

Holland Patent Central School Alumni Association

Established June 15, 1880

The Alumni Association of HPCS was established in 1880. The first president was R. R. Watkins from the class of 1875. The reunion meetings were held annually until 1999... with exceptions including 1903, 1917 (WWI), 1943 (executives met) and 1945 (due to food and gas shortages- WWII.) During the 1940's, the officers prepared the Constitution for the organization. The original signers were F. Stanley Roberts, Eleanor J Moseman, Genevra Frame Evans and David B .Lisle, Jr.

The objectives of the association, as originally written, are as follows:

1. To promote and strengthen the tie that binds us together as graduates of our Alma Mater.
2. To encourage the continuation of the high standards of education exhibited over the years.
3. To provide a scholarship for student(s) of each graduating class.

The original Constitution Articles delineated membership, dues, officers and their duties, standing committees (Executive, Nominating, and Scholarship), and the process for amendments.

The association adopted a certificate of incorporation on May 24, 1991 for the purpose of encouraging the continuation of education as a means to enrich one's life and community and to promote education through awarding of scholarships (as approved by the Board of Regents.)

The 100th (Centennial) meeting was held and celebrated in 1998. Since 1998, there have been, in effect, no functioning committees as outlined in the Constitution. Vacancies for officers have not been filled and meetings have not been held. But the scholarships continued to be awarded.

The first alumni prize was awarded in 1944 to Phyllis Myers. The President at that time was Mrs. Eve Evans from the class of 1912.

The first recorded monetary prize of \$50 was awarded in 1949 to Hazel Jones. The President at that time was Mina Kessler Risley from the class of 1929.

From 1949 to 2024, the association awarded a little more than \$275,000 to 238 graduating students, thanks, in part, to a very generous endowment trust from Ruth and Stanley Guzskie. Ruth was a member of the class of 1944 (Ruth Hadynski). Her husband, Stanley, was the inventor and patent holder for the Motor Control Circuit with Program Means ... successfully used in the field of remotely controlled television receivers. Their generous donation accounted for approximately \$217,000 of the scholarships awarded from 2007 until 2024. The remaining scholarship awards were made possible by generous donations from alumni, reunion classes, and friends.

To continue the legacy of generosity and scholarship, please consider donations to the Alumni Association. Also please consider including the association in your estate planning (as Mr. and Mrs. Guzskie did). Doing so will allow the fund to continue for many years without being depleted.

The trustee of the fund is now the District Treasurer for the Holland Patent School District.

Respectfully submitted,
Geraldine (VanDresar) Gates, Treasurer
Class of 1975 Scholarship Recipient
Last active officer of the association
June 9, 2025