

#A.2 Newport Alumni Association – Vira Watson (Class of 1939), Historian



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County Sports Documentation



Picture by Joe (Boy) Willis 8-28-08

History of the Consolidated School Alumni Association, Inc.

In 1989, the class of 1939 held its 50th Year Reunion. One of the projects of the planning committee was to find and restore the trophies awarded to the Newport basketball teams, which were thought to be at WCHS; however, they were finally found in the attic of the Newport gym – broken and extremely dirty.



Reginald Lewis headed the group that restored the trophies. The Reunion Committee then published its effort in the News-Times and asked for contribution from its alumni to purchase a display case. The money was received and the display was purchased and now resides in the NCSAA building.

From the Reunion Committee came the idea for sponsoring an “all school reunion”. It was advertised in the News-Times and the interest was high, and the group planned and worked a year planning for the “Big One”, held at the gym and teacherage, which was held June 1991 with more than 1,000 attending. At that time it was decided to organize an Alumni Association and to have a reunion every five years beginning in 1995.

In 1999 the Association incorporated and became a tax-exempt organization, and negotiated to rent the “old” postal house next to the railroad, now all of the memorabilia stored in homes and garages is now stored in the Alumni building. Mrs. Vira Watson became NCSAA Historian around 1995 and continues to work on the preservation of the old school precious memorabilia.

The current display was put together in time for the 2000 reunion.