



# Peoria High School Alumni Association

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Com'on Alumni, Let's Build this Network!

Importance, Value and Responsibility- Peoria High School Alumni Association

It's almost been one year since I've taken the reigns of the Association. I want to continue to build upon those before me and set the stage for those after me as leaders in this Association. I want to grow this organization. As we continue to push out email newsletters to you, I learn each day that this school is special. The more history I read about the school and its Alumni, the more I am impressed. It has inherent importance in this community from 1856 through today.

I thought I knew a lot about the school as I grew up coming over to Peoria High with my father when he coached. I used to run all over school. I actually got in trouble one summer when I rode my bike through the hallways and left a long tire skid mark on the hallway floor the janitors had recently waxed and cleaned for the new school year. You can bet I heard about it from the "Coach". However, in my travels through those large cavernous hallways, I paid close attention to the memorials, trophies, and artifacts within the school. It fascinated me that we had Alumni that fought in the Spanish American War of 1898. Many more Alumni followed to defend the nation in future conflicts. Some paid the ultimate sacrifice. It's truly an amazing history.

The school is still a treasure trove of information that our past alumni have left us. It made an impression on me. I guess Peoria High never left me as I am loyal to the school and what it stands for. She has good days and rough days but she endures. Its value is so understated in the annals of history. The teachers of our past when we attended left an impression on us and taught us how to go forth and be productive in the world. The result was an outstanding legacy not only for Peoria High, but for the community, state and nation. We must continue to build upon the legacy of Peoria High School through our Association. So let's support the Association so we can continue to keep the legacy alive. I think I would say without a doubt that we have an inherent responsibility to keep the school around and help produce useful citizens in the world. We need them!

The Association has different programs honoring Alumni but also supports the school students who are close to graduating by using Scholarships that are endowed and supported by Alumni. We execute these scholarships through the Peoria High School Foundation. This organization is separate but works in conjunction with the Association. To ensure these programs are administered correctly, the Association relies on you to help keep our services healthy. We are so grateful to those Alumni who send us donations either for an Alumni Brick or General Fund. Every dollar helps further our programs. Any amount you send to us can be used for the operations and services. So, thank you to those who contribute each year.

The next few months will see us move forward to build upon our programs through business listings on our website. So, if you are the owner and interested in listing your business as an Alumni of Peoria High

so others can see what you are up to, let me know. We want to continue to build our network of Alumni so you can all communicate better. Please keep updating those addresses and tell your fellow Lion's to do the same. It's easy to do on our website at [peoriahighalumni.org](http://peoriahighalumni.org). By doing this we can help you communicate with others who may or may not be part of your class.

Finally, the Association will begin talking with the trades about setting up programs to help those students graduating to get a start with several different vocations in the area. In conjunction with some training offered at Woodruff, this will help our PHS students have options when nearing graduation and deciding a career. It will require some work over the next few years, but I believe this would be a positive step forward to offer college or vocational scholarships.

Any organization, especially a 501c3 organization has to be prudent with every dollar given to the cause. We appreciate the support of our Alumni. If you are interested in an Endowment or leaving PHSAA in your will please contact the Alumni Office. If you want to support our ongoing programs and especially the administration of those programs, please consider the General fund. For those of you that know how to use a QR code (below) please head over to our faithful giving website (PayPal) and help us out. You can also send a check to the Alumni office or visit [peoriahighalumni.org](http://peoriahighalumni.org). or the website just go to the "Donation Page".

Thanks again for being the part of the Peoria High School Legacy. Remember it is up to us as Alumni to recognize the importance and value of PHS. It is our responsibility to lead on for the next generation.

Thanks for listening!

Bill Robertson, Class of '78  
President Peoria High School Alumni Association

