



# alumni online newsletter

Vol. VIII  
Issue 1

*Greetings  
from CLS*

*School has been in session for almost 2 months and the campus is bustling with activity! Between class trips, Convocation and sporting events, there's never a dull moment! We're just back from fall break and the wonderful weather seems to finally be here, making it much nicer to enjoy our beautiful campus.*

## 2008-2009 ALUMNI GOVERNING BOARD

Lowell Rayburn Combs '95,  
*President*

Boyden Talley Holland '92,  
*President-elect*

Members at Large:

Elizabeth Kerr Barnhardt '91

Jorn Friedrich Bleimann '85

Shirley Anderson Cook '93

David Mark Crockett '94

Elizabeth Tate Gordon '85

Kelly Beck Haseley '82

Andrew Harding Henson '98

Hunter Leslie Miller '03

Charles Bolling Thrift IV '89

Ruth Ann Van Dyke '02

Benjamin Holt Vandiver '97

Stephen Martin Woodard '91

Kyle Stuart Worthy '00

Sally Gray Smith '82 | Director of Alumni Affairs

To subscribe/unsubscribe to this newsletter, please email [ssmith@charlottelatin.org](mailto:ssmith@charlottelatin.org)

To submit class notes, please visit <http://www.charlottelatin.org/alumni/classnotes.asp>.

## DAVID KEESLER '80 NAMED FIRST CLS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

The first recipient of the CLS Distinguished Alumnus Awards is setting the bar very high for his fellow alumni. David C. Keesler '80 is known, both locally and nationally, as a person of the highest personal and professional standards. Keesler serves as a United States Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court, Western District of North Carolina. Previously a partner with the Charlotte law firm of Moore and Van Allen, Keesler won acclaim for his management of the infamous Loomis Fargo Heist case as an Assistant United States Attorney. His effective prosecution led to convictions of the perpetrators and earned him the Director's Award for Superior Performance as an Assistant United States Attorney in 1999. Keesler also was the recipient of two Department of Justice Special Achievement Awards in 1999.



While at Latin, Keesler distinguished himself in academics and athletics, serving as a member of the National Honor Society and the Cum Laude Society. He was a senior class officer, captain of the soccer team and a member of the tennis team. Keesler also is a past president of the CLS Alumni Governing Board.

Keesler earned his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a Morehead Scholar and Phi Beta Kappa, and his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Virginia Law School. He and his wife, Susan, are the parents of daughters Amelia and Caroline.

The CLS Alumni Governing Board along with Headmaster Arch McIntosh, Headmaster Emeritus Dr. Fox, faculty members and alumni honored Keesler at a party at the home of Sarah Finklea Pennacchia '80 on September 18. Keesler also served as the speaker at this year's Convocation on August 29.

## GUESS WHO'S ON FACEBOOK?

The Charlotte Latin School Alumni Association is on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=9260365641>.

You will find current news as well as information on upcoming events. Photos from the year's alumni events will also be posted. It's a great opportunity to stay connected!



## REUNION WEEKEND 2008 WAS A BEAUTIFUL AND FUN-FILLED WEEKEND!

On Friday night, the CLS Alumni Association joined forces with the CLS Booster Club for a pre-Homecoming game BBQ on the Middle School field. Over 350 alumni and current CLS families enjoyed good food and fellowship before watching our Latin Hawks defeat First Presbyterian Day School from Macon, GA!



Reunion Weekend events continued on Saturday morning with an Alumni Basketball Game. Alumni ranging in age from 20 – 45 years joined Coach Faulkner in the Jones Arena in the SAC for a blue/white game and afterward enjoyed a picnic lunch in Alumni Hall.



The weekend culminated with the individual reunions for the Classes of '78, '83, '88, '98 and 2003. The Class



of 1993 will celebrate its 15 year reunion on Saturday, October 25, at the home of Sunny Harris Hutchinson '93.

The Alumni Office thanks each of you who made the effort to attend one, if not all, of these events. It is ALWAYS good to see you!

## A NOTE FROM THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE

If you have a child who will be turning five years old by October 15, 2009, please let us know. We would love to know who you are so that we can send you an application for admission.

Again this year, as a courtesy to our current families, alumni, faculty, and staff, we will have one early Kindergarten group visit. It is scheduled for the week of November 17. In order to take advantage of this opportunity, we ask that you submit your application to the Admissions Office by November 1, 2008.

Also, if you have neighbors and friends who are interested in Latin and are eligible for Kindergarten in 2009, please ask them to call the Admissions Office (704.846.7207) so that we can send them an application packet.



## WELCOME CLASS OF 2008!

Congratulations on your transition from students to alumni. The Alumni Association is pleased to have you join our group! If you haven't already done so, please e-mail the

Alumni Office with your new college address and e-mail so we can keep you in the loop.

Please contact Sally Gray Smith '82 at 704-846-7253 or [ssmith@charlottelatin.org](mailto:ssmith@charlottelatin.org) with ideas on how we can better serve you. Any ideas for fun, successful college-age Alumni events would be greatly appreciated.

## YOUNG ALUMNI

### ATTENTION CLASSES OF 1997 – 2004:

If you have good ideas and would like to help with Young Alumni events in Charlotte, please contact the alumni office at [ssmith@charlottelatin.org](mailto:ssmith@charlottelatin.org) or 704 846 7253.

## LATIN ATHLETICS... WINNING IS FOR THE BIRDS!

### Wachovia Cup

For the FOURTH consecutive year, Charlotte Latin won the coveted Wachovia Cup! This award, which is presented by Wachovia Bank, N.A., recognizes overall excellence in high school athletics. It is based on the number of points earned by each school's varsity teams during the North Carolina state championships.

This year, six Latin varsity teams won NCISAA championships –girls' cross country, volleyball, football, girls' soccer, boys' track and field and girls' track and field. Go Hawks!



## COMING SOON!

COLUMNNA, the (blue and) white pages for the Charlotte Latin School Alumni Community, is coming your way! We hope to introduce this new and improved online alumni directory before year-end. Stay tuned!

## ROBERT GRAY CARRINGTON – IN MEMORIAM

Robert Gray Carrington, a prominent local businessman and former collegiate athlete, passed away on Wednesday, September 24, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Jean, his daughter, Jean, and his son, Robert Gray Jr.

Gray will be missed by many in the community he served so well.

His passing is notable to the Latin community and specifically to those involved in the track program. Gray came to Charlotte Latin in 1988 as a part-time, volunteer, pole vault coach. He soon became very important to the members of the team. Under his tenure, he not only provided the equipment needed for this event, but helped with purchasing poles in the early years.

Gray developed numerous Conference and State Champions during his years at Charlotte Latin School. He started coaching boys and from 1994 – 2001 and had the honorable distinction of having seven State Champions and six Conference Champions. In 2004 -2005, two girls he coached attained two Conference Championships each and went on to become State Champions.

More importantly, Gray's caring attitude, enthusiasm, and love for athletics were passed on to the young people he worked with, turning them into respectful sports men and women. He gave many hours of dedication and commitment to the program and to the Latin students he coached. All those who worked with and were around Gray quickly developed a friendship and genuine love for the man. He was a very special person who gave of himself to everyone whose lives he touched. His contribution to Latin, and its students, will never be forgotten. The current coaches of Charlotte Latin's track program have honored him by founding the Gray Carrington Relays Meet.

october  
'08