

## HALL OF FAME 2021 - Congratulations Honorees!

By Sara McPeck Sampson, '69



2021 Alumni Hall of Fame Honorees: Sandy Bukey Turner '59 accepting for her cousin, Honoree Mike Neer '63; Brenda Curtiss, widow of Honoree Richard Curtiss '58 accepting for Dick; Honoree Stephen Garland '71; Bonnie McEntire Street '58, widow of Honoree Roger Street '60 Jan., accepting for Roger.

The four outstanding individuals inducted into the Hall of Fame on Sunday, September 19, 2021, include: **Richard "Dick" Curtiss '58** (deceased), **Stephen Garland '70**, **Michael Neer '63**, and **Roger Street '60** (deceased). The ceremony was held at the business office of our Alumni President, **Dave Dobos**, due to Covid restrictions in place by the Columbus City Schools forbidding the public use of school buildings by the general population. Although attendance was lower than in previous years, everyone seemed to enjoy meeting the 30 – 40 friends and family members of the honorees.

**Susie Katon Ward '70** introduced **Dick Curtiss** and family members accepted his award. **Vida Fulton Williams '73** introduced **Stephen Garland** and **Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63** introduced fellow classmate, **Michael Neer**. Mike was unable to attend so he asked his cousin, **Sandy Bukey Turner '59**, to accept his award. **Bill Kern Jan '60** introduced his fellow classmate **Roger Street** with the family accepting the award. It was an emotional yet rewarding day for the family members present.

The Hall of Fame was created for the purpose of recognizing and honoring those persons who have attended West High School, and who, by their accomplishments, have contributed to the local, state, or national community. These individuals have met these criteria, by demonstrating achievement in their chosen endeavor. They have distinguished themselves as evidenced by honors and other recognitions conferred upon them. They have made, by their activities and accomplishments, a notable contribution to society.

Please read how the educators, engineer, and entrepreneur all became devoted and beloved volunteers within their community.  
*Congratulations fellow Alumni, we are proud of you!*

Visit our new website at [www.westhighalumni.com](http://www.westhighalumni.com)

# President's Message



West High School Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 28056, Columbus, OH 43228  
[www.westhighalumni.com](http://www.westhighalumni.com)

## President

Vida Fulton Williams '73 (614) 203-9126 [travels.vida@gmail.com](mailto:travels.vida@gmail.com)

## Vice-President

Stacy Neff Campbell '78, 614-580-3584, [stacyberndsen12@gmail.com](mailto:stacyberndsen12@gmail.com)

## Secretary

Georgia Ward '70 (614) 203-4068 [Georgiamward@gmail.com](mailto:Georgiamward@gmail.com)

## Treasurer

Dave Dobos '73 (614) 580-7380 [davedobos@alum.mit.edu](mailto:davedobos@alum.mit.edu)

## Board of Directors

Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63	Stephanie Lee Orahoad '97
Greg Large '70	Rick Davis '97
Rosalie Williams '72	Isaac Jefferson '99
Althea Seagraves Williams '73	

## Committee Chairs

### Concessions

Eli Bowen '74

### Scholarships

Karen Nixon Stattemiller '79

### Hall of Fame

Sara McPeck Sampson '69

### Golf Outing

Georgia Ward '70

### Summer Picnic

Nikol Madison Owens '97

### December Luncheon

Stacy Neff Campbell '78

### Immediate Past President

Dave Dobos '73

### Florida Reunion

Joe Castorino '67

Tom Ramage '67

## Past Presidents

2018-21 Dave Dobos '73	2005 Paul Pennell '57
2017 Susie Katon Ward '70	2002-04 Nancy Hardy Smith '50
2016 Paul Pennell '57	2001 Donna Spring Falter '49 Jan
2015 Bill Pabst '56	2000 Richard Borrer '48
2013-14 Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63	1996-99 Ed Schmidt '45
2011-12 Baileen Gary Dodd '48	1995 Gus Cross '47
2009-10 Susie Katon Ward '70	1994 Dick Weber '43
2007-08 Robin Schmidt '49 Jan	1993 Connie Vanderburg Murphy '70
2006 Ed Sensenbrenner '50 Jan	1992 Dean Potts Jan '59

## Newsletter Editor

Nancy Lloyd Laver '79 [nybryant@aol.com](mailto:nybryant@aol.com)  
6238 Borrer Rd. (614) 570-0018  
Grove City, OH 43213



## Deadline for Submitting Articles to the Occident

To be printed in the West High Alumni Occident, all articles and suggestions for articles must be submitted to the editor by the following dates:

Winter Issue	Information Deadline - November 20
Spring Issue	Information Deadline - February 20
Summer Issue	Information Deadline - May 20
Fall Issue	Information Deadline - August 20

## NEWSLETTER MAILINGS

If your Alumni Occident newsletter is 'snail-mailed' to you it is mailed in a bulk mailing which is not forwarded if you move. It is not returned to the Alumni Association, so we do not know you have not received it. Contact the Association Editor with the dates that you will be in another location, and we will mail your newsletter to that address.



## President's Message

**Dave Dobos '73**



The new WHSAA website is live! Please visit our expanded website at <https://westhighalumni.com>. It features easier navigation; information about the school, alumni, and Hall of Fame inductees; access to photos, videos, audio clips, and past newsletters; and the ability on the spot to join or renew memberships, register for unique events, and order West HS spirit wear.

Together we have accomplished so much for our organization during the last four years. Despite COVID, we have continued sponsoring the Summer Picnic, Golf Outing, Hall of Fame Selection and Induction, December Luncheon, and Florida Reunion. We expanded the website and updated our bylaws and standing rules. We secured a wonderful newsletter editor, who produces the best high school alumni publication anywhere. Our concessions chair runs the best football game refreshment stand in the City League. Finally, we raised more money during the last 18 months than ever—which keeps us strong financially and allows us to offer more scholarships to deserving, college bound, West students and provide funds to support current academic and extra-curricular efforts at the school.

This is my last article. I am pleased to announce that **Vida Fulton Williams '73**, board member and Summer Picnic chair, has been elected Alumni Board President for 2022. She brings many great ideas to our organization and the ability to work with others to bring them to fruition. I ask that you support her as you have me as, collectively, we continue to grow our membership and scope.

Thank you for your incredible support of me and this organization. I will always be humbled by your loyalty and generosity toward our school. Go, Cowboys!

## Concession Stand Report

The first football game against Linden-McKinley was hot! The temperature in the concession stand was over 100°! **Steve Scarpitti '74** and **Stan Bowen '84** grilled the hamburgers and hot dogs. We sold 74 bottles of pop, 109 bottles of Gatorade, and a lot of icy cold water. It was a small crowd, but we did well.

Game two against Centennial was moved to Thursday evening. It was another warm night and sales were good! We sold 53 pretzels, 96 hot dogs, and a bunch of cookies. **Garnet Bowen '79** manned the oven in the backroom.

The rest of the season went well with mild weather up until the very end. There would have been six games but the game with Eastmoor was canceled due to a COVID quarantine. Our sales were about the same for all five games.

*Continued on page 7*

## Michael Neer '63



I'm **Michael Neer**, a 1963 graduate of West High School.

While attending seventh through twelfth grades at our Alma Mater, I experienced both happy and sad times, like many others. During ninth grade, my dad died. My brother had entered the military, so it was just Mom and me. Thank God I had a loving extended family (aunts, uncles, and cousins most of whom are also West High graduates). It was a sad time but looking back it worked for my good

contributing to the man I was to become.

I was looking for a father figure when in stepped chemistry teacher Mr. E. T. Stone, a knowledgeable and kind encourager who became my mentor. I had dreamed of becoming a rocket scientist from the time I was a little boy and he helped me develop a passion for the science behind it. Many other teachers at West High contributed to my future in a variety of subject areas but most of all helping me develop the discipline and study habits that made me well prepared for college.

### *Summary of my Professional Life*

In February 1972, OSU awarded me a Ph.D. in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering preparing me for a fifty-year career (so far) as a defense contractor, working in various positions, always as part of like-minded teams of scientists and engineers.

From 1972-1975, I was a Visiting Scientist at the Air Force Aerospace Research Laboratories at Wright Patterson AFB doing basic research in air-breathing hypersonic propulsion (SCRAM Jets) which is still a hot area I'm working today.

From 1975-1979, I was Assistance Director of Aerophysics at Aeronautical Research Associates of Princeton (N.J) where I conducted research in a variety of technology areas supporting national defense.

In 1979, one of my professors from Ohio State and I formed SciTec Inc., in Princeton, NJ, where I took my technology to the field helping to test defensive military systems and getting them ready for production.

Finally in 1995, I created my own business, Neer, Inc. contracting with various U.S. government agencies, again involving defensive military systems. I've traveled a lot and get to play with many very expensive "toys." Despite my age and health conditions, I just signed up for another five years. My government sponsors keep me around as much for my enthusiasm and sense of humor as my experience.

### *Personal Life*

I am married to a very caring woman, Alice. We live in the North Georgia Mountains on a heavily wooded ten-acre lot with a lake, mountain view and lots of wild animals. Our lake is well stocked, but I prefer to buy fish from the supermarket already cleaned, filleted and ready to cook.

I have seven wonderful children, six boys and one girl, all healthy and doing well. They are all four years apart in age (30 consecutive years with a kid in college). I finally figured out it took me three years to forget how hard it is to have a new baby in the house. Whatever mistakes I may have made raising my children, I have since corrected when raising my trumpet plants.

Even though I attended church as a child, I didn't accept Christ until age 46. Most important to me is leading a Men's Saturday Morning Breakfast at my Church. I've done this fifty weeks a year for the last twelve years. We have a manly breakfast followed by a discussion on the practical aspects of being Christian men. Between 20 and 45 men attend each week. They remind me that my ministry isn't about me. We share, we laugh and sometimes, we shed a few tears. I've put the Men's Breakfast Group on Facebook. Surprisingly, nineteen people have joined who live out of state even though they don't attend the breakfasts. They whine about the long drive.

By the Grace of God, I have been able to work with amazingly talented people and contribute to the development of numerous defensive weapon systems. While I currently have four serious health conditions, I'm thankful they haven't prevented me from doing my job. I still work fifty hours a week and plan to do so until I either die or my sponsors put me out to pasture.

I appreciate the West High School Alumni for honoring my life and career by inducting me into the Hall of Fame. Thank you and God bless.



*Jim Turner, Sandra Bukey Turner '59,  
Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63*



## Roger Street, January 1960



**Roger Street** was born in Columbus in May 1942. He grew up on the west side, attending John Burroughs Elementary School and West Junior-Senior High. He was an active participant and role model in a variety of activities during high school, culminating in his role as president of the January Class of 1960. Roger served on student council, Hi-Y, the “Fun Without Destruction” program, was selected to attend the Rotary Luncheon, and was a West High Ambassador (a program in which class officers

and student council officers visited other high schools in the city to gain knowledge and exchange ideas with students in similar positions). He also played basketball all 6 years (junior and senior high) and was voted “Best Athlete” by his classmates during his senior year. Roger was a proud West graduate and his connection to the school continued as an active member of the Alumni Association’s Scholarship Committee, advocating for West High School students pursuing higher education.

After graduating from West, Roger earned his Bachelor’s Degree in Education from Capital University in 1964 and then graduated from The Ohio State University with a Master’s Degree in 1967. He began his lifelong dedication to the field of education at Medina Middle School, where he taught history and social studies. He also continued his love of sports by coaching the school’s basketball team. During this period, he became a guidance counselor, giving him the chance to become a mentor to many young people, who surely benefited from his knowledge and advice. He also found time to officiate high school basketball games.

His ability to connect with people, combined with his steady support, advocacy, and passion for the power of education led to a career with the Columbus City Schools where he was a teacher, guidance counselor, supervisor, and mentor to many. His positive impact was felt across his variety of roles – from supervising guidance staff and vocational coordinators

to overseeing college fairs and administering the GED and ACT/SAT testing. He also felt immense satisfaction in the years he spent as an admissions counselor at Columbus State Community College, after retiring from Columbus Schools. His professional legacy was solidified in the initial leadership he provided in the founding of “I Know I Can”, a local program with the mission to inspire, enable, and support Columbus City Schools’ students in pursuing and completing a college education.

Roger was a member of the National Association of College Admissions Counselors, the Ohio Association of College Admissions Counselors, the Ohio Association for Adults and Continuing Education, and the Ohio Vocational Association.

Roger was recognized with numerous honors throughout his career, including the Distinguished Service Award from The Ohio State University Office of Minority Affairs, the Pupil Services Administrator of the Year Award from the Ohio Counselors Association, and the Basketball Official Meritorious Service Award from the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

Anyone who interacted with Roger experienced his dry wit, personable nature, and wonderful sense of humor no more so than his wife of 54 years, **Bonnie McEntire Street**, a fellow West High School graduate, Class of 1958. While Roger was in his happy place sitting with a fishing pole, his greatest joy came from spending time with Bonnie and his children, Craig and daughter-in-law Kristin; Carrie; Chad and daughter-in-law Stephanie; and five grandchildren, Colin, Courtney, Carter, Claire Anne, and Cailynn.

*Bill Kern, Class of January 1960, nominated Roger.*



*Front center: Kristin, Bonnie, Claire Anne  
Back row: Carrie, Carter, Craig, Chad, Stephanie, Cailynn  
Everyone's last name is Street!*

## Stephen Garland 1970



I was born in 1952, the second of three children of William and Betty Garland. I grew up at 345 Clarendon Avenue in a quiet, working-class neighborhood in the Hilltop with well-kept houses, trimmed lawns, and an abundance of children playing touch football on the side streets and pick-up basketball games in the alleys behind our houses. My father was in the business of buying and selling industrial machinery and represented the fourth generation of entrepreneurs in our family. My mom was

a housewife until her three children had graduated from high school, and then taught kindergarten until she retired in 2008.

I started kindergarten at Highland Elementary School at the age of four, followed by attending John Burroughs Elementary School through the sixth grade. I went to Hilltonia Junior High School from seventh through ninth grades and completed my tenth through twelfth grade years at West High School. While at West, I participated in track, football, and basketball. I won the District Long Jump during my junior and senior years.

After graduating from West High School in 1970, I attended Waldorf Junior College in Forest City, Iowa. While there, I was selected All Conference Wide Receiver in football. I was also selected as the Academic Athlete of the Year, receiving the most letters and best grades, while participating in football, basketball, and track. After receiving my Associates Degree in Business and Accounting from Waldorf, I continued my education at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration in 1974.

Upon graduation from Augustana, I began working for IBM Corporation in their data processing division, marketing large systems to retail organizations in Columbus such as Sears, Federated Department Stores, and Big Bear Incorporated. In 1977 I left IBM and joined our family business, Garland Enterprises, and began to sell industrial machinery internationally. I founded Garland Caribbean Corporation, an organization that bought and sold sugar mill equipment and ran dredging operations throughout the Caribbean. In 1982, I became CEO of Niger Steel and supervised the reconstruction of their Steel Rolling Mill located in Enugu Anambra State. Over the next four years, I worked on a flourmill construction site in Benue State and numerous road projects in Southern Nigeria until a series of coups forced my departure from Nigeria. Upon my return home, I founded The Great Lakes Machinery Corporation, which operated for the next twenty years in the business of selling industrial machinery throughout the Great Lakes, Canada, and Mexico.

During that period of time, I was also involved with the Amachi Program of Big Brothers/Big Sisters Organization, which mentored children of incarcerated parents. In addition, I coached Special Olympics basketball for the Columbus City Schools during nineteen of those years.

In 2008, the pastor of my church (Grace Apostolic Church), the Rev. James Gaiters, asked me to begin programming at the Ernest L. Hardy Center. It was a building the church owned that had been underutilized. The mission of the center was to provide inner-city youth and their parents with the tools they need to become more viable within society. We started programming there in 2009 with 23 kids in the summer program that, over the years, has increased to 400 children throughout the 50-day summer program. Also, there are 150 kids involved in an afterschool program, which runs from October to April. During the past two years of the pandemic, we have delivered over 200,000 meals to children in the neighborhood who could not attend the summer camp. Our mission at the Hardy Center is to prepare young minds for a prosperous future through literacy, life skills, and leadership. I pray to God that in some small way we are doing that. At any rate, I have given-up all hope of retirement.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge a few people. First, my grandfather, J.L. Garland, who was the wisest man I ever knew. Second, Carl Fulton, my mentor and little league football coach, who always had confidence in me and never gave-up on me. And thirdly, my high school track coach, Bill Huckaba, who is the kindest man I have ever known.

In the Columbus area, Stephen Garland was a 2013 Jefferson Award Winner. This is an annual award honoring the contributions of individuals who fulfill a need for service and help solve community problems. His work at the Hardy Center certainly justifies this remarkable award.

*Vida Fulton Williams, Class of 1973, nominated Stephen.*



*Vida Fulton Williams '73 with Stephen Garland '70*



## Richard Curtiss, 1958



**Richard “Dick” Curtiss** was born August 23, 1940 at Mt. Carmel West Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. His education was through the Columbus Public Schools, graduating in 1958 from West High School. While at West, Dick participated in marching band until the time he was asked to announce a football game one Friday evening. Little did he know, that this event would shape a lifelong career as a high school sports announcer! He also participated in cross-country, track, and basketball for the

West High Cowboys. Dick was involved with demolay and played basketball for his chapter while in high school and as a young adult. He played on several intramural basketball and softball teams throughout high school, even winning a few championships.

After graduating from West, Dick attended The Ohio State University. He graduated from OSU in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science in Education. While a student, he was involved with a religious fraternity, Sigma Theta Epsilon, and held the office of president. With his Education Degree, Dick began teaching elementary school in Columbus Public Schools. During this time, he was selected to attend Clark Atlanta University, as part of the NDEA (National Defense Education Act). He was pursuing his Master’s Degree in school guidance counseling and this University was a HBCU (historically Black college/university) school where white students could enroll in a historically Black college. During his time in Atlanta, he met his wife, Brenda. They married on August 21, 1966 and returned to Columbus. He completed his school guidance program through The Ohio State University, graduating in 1966 with a Master’s Degree in School Counseling.

South-Western City Schools employed Dick as a guidance counselor for over 30 years. Most of his time was spent at Westland High School, as he was part of the original 1970 opening staff at the school. He announced all the Friday night home football games as well as the basketball games and he became well known as the “Voice of the Cougars”. He retired from his position in 1993, but his “Voice of the Cougars” continued well over 40 years at Westland. The National Honor Society Chapter at Westland is named in his honor, as is the Press Box. When he was not at Westland, Dick managed to find time to work as a manager at the community swimming pool, LIVCO.

After retirement, Dick began working with Prodigy Student Travel. He became a licensed official Washington, D.C. tour guide taking many middle and high school groups on trips to our nation’s capital. He truly loved working with young adults and his passion was helping and supporting students through their transition into adulthood. He was a caring individual and treated everyone with kindness, regardless of background. This was evident from everyone who knew him. Not only did he stay connected with the students that he loved and nurtured, he also continued to shape educators for the future with both his advisement and monetary donations. In addition, he continued to serve on the OSU Educational Alumni Board. Although very busy, he continued to also give back to the West High School community. He was a scholarship committee reader, donated to the scholarship fund, and attended general meetings and activities of the West High School Alumni Association, such as the annual West High School Golf Scramble.

Dick was also involved in the far west Columbus community activities. He sat on many Boards, including the Southwest Public Library Board for 17 years and the Advisory Board for Doctors West Hospital. Dick was a lifelong resident of the west side and was very active in the Lincoln Village Resident Association. He created the first-ever community garage sale, “Flea Fantasia for Lincoln Village”. He was the Master of Ceremonies for the Lincoln Village Fourth of July celebrations as well as helped with planning the annual event. Dick was also the recipient of the prestigious Southwestern City Schools Bell Award. This award is given to teachers who go above and beyond their duties. They can be nominated by staff, parents, or students.

*Continued on page 3*



*Susie Katon Ward '70, Christina Curtiss Shore,  
Brenda Curtiss, Dan Curtiss*



## Class of June 1959 – 80th Birthday Celebration!

A few women in the June class of 1959 celebrated their 80th birthdays together at the Rusty Bucket in Dublin.

*Names left to right:*

Helga Scharte Kittrell, Cathy Kuhn Isler, Bev Corbin (class of 1960),  
Sandy Badgley Miller, Sandy Bukey Turner,  
Jane McIllyar Conrad, Janet Gove Dye  
*Not pictured:* Sue Rumley Goodin



## January 1950 Class Reunion - 71 years!

There was a 71st West High School reunion for the January class of 1950 at First Community Village on Veteran's Day November 11, 2021.

*Front row:*

Charlotte Cranston Prior,  
Marilyn Jackson Andrews

*Back row:*

Ed Sensenbrenner, Bob Wilson, Will Evans  
*Not pictured:* Lois Farrand Sensenbrenner

## Richard Curtiss, continued from page 6

Dick was deeply loved and respected by all who knew him. He was an exemplary alumnus and was always proud of his Hilltop and West High roots. He was an outstanding student and community member while in high school, but became a literal "legend of the west side of Columbus".

Dick and Brenda, along with their two children, Christina (Troy) Shore and Dan (Ginger) Curtiss were very proud residents of the community. Their children and grandsons all graduated from Westland High School. Dick was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in New Rome. While a member, he served on the Church Council and sang in the Chancellor Choir and Men's Choir Group. His life became "full circle" when he passed away at Mt. Carmel West Hospital, surrounded by his family and in the community he loved.

*Susan Katon Ward, Class of 1970, nominated Dick.*

## Concession Stand Report, continued from page 2

At the last minute, we were asked to open up for the Soccer City League Championship between Northland and West. West was 2nd in the city. It was a small turn out but a fun morning. At all of the games, people were thanking us for being there.

Many thanks to the following 2021 volunteers: **Eli Bowen '74** committee chair, **David Dobos '73**, **Greg Large '70**, **Theresa Fox '76**, **Nancy Lloyd Laver '79**, **Brad Laver '75**, **Steve Scarpitti '74**, **Rosalie Martin Williams '72**, **Jamie Kennard '75**, **Garnet Bowen '79**, **Stan Bowen '84**, **Scott Janney FOA**, **Alissa Grashel '77**, **Carey Bowen FOA**, **Chris Bowen FOA**, and **Karen Nixon Stattemiller '79**.



### *Class of 1976 - 45th Reunion - August 28, 2021*

**Front row:**

Tammy Morris Flowers, Debbie Burham Gibson, Teri Rupe Defide, Denise Preston Whaley, Brenda Pettit-Wife of Tim Pettit-1975, Cindy Quinn, Theresa M. Fox, Susan Weigand Wickenheiser, Anthony Diggs, Diane Doughty Stephens, Becky Pickleseimer Rogers

**Back row:**

Robert Snyder, David Poole, Steve Defide, Dean Nichols, Tim Pettit (1975), David Vendetti, Jerry Cuckler, Michael Gay, Robin Bennett Laskowski, Mary Kimball Hohman, Terri Theresa Zervis Bechtol, Randall Smith Kinzel, Jamie Kennard (1975)

**Not in photo:**

Alexander Grinstead, Kathy Allen Donovan, Tammy Hagerman Medley, and Patti Conrad

### *1975 Class Reunion - 46 years together - Friday, October 15, 2021*

**Row 1:**

Tim Pettit, Carla Malone Handley (with cake she made), Greg Port, Kathy Allen Donovan 1976, Mike Redmond

**Row 2:**

Debbie Jones Port, Jamie Kennard, Susie Umbleby Gear

**Row 3:**

Jamie Norris Fagan, Peggy Tope Popovich White, Tony Diggs 1976, Candy Cain Thomas, Kathy Oney Redmond, Nick Carter

**Row 4:**

Kevin Tharp, Brad Laver, Leslie Geshwilm Ainger

Fun evening with great memories and comradery! We'll plan a bigger shindig in 2025 for our 50th!



## -----Update -----

### **Class of 1970 Reunion Scheduled August 13, 2022**

We have scheduled The Courtyard by Marriott in Columbus (I-270 and Roberts Rd) for Saturday, August 13, 2022.

Please make sure the Committee has all your contact information so we can send you all the details. We are looking forward to seeing you soon!

Any questions?  
Please contact a Reunion Committee member or email Sue or Georgia.

Sue Griffith Lockard  
smaneff@gmail.com

Georgia Martin Ward  
georgiamward@gmail.com

### **Class of 1961 Reunion Update**

During last summer, 2021, some of your classmates started organizing dates, places and events for a 60th Alumni Reunion Celebration for the summer of 2022. This, of course, was already a year past our actual 60th Reunion date due to Covid 19.

Once again, due to Covid 19, we will be waiting until the summer of 2023, to celebrate our 60th and will look into partnering the 60th with an 80th Birthday Party. The number of Covid cases in Ohio and other areas continue to be on the high side and will probably spike after the holidays. Therefore, to be on the safe side, the committee will discontinue planning for a 60th Reunion for next summer, 2022.

We will keep you posted regarding the progress for an 80th Birthday Party, 60th Reunion Celebration the summer of 2023.

Any questions or concerns?

Please contact:  
Judy Pagura 1-330-421-6245  
jpaguramedina@aol.com

Judy Warner 1-513-324-0443  
JWarner43@aol.com



### **Class of 1972 Save the date 50th Class Reunion**

Yes, it's been 50 years since running the halls of West High.

Mark your calendar for Friday, June 24, 2022 at Raymond Memorial Golf Course to join us for the 50th Reunion.

More details to follow as we get closer to the event.

If you know of someone not receiving this information, please get their information to me so we can keep everyone up to date.

Looking forward to seeing everyone's smiling face!

Steve Coup  
scoup@Couprestorations.com

Sharon Rothwell McVay  
mcvayds@sbcglobal.net

### **1980's Multi-Class Reunion Save the Date**

Saturday, June 18, 2022  
JP's BBQ at Bolton Field

For more details contact:  
Larry Titus  
ltitus@aqsOhio.com

Dody Borton Myers  
dam5212011@gmail.com

## What is Riverblindness?

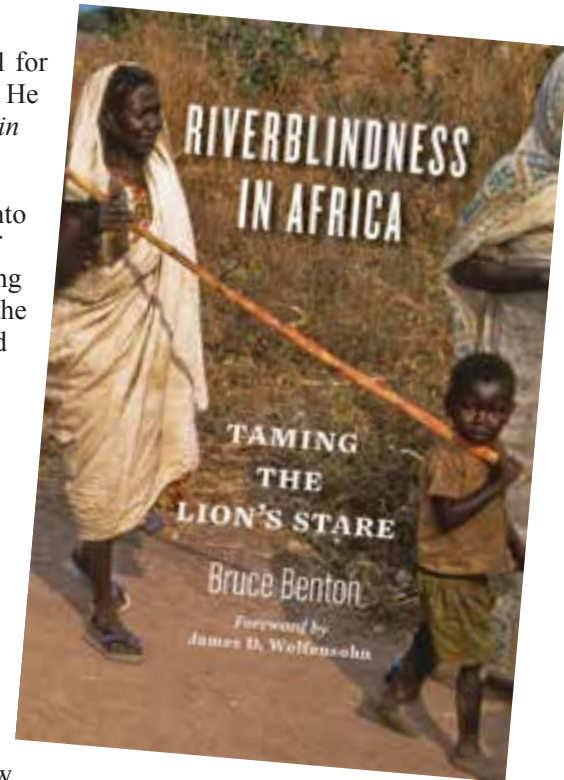
**Bruce Benton '60** was inducted into the West High Hall of Fame (Humanitarian) in 2001 for his 20-year leadership in eliminating Riverblindness (Onchocerciasis) throughout Africa. He recently published a book about the disease and the elimination effort, in *Riverblindness in Africa: Taming the Lion's Stare* (Johns Hopkins University Press, December 2020).

Bruce describes the disease: "A blackfly transmits a microscopic parasite that develops into a worm 2 ½ feet long that lives in the body for 14 years. That worm produces millions of microscopic worms that fill up the body. These tiny worms cause incessant, horrific itching as they squirm underneath the skin – sometimes causing suicide – and they migrate into the eyes resulting in permanent blindness. The book presents the discovery of the disease and the effort to control it in Africa. That effort was launched in 1974 by Robert McNamara, then-president of the World Bank."

Bruce led two international programs—the Onchocerciasis Control Program and the African Program for Onchocerciasis Control—to eliminate the disease. They covered 31 African countries where 98.6% of the world's cases of the disease occur.

Bruce raised the financing for the effort – \$750 million from donors around the world. He also mobilized unique partnerships combining UN agencies; donors; ngos; the pharmaceutical company, Merck; African governments; and the affected communities themselves, to eliminate the disease. One important tool has been an oral medication called ivermectin, which kills the microscopic worms that cause itching and blindness. Bruce emphasizes that ivermectin is extremely effective and safe against parasitic infections – but not against viral infections, such as Covid-19. "All responsible, quality studies show that ivermectin is largely ineffective, and can be dangerous, when used against Covid-19."

Bruce is confident that lessons learned from the Riverblindness program experience, that are outlined in the book, can have a beneficial impact on approaches to disease control. He states: "Lessons learned can be applied to a range of global health programs. For example, we understood the importance of multi-country collaboration, and a regional approach focusing on intercountry, intersectoral partnership was adopted at the beginning. Unfortunately, we failed to do this with COVID-19 and have paid a heavy price, particularly in the United States. Many other important lessons from the Riverblindness effort can guide programs to eliminate the other major neglected tropical diseases that devastate the poorest of the poor around the world."



## About the Author

*Riverblindness in Africa: Taming the Lion's Stare* represents the culmination of a 50-year career for Bruce Benton – a career focused on humanitarian and development assistance for sub-Saharan Africa. Nearly half of that career has been devoted to expanding the program to eliminate riverblindness or onchocerciasis, a disease which has devastated much of rural Africa for generations. The World Bank recognized his leadership in managing that program with a Special Presidential Award in 2000.

Bruce's career was launched by a two-year stint in the Peace Corps, teaching English and physical education to middle and high school students, in Guinea in the mid-1960s. Following the Peace Corps, he earned Master's degrees from Johns Hopkins University (School of Advanced International Studies) in African studies, and the University of Michigan in development economics. During the 1970s, he served in the Office of the Secretary of the US Treasury, as deputy director of the Departments of Raw Materials and Oceans Policy and Multilateral Development Banks. While at Treasury, he was awarded a Congressional Fellowship, which led to advising members of the US Congress in the House and Senate on foreign assistance legislation for developing countries for 2 ½ years. By the early 1980s, he had become convinced that he could most effectively pursue his goal of enhancing the impact of development assistance for Africa by working at the World Bank, which he joined in 1982. Following his retirement from the Bank, Bruce taught global health as an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Bruce and his wife, Patricia, moved to Orcas Island, Washington in Puget Sound, northwest of Seattle in 2020. Previously, they lived in Bethesda, Maryland, where they raised four children.



# In Memoriam - Alumni No Longer With Us



(If you know the graduation class of anyone listed without a year, please contact the Association editor so we may update our records. Also, if you know of any alumni deaths that we have not reported, please also let us know of those.)

## Class

### **1930s**

### **1940s**

James K. Fero, October 13, 2017	1945
Jackson C. Taylor, April 5, 2021	1949
Carl McKenna, M.D., April 14, 2018	1948
Donald E. Wirth, September 3, 2021	1944
Harold L. Buchanan, September 9, 2021	1945
Aleta E. Schwender Riewe, September 25, 2021	1946
Fred Warden, September 15, 2021	1949

### **1950s**

Anita Bowen Love, November 1, 2021	1950, Jan.
Mary Lynn Lewis, September 7, 2021	1957
Marge Brooks Taylor, September 21, 2021	1953, Jan.
Elizabeth Shoaf née Hennick, September 24, 2021	1959
Pauline "Polly" Clark Harrison, October 4, 2021	1950, Jan.
Shirley Shell Connell, November 6, 2021	1951
Charlotte E. Pound Clark, November 7, 2021	1954
Charlene R. Lowry Gallucci, November 16, 2021	1950
Geraldine Murnane Gilliland, November 24, 2021	1959
Beverly Hill Harrison	1950

### **1960s**

Ed Isel, September 3, 2021	1962, Jan.
Roy Buckley, September 4, 2021	1961
Pro Bowler	
John Coleman, September 19, 2021	1964
Gary F. Kunz, September 23, 2021	1964
Thomas Rodenstine, October 15, 2021	1962

## Class

Glenna J. Lewis Davis, October 25, 2021	age 75
Lorenzo Clifford Walker, October 8, 2021	1962
George F. Wilson, November 9, 2021	1967
Janice Garrison Clark, November 11, 2021	1965
Brian McDaniel, November 17, 2021	1962
David Weaver, November 22, 2021	1962
Pam Boyer Whitlock, November 23, 2021	1964
Sharon Broomhall Clay, November 24, 2021	1964

### **1970s**

Steven F. Crissinger, June 1, 2021	1975
Robert "Bob" Gray, September 28, 2021	1972
Beverly Billingsley Danford, October 1, 2021	1972
Jerry Conkel, September 27, 2021	1975

### **1980s**

Kimmerlie Moore Kelley, September 7, 2021	age 52
Christina M. Browning Kocheran, September 21, 2021	1988
Bill Watson, September 28, 2021	1985
Melinda "Mindy" Smith, September 30, 2021	1988

### **1990s**

Shelva Perkins, October 16, 2021	1991
David Writesel	1994

*Thank you to our Alumni and friends who informed the Association of the passing of these cherished alumni, teachers and staff of West High School.*

*Without your help we would not have this section.*

## Kroger Plus Card and Amazon Smile Benefit West Alumni Association



Twenty-nine alumni households contributed \$96.51 to the Association without having to do anything but register their Kroger Plus Card on their computer. This is easy money! Please follow the directions on our new website to see how to join the Community Rewards Program.



Our Association also receives donations each quarter from Amazon Smile. This is an Amazon program to give back to charitable organizations in the community. You too can start generating donations in the Amazon Smile app at no cost to you or go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)

# THANK YOU for Your Donation



*The Alumni Association is designated as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.  
All Scholarship donations qualify as a tax deduction on your federal taxes.*

Checks should be made payable to the WHSAA and  
mailed to Treasurer, P.O. Box 28056, Columbus, OH 43228.

## THANK YOU for Your Scholarship Donation

Margaret Smith, 1973

David Brophy, 1955

Vera Jean Mincks Ruff, 1957

Sharon Pope Justice, 1961

Bill Lust, 1963

Jamie Kennard, 1975

## THANK YOU for donating in memory of, or in honor of, an individual

Kathleen Allen Donovan, 1976 in memory of Ed Aufderheide, 1965

Lorane Morgan Hawk, 1963 in memory of her husband, Danny Hawk, 1962

David and Louise Pence, 1957 in memory of Scott V. Pence, 1954

Ed Sensenbrenner, Jan. 1950 in memory of Dick Sensenbrenner, June 1954

Ed Sensenbrenner, Jan. 1950 in memory of Sandra Miller Sensenbrenner, June 1954

Lois Farrand Sensenbrenner, Jan. 1950 in memory of William Farrand, Jan. 1949

Susie Loik, 1970 in memory of Nancy Hegwood Loik, 1940

Gordon Jackson, 1972 in memory of Dan Krebs, 1953

Scott Miller, 1983 in honor of Gus Miller, 1959 and Barbara Miller, 1964

John Herbert, 1944 in memory of Louis Erf, 1943 and Norma Benoit Erf, 1945

John Herbert, 1944 in memory of Barbara McNutt Harkness, 1944

John Herbert, 1944 in memory of Dick Self, 1945

John Herbert, 1944 in memory of Bill Aumiller, Jan. 1944

John Herbert, 1944 in memory of Bob Jones

Don and Joan Speakman, Jan. 1949 in memory of Dan Miles, Jan. 1949

Don and Joan Speakman, Jan. 1949 in memory of Ray Bostick, Jan. 1949

## WELCOME New Life Members

*683 Life Members will never have to remember  
to send in their dues again!*

Kathleen Allen Donovan, 1976

## WELCOME New Members

Margaret Abby Holliday Jordan, 1973

Theresa Holliday Hardgrove, 1975

Midge Holliday Little, 1965

Trudy Holliday Hayden, 1967

Toni Cooper Proctor, 1971

Grant Orahood, 1998

Stephanie Lee Orahood, 1997

Joel Johnson, 1998



# Update Your Alumni 2022 Calendar!



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**January 23, 2022  
Sunday**

**6:00 PM Board Meeting**  
Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd., Columbus 43228

**February 23, 2022  
Wednesday**

**6:00 PM General Membership Meeting – New Location!**  
York Steakhouse Restaurant, 4220 West Broad Street, Columbus, 43228

**Mar 5, 2022  
Saturday**

**Florida All-Class Reunion Sarasota Der Dutchman Restaurant, 3713 Bahia Vista St.**  
Sarasota Florida at 11:00 am. *See page 4 for registration and more details.*

**Mar 13, 2022  
Sunday**

**6:00 PM Board Meeting**  
Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd., Columbus 43228

**April 27, 2022  
Wednesday**

**6:00 PM General Membership Meeting – West High School Cafeteria**  
Minelli's Pizza and Salad. This is tentative due to the Covid-19 situation.

## Florida Mid-Winter All-Class Reunion March 5, 2022

**Reservation Deadline  
February 20, 2022**

**No refunds after March 1, 2022.**

*All alumni, spouses, and friends are invited.  
Anyone who comes for the very first time gets in for FREE!*

**WHEN:** *Saturday, March 5, 2022 • 11:00 am - 2:00 pm*

**WHERE:** *Sarasota, Florida*

**Der Dutchman**, 3713 Bahia Vista St., Sarasota, Florida 34232. (941) 955-8007  
Saturday Luncheon Buffet at the Der Dutchman.  
Doors open at 11:00 am with lunch at 12:00 noon.  
Cost is \$23.00 each. Fun and Prizes until 2:00 pm

*Clip along dotted line and mail form along with your check or register on our website at [www.westhighalumni.com](http://www.westhighalumni.com). Click on Special Events.*



**Number  
Attending**

### 2022 Mid-Winter All-Class Reunion Reservations

Luncheon - number attending @ \$23.00 each

Saturday \_\_\_\_\_ X \$23.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed --->

\$



PRINT LEGIBLY Year Graduated \_\_\_\_\_ January or June \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check out to:**  
**West High Alumni Association**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail check to:**  
**West High Alumni Association**  
**P.O. Box 28056**  
**Columbus, OH 43228**

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT LEGIBLY Year Graduated \_\_\_\_\_ January or June \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

List any additional names  
included in your registration.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## West High School Keepsakes and Mementos

Hilda Riebel Walz graduated from West in 1935. Hilda celebrated her 104th birthday on November 28th. Here are some of the many keepsakes that Hilda shared with me over the summer.



## Throwback in Time

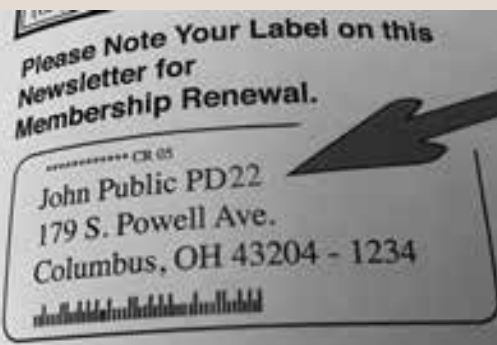
Photo courtesy of Ann Bostic Ray, June 1962.



**PLEASE RENEW YOUR DUES BY MARCH 1.**

### Membership Renewal – Check your label!

If you have already paid your dues for 2022 before January 1, you will see a PD22 after your name on the mailing label. If you are a Life Member, you will see LM. If your label does not show either of these, please renew your membership dues now.





# Membership Application

## 2022 Annual Membership Dues are Due Now!



**Mail Form & Payment to:**  
West High School Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 28056  
Columbus, Ohio 43228

# 115 #  
2022

### PLEASE CHECK:

☐ Renewal    ☐ New Membership    ☐ Address Change    ☐ E-Mail Change

Member  
Information

### PRINT LEGIBLY

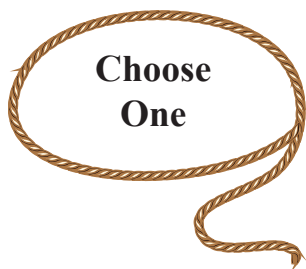
Year Graduated \_\_\_\_\_ January or June \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_



Annual		OR	Lifetime Membership		
Annual E-Mailed Newsletter	Annual Paper Mailed Newsletter	Lifetime (Under age 65) E-Mailed Newsletter	Lifetime (Under age 65) Paper Mailed Newsletter	Lifetime (Age 65+) E-Mailed Newsletter	Lifetime (Age 65) Paper Mailed Newsletter
\$25	\$30	\$250	\$275	\$140	\$150

### Donations

- Donations to General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Donations to Scholarship Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_
- In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

### Special Gift Newsletter

During 2022, with your membership renewal you can give an emailed newsletter to a friend with an interest in West High School. Lifetime members may also participate! We think that most people who receive a gift newsletter will join the association. We can double our membership if every current member participates in this special offer! Do your part - it is FREE!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Roster of Members

- Roster of Members \$20.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mailed in May)

Roster Format ☐ Printed Version (US Mail)  
Choose 1 ☐ E-Mailed PDF format

- Roster of Current Members \$10.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
for one graduation class  
- Sorted alpha by Last Name  
- E-Mailed PDF format

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



West High School Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 28056  
Columbus, OH 43228

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Columbus, OH  
Permit No. 6870

**2022 Membership Dues are now due!**

## Ginger Thrush, Realtor ERA Real Solutions Realty

614-214-2522 • Mobile  
614-871-1000 • Office  
[gingerthrush@era.com](mailto:gingerthrush@era.com)

*30 years experience serving the needs  
of Central Ohio buyers and sellers.*

*Call Ginger for help  
buying or selling!*



**Ginger Thrush**

