



# THE ALUMNUS

## MURPHY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

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[murphyalumni.org](http://murphyalumni.org)

February 2022

### Murphy Alumni Association Executive Committee

#### Officers

Carmen Kearley '82, President  
Noel Tate, 1st Vice President  
Sonya Sullivan '93, Secretary  
Theodore Kearley '80, Treasurer  
Ryan McKee '03, Past-President

#### Members At Large

Travis Ritchie '09  
Carl Cunningham '91  
Carmen Kearley '82  
Mike McNair '70  
Bruce Miller '70  
Marilyn King '70  
Jesse King '64  
Lucille Badger '64  
Marion Stille '64  
Connie McLean '62  
Monetta Noland '60  
Barbara Harris '60  
Marian Jackson '59  
Jim Younce '58

### MESSAGE FROM MAA PRESIDENT



Carmen Kearley '82

Greetings, Panthers!

The All-Class Homecoming Reunion of 2021 gave birth to a new group, the Panther Boosters. While the MAA is focused on alumni relations and campus beautification with providing limited financial support to campus organizations, the Boosters assist student organizations with direct financial assistance. The MAA and the PB are working together to take care of our beloved alma mater and to help bolster her students' success in all areas.

Beginning with our next newsletter, we will begin publishing a list of gifts and memorials given in previous months. The MAA board has no corresponding secretary and we know that communication with donors has been poor. We hope to get a board member to take on that duty or to create a corresponding secretary position. There is a small group of working board members who run this

organization. We do not need more board members but would love to have committee volunteers to help carry out our work.

We like to remind members to renew their memberships in the new year. You can mail a check or use the PayPal link on our web page. If you visited the website, [www.murphyalumni.org](http://www.murphyalumni.org), last month, you may know that we had a hosting problem and the webpage would not display. The problem has rectified and we are back online!

### HALL OF FAME

Last Spring (April 2021), there was a lull in the COVID-19 pandemic and we were able to install the 2020 Hall of Fame inductees in a ceremony held in the Lois Jean Delaney Auditorium. The process for selecting the 2022 class is well underway and the board is planning to hold the induction ceremony in the auditorium on **1 May, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.**

## MEMORIAL BRICKS INSTALLED

After a LONG wait, the backlog of memorial bricks was laid in the Alumni Garden on South Street last month. The fulfillment of the orders was delayed by numerous events following the Christmas Day tornado of 2012, most especially improvements to the campus drainage system that was finally completed in the summer of 2021.

The new bricks are in the south side walkway. The recent rains hopefully have settled them well into place and the mason will return to make any needed touch-ups.

Beginning this year, the MAA will order bricks at six-month intervals as long as the cumulative total number meets the minimum required by the manufacturer.



## MUTT MITT DISPENSER & REFILLS

The Mutt Mitt dispensers placed around campus have been popular with the neighbors who walk their dogs on campus outside school hours. One dispenser was so popular that someone took it home! Last month the board voted to replace the purloined dispenser, which was located at the gate to the band and soccer fields located on South Street. The board also approved a large order of refill bags. The neighbors go through a case of bags every 6 months. The students appreciate this service of the MAA as it makes their outdoor activities much more pleasant by keeping the grounds free of dog waste (or at least reduces the amount).

## WALL PLAQUE DESIGN

Alumni who want to give money to Murphy through the MAA can choose two funds, the Restoration Fund and the Tree Fund. A list of donors has been kept but the plaques that will recognize those donors have been in the design process for some time. Back in September, board member Sonya Sullivan agreed to head the committee to design the plaques and worked with fellow faculty member Elizabeth Van Antwerp, art teacher. The two designs were submitted last month and the Tree Fund design was accepted as is but the Restoration design was returned for reworking. Once the designs are finalized, we will submit them to our vendor for production. The completed plaques will be hung in an undetermined location in the school.

### Mobile native Neil Farrell Jr. returns home for the Reese's Senior Bowl

Murphy High School is a 7A school in Mobile, Alabama. For former **LSU Tiger, Neil Farrell Jr.**, it's a place that he calls home. The former defensive lineman was invited to be a part of the Reese's Senior Bowl which takes place in his hometown. Farrell was expectedly excited to be able to come home and play in front of family and friends once again.

Murphy High School had a pep rally Friday morning for "Neil Farrell Day" to celebrate all of his accomplishments. The Reese's Senior Bowl will be held on Saturday, February 5th at 1:30 p.m. CT. The game will be televised on the NFL Network.



Noel Tate

The MAA has gotten some requests for information about what is happening at school. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Noel Tate fulfills the role of school liaison and he has gathered some news from the faculty about goings on at 100 S. Carlen Street. Noel teaches 11th and 12th grade English.

The students enrolled in the University of Alabama Early College program had a cumulative 3.6 GPA for the Fall 2021 semester. For those unfamiliar with the UA Early College program, qualifying Murphy students can take University of Alabama freshman-level classes tuition free and earn up to 26 hours. The program is housed in the former Foreign Language Building and facilitated by IB Coordinator Rebecca Mullins and Academy Specialist Lauren Rodgers.



Rebecca Mullins



Lauren Rodgers



Band director Alex White announced that the marching band will be performing in two Mardi Gras parades: Polka Dots - February 17 and Mystic Strippers - February 24. Please check out the band website, [murphyhsband.com](http://murphyhsband.com)



Alex White

Two Murphy students will be recognized for their essays in the Laws of Life Essay Competition sponsored by the Better Business Bureau Serving Central and South Alabama, according to IB Coordinator Rebecca Mullins. They are **Jordan Hobbs** and **Joshua Scott**. The awards breakfast is in February at the Mobile Country Club. The number of entrants from Murphy earned the school the school recognition cash award.



Brandon Oliver

Track and Field coach Brandon Oliver reported that the class of 1988 “graciously donated enough funds to purchase 20 brand new custom hurdles for our track teams. They also bought a new bottle filling station to replace the water fountain in the boys’ gym hallway near the track. We are super excited and very blessed to have such amazing, thoughtful and caring alumni!”

**SIGNING DAY-FOOTBALL**

- Jmani Johnson- Coffeyville Community College (Kansas)
- Jazerian Hardy- Maryville
- Rashad Mcquinter- Atlanta Technical Junior College
- Joshua Reynolds- South Alabama (PWO)

**Teacher of the Year** is Wilson McAll. He teaches zoology, biology, chemistry and physics.



Wilson McAll

Murphy Alumni Association, Inc.  
 Membership Application/Renewal/Gift  
 (Membership Dues are renewable annually in January)



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ CURRENT YEAR GRADUATE Receives Newsletter, *FREE*
- \_\_\_\_\_ PANTHER LEVEL Receives Newsletter & Alumni Certificate, \$25 INDIVIDUAL or \$35 COUPLE
- \_\_\_\_\_ BLUE LEVEL Receives Newsletter, Certificate, & Alumni Lapel Pin, \$50 INDIVIDUAL
- \_\_\_\_\_ GOLD LEVEL Receives Newsletter, Certificate, Alumni Lapel Pin, & Alumni Paperweight, \$100 INDIVIDUAL
- \_\_\_\_\_ TOWER LEVEL Receives Newsletter, Certificate, Alumni Lapel Pin, Paperweight, & One Memorial Brick, \$250 INDIVIDUAL

- \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to order: MEMORIAL BRICK. \$50 (up to 3 lines) (18 characters per line)
- \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to order: RESTORATION PLAQUE. \$100 (up to 3 lines) (18 characters per line)
- \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to order: TREE FUND PLAQUE. \$100 Acorn Level, \$500 Sapling Level, \$1000 Mighty Oak Level
- \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to send a GIFT MEMBERSHIP TO THE PERSON NAMED ABOVE.

(I will notify the alumni or friend my gift has been donated. I understand the Alumni Association will not notify the person of my gift.)

For more information contact Marion Stille, 251-665-0509.

Forms for bricks, restoration, and tree fund will be sent to the above address.

Return to: MURPHY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, P. O. BOX 66158, MOBILE, AL 36660

Return Service Requested

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