

Dear Friend, Classmate, or Fellow Alumni of a High School in Pulaski County--

To quickly summarize, we are going to raise \$25,000 for a most worthy cause--that is, to electronically scan every page that has ever been published of *The Southwest Times* (and we hope also, its predecessor newspaper, *The News Review*) in order to make them easily and broadly available on the Internet. We will base this on microfilm copies already in the Pulaski Library and other locations. More than just viewable scans, these resources will be date- and key-word-searchable! We are doing this to preserve the history of Pulaski County. But more than that, this will make our unique history more widely available to everyone who might choose to access it on-line. Think of the convenience, think of the impact that our history can have on present and future generations! And to see it based on specific words, phrases, or dates... What an opportunity!!

We will have an organizing meeting to discuss and finalize these plans at **10 a.m. on Saturday, March 20, at the Dublin Library**. This project WILL happen. But we need YOU--and any others you may know who can help--to join us at this organizing meeting, and be a part of the project.

We will quickly and efficiently organize in such a way that our county schools alumni (Dublin HS, Pulaski HS, and Pulaski County HS) will be able to both band together by class in this project, and also be able to compete with each other for recognition in doing so. We want also to reach out to other organizations in the county: businesses, social and civic groups, other school groups, churches, and any other grouping of Pulaski County citizens that might be willing to donate. We will do this not only by alumni class, but also geographically within the county, i.e., within individual areas of the county, such as Pulaski, Dublin, Newbern, Fairlawn, Belspring, Draper, Claytor lake, Snowville, etc. We will organize into as many areas as makes sense. Small donations will make a big difference if we can connect with MANY individuals across the entire county!!

We will run a very short four-month donations campaign, beginning April 5 and continuing through July 31. We then expect that our scanning project should be complete by the end of September, depending on adequate funding having been raised. Our scanning contractor will likely be a Virginia-based company, so not only will our funding source be local, but our implementing operation will be in-State!

For the project, we need--for example--individual group and class points of contact (POCs) for all areas and all schools; we need people to help us with publicity; and we need individuals who are willing simply to make phone calls and assist POCs with the direct contacts that will be so important. This is not about a few people making this happen--it MUST be built around many within each school or other area group who recognize this as a worthy cause that we can make happen quickly, even in these tough times. Almost everyone will be able to see value in this, and that their donation and involvement, small or large, will make a big difference.

Here is a web reference that will let you see for yourself what we will do for *The Southwest Times*.

<http://casagrandepl.newspaperarchive.com/>

Better than that, come to the meeting on March 20, and see it directly, as we will have at the meeting a number of Internet-linked computers running the kind of look-up software that we will use for our own project--and that you will be able to demo personally to see for yourself how it will work!

Please offer your time and energy for this important project, and **forward this e-mail** on to everyone who you feel should know about it, and who might be willing to help! Time is short, and the need is great. Even if you are not in the immediate area, volunteer anyway. DIRECT CONTACT is the way we will raise these funds.

Hope to hear from you, and see you on March 20th at 10 a.m. Please come and help!! Call or e-mail me with questions! Forward this to your friends!

With thanks and best regards,

Jim Graham
Dublin High School Class of 1960
703-801-5112

p.s., Throughout the project, our Technical Director will be Carol Smith, Technology Coordinator for Pulaski County Library System (540-994-2453, 540-980-5217 evenings, 540-616-5217 cell, or chsmith@pclibs.org). Carol will also be available at the meeting and in the interim should you have any questions.