

Winter 2012

**THE MIGHTY  
EAGLES!**

[www.MatherNAA.org](http://www.MatherNAA.org)



Boylan-Haven-Mather Academy

# Mather Alumni

National Alumni Association

## From Our President



Vernell Hayes Wright ('51)

It is difficult to believe that nearly two years have passed since we all gathered together in the "Holy City" to celebrate and pay tribute to the legacy of Boylan Haven Mather Academy.

Undoubtedly, in the time since we last met, we have all experienced ups and downs, moments of triumph and moments of adversity. However, what remains unchanged is our ability to succeed as long as we continue to face those moments together.

Although separated by time and distance, we are bound by the everlasting truth of what it means to be a Matherite. We carry that spirit in our hearts always and I hope that you will bring it with you to the "Queen City" this August.

The executive committee has worked diligently since the conclusion of our last reunion on issues that faced the Association and the planning of what we all hope will be another successful gathering.

The dates have been set. The venue is selected. However, we all know that the Boylan Haven Mather Academy school-wide reunion is not about when or where we meet. Ultimately, it is about family.

We are brothers and sisters across time and space. And like most fami-

*(continued on back page)*

## National Reunion: August 2-5, 2012:

# *Rush...Rush, to Sweet CHARLOTTE!*

Make hotel reservations and register now for the BHMA National Alumni Association 2012 "National Reunion" in Charlotte, NC!

The reunion will be held **August 2-5 (Thursday through Sunday)** at the Embassy Suites Charlotte/Concord, with a dinner boat ride Aug. 2, line dancing Aug. 3, and meeting and banquet Aug. 4.

Reminisce and reconnect with former classmates (plus those from other grade levels while you were at Mather). Get updated on how we are preserving Mather's memory, such as with the BHMA Scholarship fundraising project.

Reunion classes are 1952 (60), 1962 (50), 1972 (40), and 1982 (30).

Any class year: Piggyback on this national event and arrange a "mini-reunion" for your class. Call or email folks whose whereabouts you know and spread the word.

Send the Registration fee (plus applicable dues) and form to alumni association Treasurer Knorphe Byrd.

Contact the hotel directly to make room reservations.

See the brochure (also at [www.MatherNAA.org](http://www.MatherNAA.org)). ■



Photo by Patrick Schneider Photography courtesy of Visit Charlotte

*The reunion will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotels Charlotte Concord, off I-85 just northeast of Charlotte, NC.*



## REGISTRATION/RESERVATION

- **Registration Fees:** \$200 or \$225 (\$175 + \$25 dues for 2011 and \$25 for 2012, as applicable. Dues are due every year). Send directly to Treasurer Knorphe Byrd, P.O. Box 15303, Quinby, SC 29506.
- **Registration Deadline Fri., June 1**
- **Hotel Rates:** \$149.16/night/standard suite (mention "Boylan-Haven-Mather Academy").
- **Hotel Reservation Deadline Sat., June 30:** Call the telephone number in the brochure.

**SEE BROCHURE FOR DETAILS!**

## Have you donated to our BHMA scholarship at Claflin?

Make sure you donate to help endow and maintain the "Boylan-Haven Mather Academy Alumni Memorial Scholarship."

Administered by Claflin University, the scholarship will be a perpetual remembrance of our alma mater and those associated with it.

We are near the basic goal of \$20,000, but donations must continue.

Claflin will invest that and use the interest to aid Claflin-bound students who meet the criteria.

Some of us have begun giving, and our NAA Board

transferred a \$9,000 CD to the effort. But much more will be needed to increase the amount and number of scholarships.

Please use the donation flyer enclosed with this reunion mailing and do your part! ■

## Join Us in Charlotte & Become Part Of Historic Scenes Like These . . .



2008 Reunion — Columbia



1997 Reunion Summit — Camden



2004 Reunion — Baltimore



2010 Reunion—Charleston

*(Hold your class reunion at the same time like the Class of 1960 did!)*



2008 Reunion — Columbia

### From Our President *(continued from front)*

lies, we have obstacles to overcome. Particularly, in light of the fact that our dear alma mater shut her doors so many years ago.

That means it's up to each and every one of us to be present and work together to help Mather leave her mark on the world in much the same way that she left her mark on each of us.

I encourage you to join me and the other members of the executive board in Charlotte on August 2-5, 2012. We will remember our past.

We will laugh together in the present. We will plan for the future. We will leave the legacy of Boylan Haven Mather Academy stronger through our action and solidarity.

In the end, we will depart renewed, strengthened, and poised to face every challenge that lies ahead.

God bless you and I look forward to seeing you in August. ■

## *New on the Internet!*

### Ms. Peacock's story on our web site

Former Mather Academy English teacher Frances Peacock has been added to our web site, [www.MatherNAA.org](http://www.MatherNAA.org).

Click on "Archival Photos," then click her name. (NOTE: The website address is not case-sensitive.)



Ms. Peacock taught at Mather Academy from 1930-1950. She also taught at several other schools before retiring. After she died in 1998, her family donated her papers to Emory University in Atlanta, GA. The documents are available for viewing at Emory, which granted permission for excerpts of her Mather memories and photos to appear on our web site.

In 1937, Ms. Peacock wrote a history of Browning Home and Mather Academy on the school's 50th anniversary. That publication is in the Camden Archives and Museum. ■

### BHMA now on Wikipedia

Boylan-Haven-Mather Academy's story is now on Wikipedia, the web site that promotes itself as "the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit."

Written by our BHMA-NAA newsletter editor and webmaster, the text summarizes our school's history for two audiences: (1) people who might be confused about the four originally independent schools that comprise our combined name, and (2) people who've never heard of us.

A link at the bottom of the text sends people to our web site.

Wikipedia is easily visible and accessible among the results when people use web search engines such as Google. Most web users "stumble" upon it and/or our web site when they type "Mather Academy" or "Boylan-Haven-Mather Academy." ■

