

*In Memory*

*To a beautiful garden these friends have  
gone—*

*To the land of perfect rest.*

*Their work is done, and the setting sun  
Has sealed their life's long quest.*

*They have left this earthly garden  
For a home beyond the sea.*

*Though they are gone, they still live on  
In the garden of memory.*



*Courtesy of Frances Richardson Nettles Class of '65*

*A Step  
Back  
In Time*

*"The Way We Were"*

*Memories from Horton High School  
Alumni Association's*

*Reunion of the Classes 2005*

*August 17-19, 2005*



## *Alma Mater*

*Dear Ole Horton High, we love you  
more and more each day.*

*And we thank the Lord above you  
for showing us the way.*

*Lead us onward! Lead us ever!*

*Lead us day by day!*

*And we'll ever praise and love you,*

*Hail to thee today.*

*Oh, Rah-rah Ole Horton High!*

*Rah-rah Ole Horton High!*

*Rah-rah Ole Horton, Horton High*

*Let's keep the*

*Thunderbolt spirit*

*Alive!!!*

## *Teachers who taught at Horton School*



*The Horton High School Alumni Association (HHSAA), a non-profit organization, sponsors the Reunion of the Classes every three years. Newly elected officers are Ronnell Dowdy, Chair, Board of Directors and Frances Richardson Nettles, Chair, Executive (Planning) Board. Other officers are listed on our website. We invite you to visit our website [www.hhsaa.net](http://www.hhsaa.net).*

*A special thank you to all who assisted in the success of this reunion.*

*Our office is located at Suite 813 Horton Middle School. The telephone number is (919) 545-2900. The mailing address is: HHSAA, Post Office Box 1136, Pittsboro, NC 27312.*

*The reunion concluded at New Hope Baptist Church on Sunday with Rev. John P. Thomas, former Horton graduate, as the speaker.*

*Barbara Lott presided over the service. Rev. Sylvester Headen gave the invocation. Barbara Perry played the opening song and the Alma Mater. The New Hope Young Adult Choir and the Mt. Olive Male Chorus provided music.*

*The Highlight of the entire weekend was having the young adults of alumni act as host and hostesses: They were Adriane Jeanel Nettles-Alston, Kia and Kamille Dark, Zoretta French, Wanda Rone, Tanika Bland, Kendra Lawrence, Kenya Townsend, Denise Taylor, Isaiah III and Chris Taylor, Abigail Cheek, Angelette Cheek, David Hart, Karmesia Richardson, Samantha Clark, Natalie Dorssett, Tammy Cheek and Travonia Covington.*



*Thank you for a job well done.*

## *Synopsis of Horton High School History*

*In order to get an education, in the late 1920's and early 30's, black children in central and eastern Chatham County attended small or one-room schools scattered throughout the county. In 1934, the path was paved to combine those schools. Thus, Horton High School (HHS) in Pittsboro was born.*

*The first class graduated from Horton High School in 1935. This accomplishment was a great milestone for the black children in this part of the county. For the next 35 years, the principals, teachers and community leaders worked hard so that we would not fail. The year 1970 marked the end of an era. Black schools as we once knew them, were to be no more.*

*After the retirement of the last principal of Horton High School, Mr. I. E. Taylor, Sr., it was decided that the former Horton High School population should come together to reacquaint and reminisce the past that made the present possible.*

*The Reunion of the Classes 2005 marked the tenth celebration of coming together as a school family. Classes were represented from 1935-1970 and beyond. Alumni who started at Horton but graduated from Northwood High School, due to integration of schools, were also there to celebrate.*



*The Planning Committee 2005 , filled with dedication and determination, worked together to make this Reunion of the Classes one of the best.*

*Mrs. Viola Jacobs Lee, was very instrumental in this undertaking.*

*2005 Class Representatives for  
Mr. & Ms. Alumni*



*Mr. & Ms. Horton High School Alumni 2005*



*Martha Crump Jackson-Holley & Edward Hadley*

*Class of 1962*

*Helen Dark , Lucille Chandler and Pearlie Alston, Jr.*

*Presented gifts and awards to the winners.*

*Thursday night—August 18, 2005 —7:00 p.m.*

*Ice Breaker*

*Hosted at 130 Alstonville Rd., Apex, NC*

*Welcome.....Carolyn Alston Hatchett*

*Response.....Frances Richardson Nettles*

*Invocation.....Hew L. Dorsett*

*Occasion.....Willie Jean Taylor*

*Dinner and Fellowship*

*Menu: Barbeque Pork, Grilled Chicken, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans,  
Green Beans, Potato Salad , Cole Slaw, Peach Cobbler, Drinks*



*One of the great cooks, Roy Earl Alston and Carolyn Alston Hatchett who so graciously opened her house to us.*

*Good Food, Great Music and Lots of Fun*



*The Clemmons and Mrs. Burnette are being served. Who's serving?  
Hint: Resembles one of Mr. Taylor's daughters. Which one?*



*Harold Taylor and Lucille Chandler look on as E. H. and others  
"chow down on the delicious food."*

*Alumni Group Picture*



*Can you identify Bob Scurlock, Mrs. Viola Lee,  
Mrs. Clara Dark and Michael Perry?*



*Class of 1962*

*Basketball players...*



*Music provided by .....DJ Craige Jones*



*Ralph French and the Electric Slide Posse*



*Coaches H. B. Renwick and Sim Bowden, players and Mr. Taylor.  
Is he looking for High John?*



*Margie Ellison looks on as Sam says "you can't stop me."*

*Friday, August 19, 2005*

*Opening Ceremony*

*Horton Middle School*

*Pittsboro, North Carolina*

*Presiding.....Mrs. Geneva B. Vincent*

*Greetings.....Frances R. Nettles*

*The Occasion.....Ernest H. Dark, Jr.*

*The Invocation.....Rev. Gene Horton*

*Then and Now.....School Principals*

*Mr. Ernest Alston & Mrs. Patricia Lane*

*Brief Moment of Silence*

*Introduction of Class Representatives*

*Shirley Hood, Mrs. Clara B. Dark*

*and Lucille Richardson Chandler*

*Wrapping of the May Pole*

*The School Alma Mater*

*After seeing former Drum Major Pearlie Alston leading the majorettes, the cheerleaders, Hayden B. Renwick, Sim Bowden and Geneva Baldwin Vincent, along with the football and basketball team, brought back many memories.*



*Judy, Stella, Nannie, Lucille, Shirley, Liz, Shirley, Mrs. Vincent and others were ready to take on Lincoln High.*



*The Girls' Basketball Team won Two Championships under Mrs. Vincent's leadership.*

*1960 and 1962*

Other students in the skit were: Lucille Richardson Chandler, Ella Rone Parrish, Margaret Taylor Bynum, Dalton Stone, Sam Clark, Donese Laster and Northwood graduate, Zoretta French.



Drum major Pearlie Alston leading the majorettes. Horton High School had the best marching band in the County. Hail to the drum major and majorettes.



The Cheerleaders "rally" up that old Thunderbolt Spirit

*Friday evening , August 19, 2005*  
*Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center*  
*Durham, North Carolina*

*Registration .....6:00 p.m.*

*Presiding.....Addie Laws and Rufus Horton .....6:45 p.m.*

*Greetings/Grace .....Frances R. Nettles*

*Dinner.....7:00—8:00 p. m.*

*(A Step Back in Time—Video)*

*Mixers.....8:00-8:30 p.m.*

*Skit.....Directed by Helen Ann Leach Dark.....8:30-9:00 p.m.*

*Dance and Mixers.....9:00-11:59 p.m.*

*DJ — Anthony "Puddin" Smith*

*50/50 Drawing*

*Board Bus for return trip to Pittsboro... 11:59 p.m.*

## *Highlights of the Reunion of the Classes 2005*

*The Opening Ceremony was held on Friday afternoon on what is now the James Arthur's Athletic Field at Horton Middle School. A former basketball coach, Mrs. Geneva Baldwin Vincent, presided over the ceremony. President Frances Nettles brought greetings, Invocation by Rev. Gene Horton and the Occasion was by Ernest Dark, Jr. (all HHS Alumni).*

*A former principal, a HHS alumnus, Mr. Ernest Alston and the current principal, Mrs. Patricia Lane, gave remarks. The class representatives for the Mr. and Ms. HHS Alumni 2005 rekindled an old tradition. Under the direction of Mrs. Clara Dark, Ms. Shirley Hood and Ms. Lucille Chandler, they wrapped the May Pole.*

*Over 400 HHS alumni enjoyed the next two days at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center in Research Triangle Park.*

*On Friday night, we were entertained with a skit, "A Step Back In Time: The Way We Were" written and directed by Helen Ann Dark.*

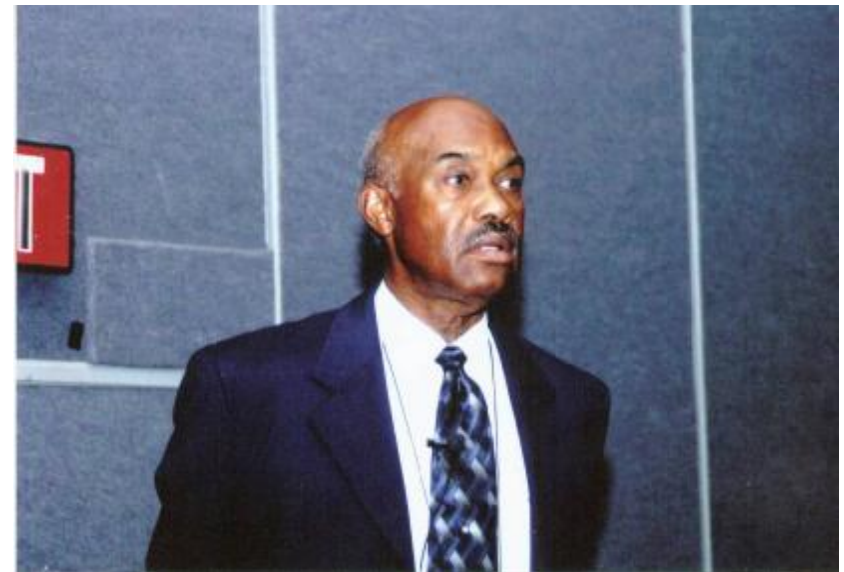
*Characters portrayed in the skit were former teachers and principal: Mr. Ernest Dark (played by his son, Ernest Jr.), Mr. Bishop Leach (played by his son, Bernard), Mrs. Bertha Echols (played by Mrs. Addie Laws, a former teacher), Mrs. John Ethel Townsend (played by her granddaughter, Kenya) who directed the Mt. Sinai choir in singing one of Mrs. Townsend's favorite songs, "Let There Be Music", and Ms. Luthenia Alston (played by Mrs. Shirley Hood), and last but not least, the Principal, Mr. I. E. Taylor (played by his son, Richard).*

## *Math and History taught by the best*



*Is that chalk all over Mr. Dark's pants?*

*Uh oh, Mr. Taylor is searching for High John the Conqueror*



*Located at June Reaves' Pool Room — Someone is going to pay!!*