increase to \$15.00. Membership dues have represented the primary revenue source for the Association; therefore, it was the fairest way to generate the basic revenue needed so that members will continue to receive the same level of superior service.

By paying your membership dues:

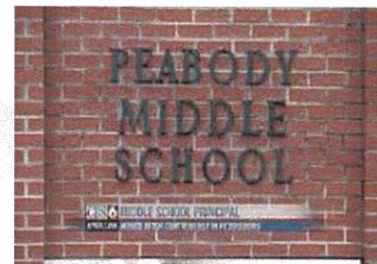
- ☐ you are making a financial commitment to the Alumni Association;
- ☐ you are investing in the growth of PHSNAA;
- ☐ you are willing to work to achieve the mission and objectives of the Association.

You will still be able to pay your dues in one-year \$15; two-years \$30; or three-years \$45 increments. If you have already paid your 2014-2015 dues of \$12, you **do not** need to take any action to maintain your active membership status. The **NEW** membership application is enclosed. Please submit your payment to remain active.

Renew Your Membership Today!



New Principal Assigned to Peabody Middle School



Only after six months, Peabody Middle School Principal, Jerome Williams, was removed from his post effective immediately. Mr. Giron Wooden, a former Peabody Assistant Principal was assigned to serve as Acting Principal. Mr. Wooden has been with Petersburg Public City Schools since 2002. His most recent position was coordinator at Blandford Academy. Prior to that, he served as Assistant Principal of Peabody Middle School and Vernon Johns Junior High. Mr. Wooden holds a Bachelor's degree in history and a Master's degree in educational leadership from Virginia Union University. President Jefferson and the Alumni Association members extended a warm welcome to Mr. Wooden as he embarked upon his new assignment. As he addressed the Peabody members, Mr. Wooden expressed his sincere support of the Alumni Association and offered to do whatever he could to assist in their objectives. In addition, he thanked the Association for all they have done and will continue to do for the students and Peabody Middle School.

The Alumni Association salutes Mr. Giron Wooden for accepting the challenge! Thanks also to Ms. Janet Wright and Mr. Sinclair Harris who will continue as Assistant Principals.



President Jefferson with Principal Wooden

PEABODIAN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The National Association of University Women

"2014 Woman of the Year"



Yvonne Bethea Sims (Class of 1967) is a native of Petersburg, Virginia. She moved to Northampton County, North Carolina in 1997 where she resides in Jackson. She is the daughter of Thelma L. Bethea and the mother of LaMar and Lance Sims. She is the proud grandmother of Kendall, Lauryn, and Nathan Sims.

She was educated in the Petersburg Public School System. She received a Bachelor's degree in Biology, a Master's degree in Earth Science from Virginia State University, and her postgraduate certification in Earth and Environmental Science from Ohio State University. Mrs. Sims also worked nine years as a nurse for Columbia John Randolph Hospital area Medcare Clinic after receiving a degree in Medical Assisting from National Educational Centers.

Yvonne retired from the educational system after 40 years of service in teaching science and in administration: working in Dinwiddie County (VA), Petersburg (VA), Northampton County (NC), Bertie County (NC), Virtual High School, Virginia State University, and Fortis College Richmond. She has designed and presented 15+ professional staff development workshops in various school districts and science conferences in Virginia and North Carolina and in San Jose, California.

As Project Director of Partnerships to Enhance Student Achievement (PESA), a 2.9 million dollar National Science Foundation program, she was responsible for afternoon, Saturday, and summer programs in math, science and technology for the Roanoke Valley Consortium that serves the counties of Bertie, Hertford, Northampton, Warren and Weldon City schools. She has been blessed to receive several honors and awards for her work in education and the community, which include:

- ❖ Outstanding Conservation Educator, Appomattox River, Soil, and Water Conservation District
- ❖ TV Channel 8 Golden Apple Award, Teacher of the Year
- ❖ Star Award, Teacher of the Year, Petersburg School Board
- ❖ Representative, Black Issues in Higher Learning National Policy Summit on Science, Mathematics and Technology for African American Students
- ❖ Reviewer, 21st Century Community Learning Centers Federal Grants
- ❖ Teacher of the Year (Northampton County High School–West and Northampton County High School–East)

Mrs. Sims was the first teacher to bring the UNC-Chapel Hill Destiny Bus-Traveling Science Lab to students in Biology at NCHS-East for two years and to involve students in their senior year in Human Anatomy Physiology at NCHS-West in work and study at Halifax Medical Center.

Sims is dedicated and active in service at St. Matthew AME Church in Weldon, NC where she is a member of the Steward Board, Usher Board and the Missionary Society. She works with the youth in the community, is an avid reader (two to three books a week), loves to play Bridge, and still tutors in Biology and teaches the occasional college class when needed.

When asked how she managed to stay in education for so long, her reply is, ***"Learning is a personal achievement that is gained through opportunity and a desire to succeed. Obtaining an education is easy if you simply want one. Learning is for a lifetime and is the 'Key to Success'; a success that is unlocked when communication turns the key."***

Gone But Never Forgotten – Eternal Memories

"Those special memories of you will always bring a smile, if only I could have you back for just a little while. Then we could sit and talk again just like we used to do. You always meant so very much and always will do too. The fact that you're no longer here will always cause me pain, but you're forever in my heart until we meet again."



Irene Lacy Bailey

June 19, 2014
Class of 1960



Rose Heath Bell

May 28, 2014
Class of 1966



Cassandra Richardson Walker

May 22, 2014
Graduate



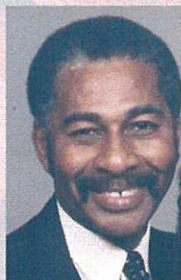
Bernice B. Richardson

May 19, 2014
Class of 1966



Ronald N. Coureton

May 1, 2014
Class of 1970



William "Billy" Freeman

April 19, 2014
Class of 1956



Carlessia Stewart Mitchell

April 7, 2014
Class of 1953



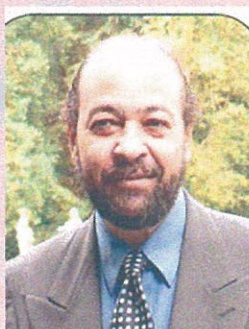
Majorie L. Fisher

April 5, 2014
Class of 1940, Salutatorian
Retired Educator



Melvin "Bunny" Bailey

April 3, 2014
Class of 1968



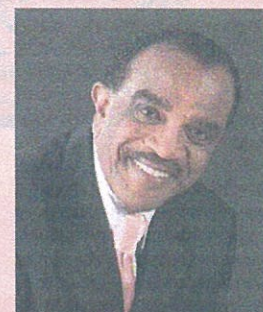
Alvin L Bragg, Sr.

March 18, 2014
Graduate



Rev. Dr. Roy L. Briggs

February 22, 2014
Class of 1960



Richard "Dick" Morgan

October 20, 2013
Class of 1946



Claudette W. Harris

June 15, 2014
Graduate

Not pictured

Dorothy Jones-White

May 8, 2014
Class of 1945

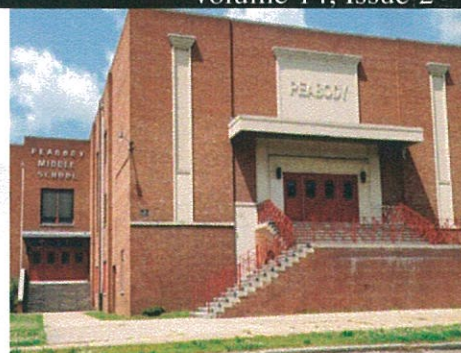




The Peabody Building
1920
National Historical Registry
2000

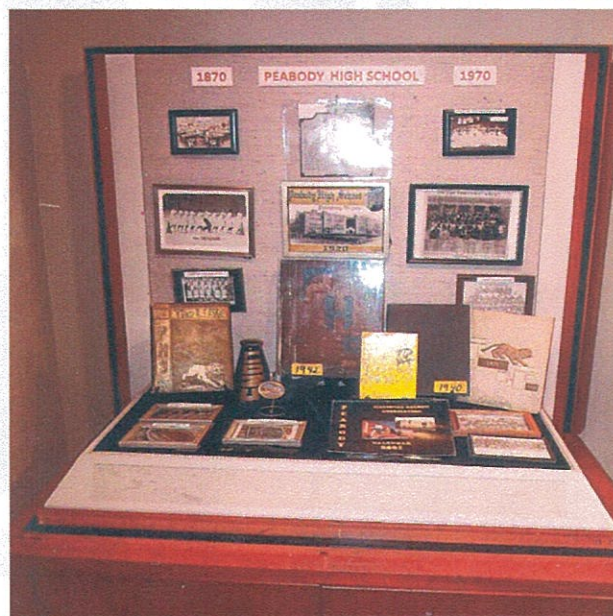
Historical Treasures On Display

Historical treasures of PHSNAA were on display in the gallery of the Siege Museum in downtown Petersburg throughout the month of March. A yearbook, megaphone and



numerous photographs from the 40's were included in the exhibit. Historian Iris Brown made sure the history facts were known. It was noted that the first school was developed in January 1870. Because space was inadequate at the old First Baptist Church on Harrison Street, land was purchased on the corner of Harrison and Fillmore streets for the erection of a new high school. The new school was completed in 1874 and Alfred Pryor was the first African-American to be appointed principal of Peabody High School in 1882. The rest is history..... How much of it do you remember?

If you have an opportunity, please go by and see the exhibit. The Seige Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday; closed Monday. Tours of the museum are: Adults \$5; Seniors and Children 12 and over - \$4. Children 7 and younger, and Petersburg residents are free.



Birthday Celebration

Murel Matthew Jones, Jr., Class of 1967, was surprised with a 65th Birthday Celebration on Sunday, March 16th at the Country Club of Petersburg. Family, friends, classmates and colleagues from Virginia State University and Elizabeth City State University came to celebrate the occasion. Dr. Jones was Professor of Political Science at VSU before he moved on to become Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities at ECSU. He has since retired from both institutions. Dr. Jones is the eldest of seven children, and his siblings and extended family holds him in high regard. They had many expressions of love to share. His lovely wife, Rosemary Rice-Jones and his three children, Andrea, Murel III, and Laura expressed their love and thanks to all in attendance. A beautiful evening of reflections—"Who is Murel Matthew Jones, Jr.?" To highlight the evening, the entire Jones family joined together in a rendition of "Acapalla," led by the brother, Melvin Jones.



Murel Jones is Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities





Class of '64 is Planning 50th Year Reunion

The Class of 1964 met on Saturday, May 17th as they continued making plans for a 50th year class reunion. The date is set--September 12-14, 2014 has been identified as the time to come together to celebrate. A "Meet & Greet," an "Old Fashion Cook-Out," and "Church Service" is planned. For additional information, contact Patricia Smith Miller [804-733-6186; e-mail pmiller1946@comcast.net] or Barbara Ford Madison [804-490-1248; e-mail bmadd132@comcast.net].

Sign up for

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life membership status in PHSNAA is a category of membership available to all current members who meet the following requirements. To become a Life Member, an individual must

- ✓ Have reached the age of 75 years.
- ✓ Have held membership in PHSNAA 1 year immediately prior to making application.
- ✓ Have paid the full Life Membership fee of \$200.00 (payable in a one-time payment or approved installments.)

The Association is very proud of those who have become life members; those who have made a lifetime commitment to PHSNAA, its mission, and those who will work collaboratively with the association to accomplish its vision.

Current Life Members are: Mary Crews Cooley (Class of 1953); Aubrey Jackson (Class of 1948); Luther Jackson, Jr. (Class of 1948); Azzie L. Jones (Class of 1954); Shirley Harrison Jones (Class of 1948); Bernard J. Lundy (Class of 1949); Frances Henderson Lundy (Class of 1951); and Charles Wesson (Class of 1958).

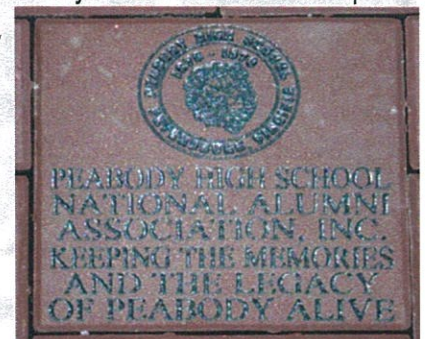
If you are interested in life membership, please contact President Jefferson (804-862-1192; e-mail thelma2033@comcast.net) for more information or refer to your July 2013, Volume 13, Issue 2 of the newsletter.



The Petersburg Library Foundation held a Special Reception for the grand opening of the new Petersburg Public Library on April 21, 2014, which is now located on West Washington Street. City residents as well as state and local officials gathered for the occasion. The program included the welcome by Daphne Maxwell Reid, prayer by the Rev. Andrew J. White, Sr. and songs by the renowned Marva Hicks. The Celebratory Toast was made by Robert Walker and Ann C. Taylor. Group tours were conducted by students from the Appomattox Regional Governor's School National Honor Society. Those in attendance were not only able to enjoy the delicious hors d'oeuvres, but were also able to keep the commemorative champagne glass from the toast. Hundreds of city residents were thrilled as they toured the state-of-the-art \$12.7 million library. PHSNAA supported the Brick Fundraising Campaign by purchasing an inscribed brick, which has been placed outside the new library entrance. Not only did the association help in

"Paving the Way to Knowledge,"

but they also left a permanent alumni association legacy in the community.



Recognized for Outstanding Service

Four Peabodians were recognized for their outstanding work in the community.

Germaine Stewart Fauntleroy was one of five women recognized as "Ordinary Women Doing Extra Ordinary Things" at a celebration tea on Saturday, March 29th. Dr. Fauntleroy was born in Petersburg. Her accomplishments in the field of education are inclusive from the time of being Peabody HS Valedictorian of her senior class in 1952, to the outstanding achievement of retirement in 1996 after having given forty-one years of service. During her career, she has served in many capacities to include classroom teacher at all levels, Director of Student Services, Assistant Principal, High School Principal, Assistant Superintendent, and Superintendent of the Petersburg Public Schools. Dr. Fauntleroy continues to serve in board and leadership positions with many community organizations, to include the United Way, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and the John Tyler Community College Board. Dr. Fauntleroy is an active member of Zion Baptist Church.



Bessie Moorer was one of the honorees presented with the Outstanding Community Service Award at the 33rd Annual Awards Banquet of the Civic and Progressive action Association of the Matoaca Magisterial District (CAPAAMMD) on May 16th in Jones Dining Hall at Virginia State University. Mrs. Bessie Moorer is recognized as a respected citizen of the community of Ettrick and a tireless civil rights activist. She is a native of Petersburg, a 1945 graduate of Peabody HS, and a retired instructional assistant. Mrs. Moorer became involved in politics at an early age and participated in many civil rights marches, voter registration activities and protests, including marches in Selma, Alabama. She has over 50 years in community service and activism, and has headed the county youth NAACP for many years. She is known as "The Community Queen of Lending a Helping Hand." She has been involved in numerous community and civic organizations. Mrs. Moorer is a devoted member of Gillfield Baptist Church.



Linda Williams Smith was honored by the Petersburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in the area of education at the annual May Week Celebration held on May 3, 2014. Linda conducted the sorority's summer reading program during the month of July. Ms. Smith is a native of Petersburg and a 1968 graduate of Peabody HS. She attended Howard University and George Mason University and received her B.A. degree in Elementary Education and her M.Ed. degree in Reading. In addition, she has been a public school teacher for 31+ years in Alexandria and Petersburg. Ms. Smith loves working with young children, which is evident by her continuous work in various reading programs. She is currently working with the Delta's annual summer reading program at Gillfield Baptist Church, July 9-31 from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. She is an active member of Gillfield Baptist Church; founder and member of the Gospel Choir. Her passions are singing in the choir and praising God.

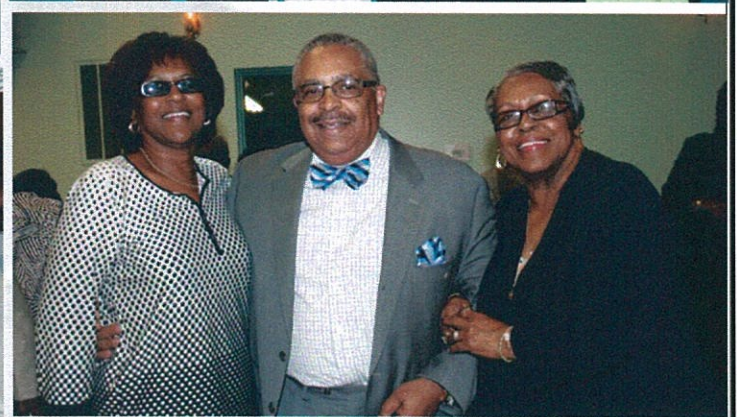


Treska Wilson-Smith was selected as the 2013 Distinguished Community Honoree by members of the Petersburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated at the May Week Community Honors Award Program on May 3rd on the campus of Virginia State University. Councilwoman Treska Wilson-Smith was born in Chestertown, MD. She completed her secondary education in the Petersburg Public School System and had to leave Peabody because of the forced integration of schools; graduating from Petersburg High School in 1971. She received her B.S. degree in Social Work from Virginia State University, with honors, in 1997. She is also an accomplished writer of poems and plays. For many years, Councilwoman Wilson-Smith has been a community activist for youth residents of Petersburg. She serves Ward 1, which includes Blandford and the eastern section of Petersburg bordering Crater Road and Fort Lee. Councilwoman Wilson-Smith is an active member of Zion Baptist Church.



2014 SPRING FLING

The Spring Fling is always the perfect opportunity for alumni members to get together, share laughs, exchange phone numbers and addresses; but most importantly, they support the annual fund-raising project of the alumni association. This year, the Spring Fling was moved from the Elks Lodge in Hopewell and held in Petersburg at Club 17, Inc. Members thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship, the fantastic food, the fun of keeping up with the new dances, and the hours spent with so many happy Peabodians. Pictures are worth a thousand words. If you did not attend this affair, you will enjoy seeing the photographs.



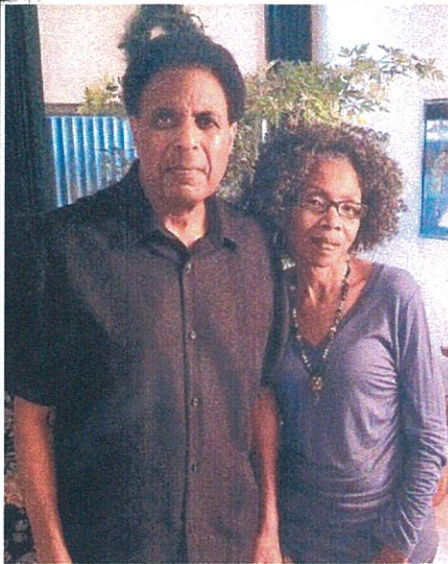


Classmates from the 40's

Left
Mrs. Marian L. Moore
(Class of 1942)

Right
Mrs. Esther Sykes
(Class of 1945)





Charles (Class of 1961) and Leatha Bethel

Celebrated 50 years of marriage (February 2014) along with family and friends at Saint Paul AME Church in Newport News, VA. The celebration at the church included other couples who had reached the 25th and 50th year mark.

Charles and Leatha (Class of 1962 – Huntington HS, Newport News) were married in July 1964. Both are graduates of Virginia State College (now University).



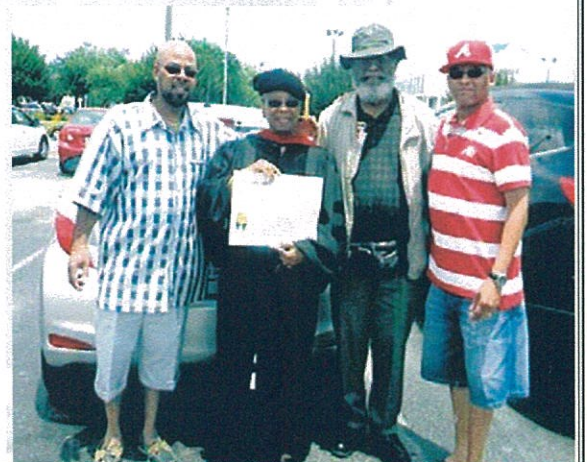
The couple left Petersburg in 1968 to work in Miami—Dade County Public Schools. Leatha retired in 2002 as a kindergarten teacher; Charles retired in 2003 as a school administrator/principal. Charles also spent 12 years as an army reserve officer (non-active duty) in civil affairs and military intelligence.

Currently, Leatha is involved in social organizations and Charles is a member of the governing board of mavericks in education—a state-wide chain of alternative education charter high schools that provide an opportunity for students who are drop-outs to complete their education.

Charles and Leatha have two children who are educators in Miami—and one child deceased. In their retirement, they visit Virginia several times a year.



Congratulations are extended to **Esther Parham Antrom** for having earned a Doctor of Theology degree on June 7, 2014 from North Carolina College of Theology. NCCT is a Bible based college that educates young men and women of God to go out and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Dr. Antrom is a graduate of Peabody HS, "Class of 1957" and currently resides in Claymont, Delaware.



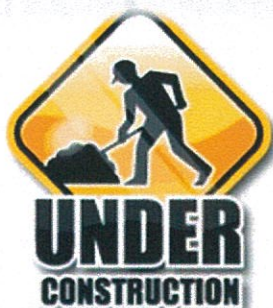
PHSNAA To Lease Original Building

Keeping in mind the mission statement of the Association, a request was made again to obtain possession of the original Peabody building located on Jones Street. The desire is to renovate the entire building into the Peabody High School Historical Museum. After meeting with City Manager, William Johnson and Councilman Howard Myers, who represents Ward 5, President Jefferson drafted a Request for a Lease Agreement, which was submitted to the City Council and defended in a Public Hearing on June 17, 2014. Jefferson presented council members with a small pamphlet entitled, "Bringing Life Back to Historic Peabody High School."

As she defended the request of the Association to lease the building, President Jefferson reminded council members of the main objective of the association when it was organized in the year 2000—that was to keep the legacy of Peabody High School alive. She said, "There is a lot of history in Peabody High School, which in 1971 became Peabody Middle School, and we want all Petersburg students and the entire community to now that history, and we do not want the residents of the City of Petersburg to forget that history. We want to make sure that the rich heritage trail of Peabody High School will be kept alive and will remain a viable landmark in the City of Petersburg."

Peabodians were in attendance in great numbers and stood in support of the Association's request to lease. The roll call vote was taken. All seven Council members supported the request. Jefferson will be meeting with the City's Preservation Planner to get assistance with funding agencies and proposal writing techniques to request grant money. Keep your ears open—you will be hearing more about the renovations and the Peabody High School Historical Museum.

The support of everyone will be appreciated!



Nourishment For Students During SOL Testing

On Monday, May 19th, several members of the Association, along with President Thelma Jefferson, delivered to Peabody Middle School cases of water and breakfast treats to help with fulfilling the need to assure nourishment to the students as they took their SOL tests. It is the desire of the Association to always be there for Peabody Middle School students and to do whatever is necessary to promote and enhance the educational process, and to assist them to reach their highest potential. Also pictured are Principal Giron Wooden, Virginia Barbour, R.J. Bragg, Pat Miller, Janice Mann and Willis Brown.



NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The duty of the nominating committee is to find the best candidate for each office. The PHSNAA Nominating Committee has been working since April to come up with a slate of officers for the 2014-2017 term.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: "Madam President, the Nominating Committee does not have a complete slate of officers to present."

According to Robert's Rules of Order (The Standard Guide to Parliamentary Procedure), "in the event that no candidates are found for a particular office, it is better to leave the office vacant, than to fill it with a person not able to do the job. After the election, the board-elect may fill any vacant position according to the by-laws." It is advised to proceed with the election, which will still allow an opportunity for write-in votes.

ELECTION BALLOT 2014-2017

Ballots must be postmarked by August 31, 2014 and sent to P. O. Box 3081

Please use the original ballot. Duplicated copies of the ballot will forfeit your vote.

President

Vice President

Recording Secretary

Financial Secretary

Treasurer

Membership Chair

Chaplain

_____ Wayne Scott

Sergeant-At-Arms

PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENT - Position of the Historian - Elected or Appointed

CURRENT BY-LAW - Article V - OFFICERS

Section 1 The officers of PHSNAA shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Chaplain, Historian and Sergeant-At-Arms. Duties shall be as described in the By-Laws of the Association (Article III, Sections 1-10).

PROPOSED CHANGE - Article V - OFFICERS

Section 1 The elected officers of PHSNAA shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Chaplain, and Sergeant-At-Arms. The appointed officer shall be Historian. Duties shall be as described in the By-Laws of the Association (Article III, Sections 1-10).

_____ YES

_____ NO



**PEABODY HIGH SCHOOL
NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 972
PETERSBURG, VA 23804**

"Reuniting-Renewing-Restoring and Rejoicing Peabody's Legacy"

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2014-2015 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES - \$15.00

Membership Period: September 1, 2014 - August 31, 2015

Payment enclosed:

2014-15 _____
\$15.00

2015-16 _____
\$15.00

2016-17 _____
\$15.00

PERSONAL DATA:

New _____

Renewal _____

Name: _____
Last First Maiden/Middle

Address: _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____

E-Mail: _____ Birth date: _____ Class Year: _____

I _____ do hereby solicit membership in the
Peabody High School National Alumni Association, and will support the mission of the Association.

Signature Date

SELECT ONE OR MORE COMMITTEES YOU WILL SERVE

- ☐ NOMINATION
- ☐ BUDGET
- ☐ MEMBERSHIP
- ☐ PROGRAM
- ☐ FUND RAISING
- ☐ RESTORATION
- ☐ SCHOLARSHIP
- ☐ MARKETING & ADVERTISING
- ☐ THE PEABODY SCRIPT

P
H
S
N
A
A

The Script Committee

Thelma Jefferson

(804) 862-1192

thelma2033@comcast.net

Gloria Brown

(804) 861-0945

Lula Lawson

(804) 526-3097

Virginia Mann

(804) 733-0059

Yvonne Sims

(252) 287-0704



Newsletter

*"To accomplish great things we must not only act,
but also dream; not only plan, but also
BELIEVE."*

Peabody High School
National Alumni Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 972
Petersburg, VA 23804-0972

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

The Mighty Lions

"Reuniting/Renewing/Restoring/Rejoicing Peabody's Legacy"