

Alumni Respond Generously and Quickly

Have you ever started a project without knowing exactly how it would turn out? Well, that was pretty much the case when several alumni met in January 2006, for the first time, to discuss the possibility of forming an Alumni Association for Hardaway High School. We had the idea that there was tremendous potential out there to help the school and benefit the students if we could somehow provide a mechanism for giving and inform the thousands of alumni of this plan. As it turned out, there was a lot more to it than that but thanks to the knowledge, dedication and expertise of the founding committee the Hardaway High School Alumni Association was created.

The first letter, sent to approximately 6,000 known alumni, was mailed in June of 2007. The founding committee had decided to let the Hardaway faculty and administration take the lead in determining the best way to use any funds collected so no one project or program was identified as the beneficiary of any money raised. The committee had no idea what to expect as far as contributions were concerned. Would the alumni respond willingly to an open ended opportunity?

The answer was quickly delivered in the form of a mountain of envelopes containing contributions from alumni, parents of present and past students and faculty members both past and present.

We are thrilled to inform everyone associated with Hardaway that the first annual alumni fund drive has, at this time, raised \$12,680. In addition to this amount, the alumni founding the organization donated over \$3,400 to cover start up expenses and an additional \$4,500 was provided in in-kind contributions, which includes CPA and legal services, printing and stationary. This sum will most certainly continue to grow as word spreads and others join in the effort to make a significant difference in the quality of education offered at Hardaway. Please pass the word.

Way to go Hawks!