

# SA/KHS Alumni Association News



**Nights of Lights 2018**

**Hall of Fame 2018  
Induction**

**New Board Member,  
Tim Gillis**

**1st Classroom Grant  
Awarded**

**Yellow Jackets Forever  
& Class of '68 Gift**



## 2018 Nights of Lights Event Sparkled with Jackets Alumni



A spectacular setting, amazing food, and former classmates from a great high school made for a fun second annual Nights of Lights alumni event on Saturday, Nov. 17.



Special thanks go to board member Chris Way, whose family opened their home to us again, and sponsors Nations Bus, Ray's Collision Services, No Profile Boat Lifts, Evans Automotive and Tire Center, and Burkhardt Distributing.

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## Four Inductees Entered the 2018 St. Augustine/Ketterlinus High School (SA/KHS) Alumni Association's Hall of Fame on Thursday, Oct. 11



Photo by David Macri

The 2018 SA/KHS Alumni Association Hall of Fame inductees were: Jere Palmes, Class of '39, U.S. Army Captain, posthumously awarded the Silver Star and other citations for meritorious action in World War II; Cerita Battles, Class of '86, senior vice president and head of retail diverse segments at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage; Howell Melton Jr., Class of '69, former managing partner at Holland & Knight Law Firm; and Nancy Calhoun Birchall, Class of '63, community volunteer. SA/KHS Alumni Association Pres. Debbie Adams (center in photo at left) welcomed the newest Hall of Fame members. Capt. Palmes' daughter, Rebecca Ward, left, accepted his award.



Vice President Doug Wiles at the SAHS Alumni Hall of Fame



SAHS Principal DeArmas Graham and class officers;  
Photo by David Macri



Photo by David Macri



Halftime at the homecoming game with announcer Wayne Sims



## **SA/KHS Alumni Association Board of Directors**

### **Officers:**

**Debbie Adams, President**

**Doug Wiles, Vice President**

**Trevor Davis, Treasurer**

**Paula Steele, Secretary**

**Brad Davis, President Emeritus**

### **Members:**

**Joseph Boles**

**Timothy Gillis**

**Deltra Long**

**Christopher Way**

### **Jackets Forever**

### **Endowment Committee:**

**Leonard Pellicer, Chair**

**Katherine Batenhorst**

**Robin Burchfield**

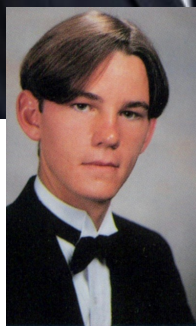
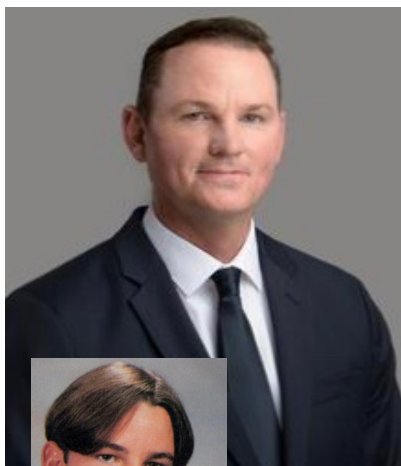
**Susan Longo Cowperthwaite**

**Deborah Geanuleas**

**Doug Wiles**

*Mission: The purpose of this association is to support St. Augustine High School students and alumni through scholarship, mentorship, fellowship and community involvement, the support of such purposes to be exclusively charitable, to make and receive contributions as and for this association that qualify as exempt under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and any corresponding law of the State of Florida.*

## **Alumni Association Board Elects New Member Welcome, Tim Gillis!**



*Timothy  
Gillis, above,  
and in the  
Class of '95*

A new board member was recently elected by the St. Augustine/Ketterlinus High School Alumni Association's directors.

Timothy Gillis, Class of '95, is director and marketing manager of The Gillis Law Firm. He earned an associate of arts degree in film and videography from the Art Institute in Fort Lauderdale. His career has focused in finance and the mortgage industry. He and his wife, Adrienne, have two sons, and Tim coaches baseball and is a member of the St. Augustine Rotary Club.

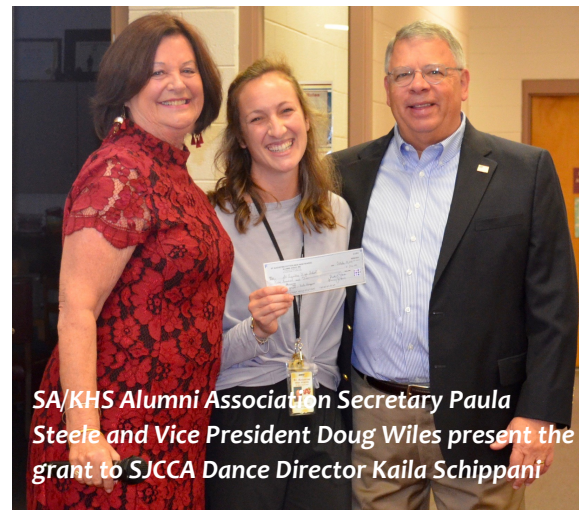
Welcome to the board, Tim, and thanks for serving!

## **First Classroom Grant Awarded**

The first winner was recently awarded in a new Alumni Association classroom enhancement program. Kaila Schippiani, dance director of St. Johns County Schools Center for the Arts at SAHS, was granted \$500 to purchase an iPad Pro for the dance program. Schippiani will use the iPad to record student performance for immediate feedback.

Students can also learn Garage Band, a professional level music and audio program, and PhotoShop, a film editing program.

The new classroom "mini-grant" program was devised by SA/KHS Alumni Association board secretary and former SAHS principal Paula Steele. She and a volunteer committee consisting of SAHS alumna and SA/KHS Alumni Association scholarship winner Kathryn Masters; and Ken Maas, a retired teacher, reviewed the applications.



*SA/KHS Alumni Association Secretary Paula Steele and Vice President Doug Wiles present the grant to SJCCA Dance Director Kaila Schippiani*

## Keeping in Touch is Easier Than Ever

**There are two easy ways to keep up with your alumni association.**

1. Go to [mysahs.com](http://mysahs.com) for everything from the history of our schools to all our Hall of Fame inductees to new scholarship winners to class reunion information. You can also sign up for the email news list.
2. Follow us on Facebook. There, you'll find even more up-to-the-minute news, shares about class members and news from Facebook class pages, and much more to "Like."



Once a Jacket,  
Always a Jacket

**facebook**

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## Class of '68 Boosts Yellow Jackets Forever Endowment Toward Its Goal

After its 50-year reunion in November was over, the committee that organized the Class of '68's get-together had a small amount of money left over.

Then the alumni remembered the Jackets Forever endowment. When they found out the fund is almost to its \$100,000 goal, they knew what to do with the balance.

As the group discussed a donation, something happened. Members of the reunion committee began adding their own generous gifts.

"It was a spontaneous response," Gary Peterson, who headed the reunion committee, said. "We thought maybe we could help somebody else that's coming through."

Gary and his wife, Faye, also a member of the Class of '68, said they first heard about the Yellow Jackets Forever endowment when they attended an Alumni Association Hall of Fame induction a couple of years ago.

They learned about the scholarships and classroom grants the non-profit organization provides. And that once the Yellow Jackets Forever fund reaches its first \$100,000 goal, it will begin to spin off income that will supply even more help to SAHS students while preserving the principal sum for, well, Yellow Jackets forever.

The Class of '68 hopes its donation will start something.

"We hope this kicks off a giving spree," Gary said. "Maybe it will even inspire other people to give and get the endowment over its goal." If you'd like to help, contact endowment committee chair Leonard Pellicer at [leonard.pellicer@comcast.net](mailto:leonard.pellicer@comcast.net) or 904-738-0984.



Front row, from left: Gary Peterson, reunion committee president; Leonard Pellicer, endowment chair. Second row: Cynthia Rogero, reunion committee treasurer; Lucy Lang; Robin Burchfield, endowment committee member. Third row: Monique Markham; Mike Adams; Faye Peterson, reunion committee vice president; Dorothy Boone; Doug Wiles, endowment committee member; Arta Feltner. Back center: Doug Feltner.