

Bell Tower Newsletter



Greetings, alumni, parents, friends of the school,

First, let me introduce myself properly. I am Tammy Frank's husband; Jimmy. Our daughter, Sommer, graduated from Fuqua in 2014. I am a 1989 graduate of Prince Edward Academy. I am also the brother to Melissa, class of 1992. Son of Ray, class of 1961. All of this to say, our family roots run throughout the history of our school. Our passion and support of independent education unwavering.

I currently assist the school with its athletic field maintenance. I am fond of thinking of myself as the "new, less improved Skeeter Fore." My motivation in this position is part love for the school, part desire to inspire and encourage young people, part nostalgia to honor the legacy of a couple I consider the "First Couple" of our alma mater. On those hot summer days last year out on the fields, I could feel their presence and it made the humid funk of Virginia summers more bearable and worth the effort.

For some of you the last time on campus may have been last year during the spring as we dedicated a new scoreboard on the softball field to Mrs. Fore. Mr. Fore was still with us and was as noticeably moved as I have seen the man. All things considered, that was a good day. Since then, the field has seen some improvements. Through efforts of parents and supporters of the program, the infield has been cut back to the outfield, a warning track with crushed stone installed, trees trimmed, and steps toward renovating the press box have been taken. The outfield was overseeded in the fall with a hybrid bluegrass and Bermuda grass seed and has come to life a bit this spring. All under the shadow of the new scoreboard honoring the influence of Beth Fore. That area of campus is really taking some strides forward. We would love to have any or all of you return to campus to watch the young ladies compete and continue the traditions set forth by Coach Fore(s).

Other corners of our athletic facilities have seen changes as well. This past fall we unveiled a new press box on the football/baseball complex honoring Walter "Bozo" Addleman and Robert "Bob" Hazelwood. The floor in Gilmer Gym was completely refinished and rebranded. The baseball infield was converted to turf via Bermuda seed, mushroom compost and copious amounts of irrigation. Each of these changes have been performed at a high level and really look spectacular.

As I become even more involved in the daily chores of maintaining these areas, I learn so much and it adds even more respect for the efforts, time and dedication of Mr. and Mrs. Fore over the years and years of service. I am humbled. I am proud to have crossed paths with such individuals. But I also become frustrated with our limitations.

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My vision is to honor our past and provide first-class facilities for our future. I believe these facilities can be used as a magnet for students to attend our classrooms. Hopefully, I am not alone in this mindset. I have conversations with our head of school, Chance Reynolds, where we agree these facilities can and should serve those functions. And then I realize I am also tasked with providing a safe playing surface for our students and those students of our visiting teams. Motivation comes from all angles.

There are so many ideas swirling around our athletic department concerning improvements to facilities and best management practices to maintain these. It excites me daily. I also see there is so little in our school budget for this. I feel this goes back to the amount of time Mr. and Mrs. Fore were able and willing to dedicate. What was lacking in the checkbook was masked by sweat and effort. And while this way of thinking is still very much part of the fabric of not only me but the school, there are limits. And there are some tools available to make the most of our efforts today that may not have been around back in the day. So with that said, here comes the "ask."

I know there is a never-ending list of events, causes, charities vying for your generosity. Believe me. My mailbox is overflowing with solicitations. I will say this. If you are willing and able to donate anything, anytime; it will improve our efforts to help our future students. I love every corner of our campus and every genre of student we have. My joy comes from their joy. Make a donation and add to the comment section where you want your money to go. This action speaks volumes to the administration and board. Tell them what our priorities are as alumni. Change is fine, well and good. But the direction things change always depends on where the funding comes from. Tell the school what direction you want that to be. Join me in honoring our role-models, our influencers, our legends. Go to the school website and click the donate now tab and be sure to denote the area that you would like to see impacted by your generosity.

Thanks for reading. Please be on the lookout for future athletic schedules and pick an event or two to join us back on campus. We love to have alumni back. I love to have them interact with our current students. Our children need to know the long line of individuals that make their today possible. You are a link to this. I appreciate you being on this ride with me.

See you soon.

Jimmy

Drone pictures of the Gilmer Field by Ben Manis '07. Credit for drone pictures of the Beth Fore Softball Stadium by Kathy Jefferson's Aviation & Steam class. Professional level drone donated to the aviation program by John Gantt '84.

STEAM Aviation class learns about unmanned aircraft vehicles (UAV) with a drone flight guide and manual after assembling the field elements for an obstacle course. In class, students learn to navigate drones through different obstacle courses, each with a different challenge and focus on a steam career that uses drones. With careful supervision, students take ariel photos of the school grounds for a culminating activity of mapping the school grounds.



2023 Softball and Baseball Teams



2023 Varsity Softball
Head Coach: Hannah Ledger



2023 Varsity Baseball
Head Coach: Christopher Baird



2023 Middle School Softball
Head Coach: Michael Easter '96



2023 Middle School Baseball
Head Coach: Brian Atkinson '93

Alumni News



Emmie Klien '13 and Liam Burke got engaged. Emmie is daughter of the late BA Patterson Klein '73 and David Klien.



Mary Denaro '14 and Paul MacCarty '11 got engaged.



Katy Newman '14 and Jimmy Denver got engaged last November.



Brittany Malone '18 and Michael Davis '17 got engaged in December. Brittany will return to campus in the fall as the Lower School Physical Education Teacher



Collin Tharpe '19 and Alena Latvsheva were married last fall.



Dalton Kuhar '10 and husband welcomed son Kresimir Holmes Fine on Christmas morning.



Whitney Fortlines Canada '14 and husband Bryan welcomed daughter Bristol in April



Caroline Bryant Reams '13 and her husband Austin welcomed son Bennett in December.



Ariel Fowlkes Hazelwood '16 and husband welcome their first child Branson in February.

Alumni News



Anna Morrow Jamerson '15 and husband DJ welcomed son Crew in February.



Ben '07 and Katie Harding '07 Manis welcomed their 3rd child Massey in January.



Small World

Seirra Smith '05 pictured with Jacquelyn Culley Ames '13 in Grafenwoehr, Germany. Seirra is working in Germany as the assistant principal of the elementary school where Jaquelyn's oldest son is in 1st grade.

A promotional poster for Fuqua School Summer Camps. It features a group of children and adults in red shirts posing in front of a bookshelf. The text on the poster includes:

FUQUA SCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS
SUMMER QUEST
2023
605 FUQUA DRIVE, PO BOX 328
FARMVILLE, VA 23901
(434) 392-4131
WWW.FUQUASCHOOL.ORG

Alumni Return to Campus

Check out this years summer camp offerings several alumni's are doing camps.

<https://content.myconnectsuite.com/api/documents/e51958e37fdc412383ae316745839a16>

Have News?

Keep us updated on latest accomplishments in your life! Graduations, weddings, births, adventures, careers and accompanying photos are all of great interest to fellow alumni and the school community! We would love to share your excitement with you.



The Alumni office is gearing up for this year's **"Skeeter" Fore Memorial Golf** Tournament, Saturday, June 17, 2023 which promises to be very exciting! All alumni, friends and family are invited.

If you have never played in the "Skeeter" Fore tournament, this is the year to start. This is a "Captain's Choice" tournament. Pull out those yearbooks, find three friends, dig out the clubs, and make a day of it. Teams must register in advance, so start putting together your team and register early. Don't miss out on this year, all Golf Registration and Sponsor information can be found on the Alumni page of the Fuqua School website or by contacting Tammy Frank at franktm@fuquaschool.com or 434-392-3141 ext 235.

Upcoming Alumni Events

"Skeeter" Fore Memorial Golf Tournament

8:00 am
The Manor Golf Course
June 17th

Class of 1983

40th Class Reunion
Kilpatrick Library
Fuqua School
7-9 PM June 17th
contact: CSPURCELL25@gmail.com



Class of 1968

55th Class Reunion
Charley's Waterfront Cafe
6-10 PM June 24th
contact: cclabo@hsc.edu
jjyeatts@gmail.com

Class of 1978

45th Class Reunion
Gee Price
Fuqua School
September 30th
More info to follow

CALLING ALL ALUMNI CLASSES

Wolverine or Falcon - Let's Talk Reunion!

The Office of Alumni Affairs wants to reminisce with all of you, hear your stories, and celebrate your coming together after all these years. Each year the Alumni Office holds activities to celebrate all alumni. Wolverine or Falcon, please reach out if your class would like help planning your class reunion.

Stay Updated!

The Alumni Office would like to have updated information about you in our files. Often we have some of the information yet there is always some missing. In order to have as accurate a record as possible, we ask that you take a few minutes to complete the following form. The information gathered here will help our office as we plan events and help with ways to communicate with all of our alumni. As part of our family, we want to know all of the big and little things happening in your life- from marriages, children, degrees, job promotions and more. Please keep us updated with your latest news and information through our Alumni Office.

To update your info, use this link or contact Tammy in the Alumni Office at franktm@fuquaschool.com or 434-392-4131 ext.235