

West High Alumni Occident

www.westhighalumni.com

A quarterly publication
of the *West High School*
Alumni Association



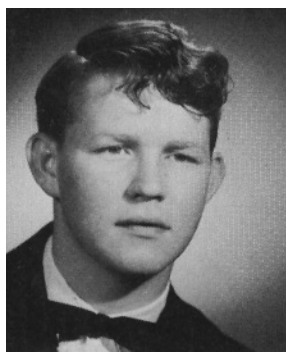
A Tradition
For Tomorrow

Summer 2020

Number 109

Alumni Succumb to Coronavirus

By Nancy Lloyd Laver '79



Lou Conkey, 1961

For most of us, myself included, we may not have known anyone who has had the Coronavirus. When the "stay at home" order went into effect everything became very unusual and different.

For the first time, I ordered groceries for pickup, used Telehealth for several doctor appointments, avoided restaurants, started "social distancing," used Zoom for a part-time job, and basically just stayed at home. I watched

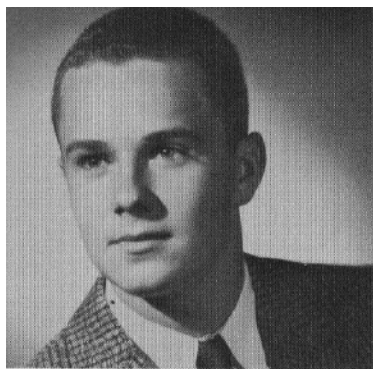
the Governor and Dr. Acton on TV every day to learn how bad things were getting in Ohio. I watched the number of cases and deaths going up every day. I understood how the Governor and Dr. Acton wanted everyone to stay at home to "flatten the curve." I started to wear a face mask when I went out of the house. I did all these things to do my part to avoid illness myself. I am in several of the "at risk" groups. All the time, I still did not know anyone who had had the illness.

Then, I learned of the Grove City family that had lost three family members due to the Coronavirus. I live in Grove City and suddenly, the virus became very real for me.

Kelly Conkey Billups lost her brother and her two parents to the virus. Her father, **Lewis Conkey**, age 77, was a graduate of West High School in **1961**. His high school sweetheart, Judith Johnson Conkey, age 75, was a graduate of Saint Mary of the Springs Academy. (I learned that this was a Catholic girl's school where Ohio Dominican University now stands.) Kelly's parents died within hours of one another of the COVID-19 virus on Tuesday, March 31st at the Mount Carmel Grove City hospital. David M. Conkey, age 51, her brother, died on March 29th. Kelly's husband, Don Billups, ended up with the virus and was clinging onto life in the ICU on a ventilator for 28 days. He later spent several weeks in a rehab facility. He is now at home and has recovered from the COVID-19 virus!



Judy and Lou Conkey



Albert Jester
Hi-Y 2, 3; Monitor 3; Reg. Business Mgr. 1, 2; Spanish Club 1, 2.

June 1958

Breaking News

Another Cowboy has passed due to the Coronavirus.

Albert R. Jester, class of **June 1958**, passed from the COVID-19 virus while living in an assisted living facility in Charlotte, North Carolina. He passed June 3, 2020.

Rest in Peace, Al.

Many Alumni Events Cancelled

Many events that were planned for alumni are now cancelled or postponed.

Please feel free to contact your class representative to verify that your event is still on.

I have updated the alumni calendar and reunion page to reflect what has been changed up to the time of this newsletter going to print.

Please also look on Facebook for updates. As for football games and Homecoming, we just do not know anything yet.

President's Message



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2006 Ed Sensenbrenner '50 Jan	1992 Dean Potts Jan '59
2005 Paul Pennell '57	

Newsletter Editor

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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

Your Alumni Occident is mailed bulk mail, which is not forwarded. If you move or have your mail forwarded, your newsletter will not be forwarded. It is not returned to the Alumni Association, so we don't know you haven't received it. Contact the Association Treasurer with the dates you will be in another location, and we will mail your newsletter to that address.



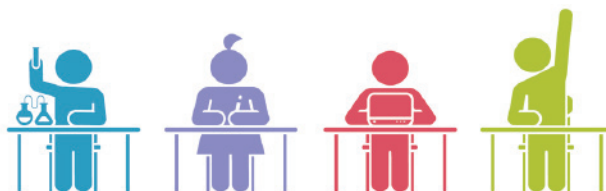
President's Message

Dave Dobos '73

What a difference a few months make... We entered 2020 with great optimism that we as an organization would accomplish much of our ambitious agenda for the year. Then, the Coronavirus arrived and threw us into the midst of uncertainty. We have retreated, regrouped, pivoted, and are pressing forward.

Specifically, after the best-attended Florida Reunion in several years (congratulations, **Joe Castorino '67** and **Tom Ramage '67** on your fine efforts!), we've had to cancel many of our planned events for 2020. As you read throughout this newsletter, we have cancelled our April general membership meeting at West High School, our alumni summer picnic, our golf outing, and our Hall of Fame selection and induction. At this writing, we are still unsure if West High School football will allow fans, which, if not, would eliminate our ability to run the concession stand during games. Fortunately, we do anticipate being able to hold our annual December luncheon, scheduled for December 5th at the clubhouse at Raymond Memorial Golf Course. Also, we will continue our work to update the Association's bylaws, revise our website, and establish and maintain a current and accurate alumni data base.

All these cancellations are painful. The event that will cause the most far-reaching financial consequences for us is the loss of our golf outing. Under the recent direction of **Lynn Fullerton Johnson '63**, the outing raised some \$4500 for the scholarship fund in 2019. That loss will make it difficult to support our graduating seniors to the level we have in past years unless we are able to raise funds in other ways. West alumni have been quite generous supporting our students. During the last quarter century, we have provided nearly \$200,000 in scholarships to deserving graduating seniors. **I ask you to consider making a gift to our scholarship fund** so that we can defray the effect of the loss of our golf outing and support our students in the manner we have continued to build to this point.



I am pleased to announce that we have a new treasurer for our organization. **Nikol Madison '97** has accepted the appointment (after the resignation of **Dave Enright '96**) and started her duties on June 1st. At West, Nikol was both class president and valedictorian and was a cheerleader. She attended Spelman College in Atlanta, graduating with honors.

President's Message, continued on page 3

2020 WHSAA Scholarship Awards



2020 West High School Alumni Association Scholarship Awards

by Steven M. Scarpitti, '74

We are both proud and very honored to announce our 2020 WHSAA scholarship recipients:

Lashawn Samuel

Alumni Scholarship - \$2000



Lashawn Samuel plans to study accounting at The Ohio State University or Capital University. He was a member of both the track and cross-country teams at West. Lashawn earned the MVP award for Cross Country in November 2018 and has lettered in track for two years. Since his freshman year, Lashawn has been active in the City Life Christian Center. He even found time in his busy schedule to

serve both as a teachers' helper and office helper. Lashawn has quite an impressive list of academic kudos including an American Government Award, English 11 Award, Super Honor Roll, Handshake Scholarship Program, Math Award, National Honor Society, and The Joseph L. Early Foundation Achievement Award. Lashawn worked a part time job as an embroiderer designing logos on hats, shirts, jackets, and headbands. During his free time, he enjoys watching movies, playing video games, or just taking a casual walk or quick jog down the street.

Raven Rendell - Alumni Scholarship \$2000

Raven Rendell plans to study Business Administration at The Ohio State University or at the University of Cincinnati. A few highlights of her accolades include Honor Roll, an Award of Excellence in Theater, Wesket of the Year and an Award of Excellence in Science.



Track, Spirit Club and Dance Club are several of her extracurricular activities at West. Raven was involved in her community through participation in the Hilltop Library Reading Buddies, Highland Youth Garden and I Believe Summer Reading Program. Most of Raven's free time is spent working on part times jobs. She has worked at Columbus State tutoring kids, a retail

associate at the Columbus Zoo, and at Get Air as a lifeguard.

Marie Cooper

Sid Smart & Pat Cozart Memorial Scholarship \$2000

Mr. Sidney Smart was a Science teacher in addition to being a WHS alumnus. Mrs. Pat Cozart Smart was the WHS school nurse for many years. This scholarship is given annually to a student who is pursuing a degree in a science related field. Marie will also receive the Beverly Kimball Daugherty Memorial Scholarship.

Marie Cooper plans to study premed/nursing at the University of Toledo or the University of Cincinnati.



Cheerleading, Stem Club and Cross Country were just a few of her activities. She took great pride in being a volunteer with the Georgian Heights PTO and was involved in many events such as Reading, Math and Science Nights, The Color Run, Pancakes with Santa, and Teacher Appreciation Week. Her volunteer hours with the PTO were well over 100 hours per year.

Marie has numerous school honors and awards including a Sportsmanship Award, The Archie Griffin Award for playing multiple sports, Wellesley College Book Award for always reading and the Student of the Year Award May 2019 for Best-All Around Student. Despite her extremely busy schedule, she has worked for The City of Columbus as a student S.T.E.M. intern (office work) and a hostess at O'Charley's Restaurant. During her free time, Marie enjoys doing arts and crafts including knitting baby blankets. Most recently, she has spent time knitting the backing for masks for healthcare workers.

The WHSAA has awarded these scholarships thanks to the generosity of our wonderful Alumni and their ongoing work on various fundraising events throughout the year. These three scholarships totaling \$6,000 brings the total to \$186,000 to 205 graduates since 1993.

Our Scholarship Committee members this year were **Dave Dobos '73, Patty Drumheiser '65, Dave Ewing '67, Dorance Hornsby '63, Greg Large '70, Ed McCleaf '57, Sandra Quick '68, Karen Stattmiller '79, Ginger Thrush '79**, and chairperson, **Steven Scarpitti '74**. A sincere thanks to everyone on the committee this year. **GO COWBOYS!**

President's Message, continued from page 2

She then completed a law degree at the Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University. She currently holds a senior position in risk management for Fifth Third Bank here in Columbus. She is quite involved in the west Columbus community, having been elected to the Greater Hilltop Area Commission and serving on

the board of Homes on the Hill. She is the granddaughter of **Earl Potts '51 January** and **Joan Weaver Potts '51 January**.

As always, I marvel at and appreciate the support and generosity of our alumni community. This year it will be as important as ever.



Remembrances from 179 S. Powell Ave.

by Lynn Fullerton Johnson, 1963

Late last year a secretary at West discovered a large notebook that contained information about West High's Otto H. Magly Chapter of the National Honor Society. She passed the book on to **Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63** who let me go through it. There were pages of meeting minutes, lists of recipients and activity reports dating from the chapter's first year (1930) to 1984. After reading the information, I put the book into storage.

Dorance's article in the Spring newsletter about Greenlawn Cemetery and their annual highlighting of the lives of local individuals interred there stirred a memory of a name I came across in that National Honor Society notebook. I removed the book from its resting place and discovered that Blanche M. Kern, Vice Principal at West from 1929 – 1952, was one of the advisors of the Society for her entire time at the school.



Blanche Kern - Vice Principal

At this point, I am thinking that some history of the Society and how it came to West might be of some interest to newsletter readers.

In 1919, the National Association of Secondary Principals began planning the formation

of a society of students whose membership would be based on scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

Two years later, in 1921, the National Honor Society became active. West High applied to have a chapter and in 1930 was awarded one - #959. The chapter was named after then Principal, Otto H. Magly. (Yes, the same guy whose name is on the football field.)

West High School Class of 1930 National Honor Society



Edna Mathew, Audrey Earl, Isabel Pracht, Charles Boye, Ruth Beckwith, Esther Downs, Marjorie Clark, Lyman Brownfield, Marguerite Karn, Marguerite Kilpatrick, Mary Betz, Grace Pinsenschaun, Catherine Postle, Jack Williams, Frances Gillilan, Ruth Epperson

By 1946, 2,056 chapters had been set up across the nation as well as 9 in the Philippines, 4 in the Hawaiian Islands, 2 in Puerto Rico and one at the American School in Shanghai, China.

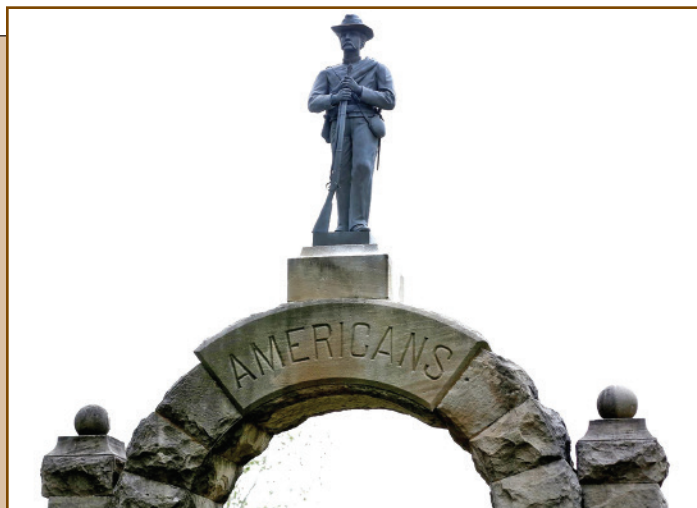
Typically, West's chapter held about three meetings a year, presented an awards assembly with speakers and sponsored school and community services projects. To become a member of the Society, a student had to have a 3.5 GPA, have a varied academic schedule, earn a set number of academic points, and show leadership qualities through service. Of course, they had to be of "good character." Being a member also showed well on resumes and college applications. In today's world, the National Honor Society does not have quite the same "punch" as in the past, but it still offers its membership excellent academic contacts and resources.

Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery Commemoration

The 125th annual Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery Commemoration typically held in June has been rescheduled. The public is welcome to attend on Sunday September 27, 2020 at 3:00 pm. The cemetery located on Sullivant Avenue is all that remains of former Civil War Camps.

Several alumni are actively involved in this yearly event.

Photo by Fred Squillante Columbus Dispatch, 2019.



Dorothy J. d'Ambrosio Martens Murnane, '44

By Nancy Lloyd Laver, '79

I was contacted by **June Strahm Aumiller**, class of **June 1946**, to run an article about her good friend, **Dorothy "Dottie" Murnane**, who she knew since second grade. Dorothy recently passed at the age of 93. Dorothy sounded like quite an amazing woman. I contacted Dorothy's daughter, **Cathy Murnane Tennenbaum** for this interview about her mother.



Did your mother ever tell you any stories about her days at West High School?

Dorothy was in many different groups while at West. She was involved in Girl Reserves which was a group that focused on Christian service to develop girls physically, mentally, and spiritually. She was also involved in Bowling, Room Civic Chairman, Circulation Manager Occident Business Staff, Class Publicity Committee, Hilltop Record Subscription Drive, Office Monitor, and

Ticket Committee for "Marching Along." Sounds like she had a lot of practice for her later career! Dorothy loved her friends and kept in contact with her classmates over the years. **June and Bill Aumiller, Jan. 1946 and Jan. 1944, Joan Friebis Hayden, Jan. 1944, Vi Agriesti, Jan. 1944, Betty Janks, and Johnny Herbert, Class President from 1944.**

Dorothy even visited Johnny out in Phoenix, Arizona a few years ago. Dorothy loved having fun!

I know that your mother and your father, Tom Murnane, founded a Sunday bulletin publishing company in 1974 called Tom Murnane Advertising, which later evolved into Dee's Printing. Can you tell us about her work at the print shop?

Dorothy created beautiful church bulletins for the Catholic churches all over Ohio and in several other states. She started this service with Saint Mary Magdalene on the westside which was her church at the time. She supplied these bulletins at no cost to the parishes.

She loved visiting with priests, and she promoted her bulletins all over the United States. She along with her coworkers were able to design, layout, proofread and print these bulletins weekly for many churches. She had a sales team that would solicit sponsors for the advertisements on the back page of the bulletin. At age 89, Dorothy told me while standing at her desk "I am getting too old to do this, Cathy!" She officially retired at age 90 but she still came in to work on the checkbook or to just hang out. She still wanted to work but her congestive heart failure was slowing her down.

Can you tell us about your mother's personal and family life?

Dorothy was first married to Paul Martens from Chicago and had three daughters with him. He died of a heart attack in 1965. She later was selling tickets for a church dance with the Widow and Widowers Club, and there, she met her future husband, **Tom Murnane**, class of **1942** from West, for the price of a \$2.00 dance ticket. Tom had also previously lost his wife and had two children of his own. He and Dorothy eventually married and had a child together Cathy. She was proud of her 6 children, 17 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. She also enjoyed the company of a special gentlemen for 22 years, David Brant.

Dorothy loved to travel. She took her family around the world. She loved cruising the Caribbean and the Rhine. She had lots of energy and loved people. She loved going out to eat and loved dining with others. She would check her calendar to schedule dinner with friends and never disappointed. She was generous with her time and resources.

Any other interesting information about your mother that you would want us to know.

Dorothy enjoyed the West High Christmas luncheons and meeting with other alumni friends. She also printed the programs for the class rosters for the 1944, 1946, and other classes gratis. It was her pleasure to do it. She was also active with all her reunions. She loved her little furry friend Ziggy who was a male Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. She enjoyed spending time on her patio with friends and a glass of wine. She also enjoyed a good martini.



Rest in Peace, Dorothy. You will be missed by many.

28th Annual Florida All Class Reunion Luncheon The Luncheon That Almost Wasn't!!!

By Joe Castorino '67

We had our 28th annual luncheon at the Der Dutchman Restaurant in Sarasota again this year. They have a "fantastic" all you can eat food buffet there. My co-chairman **Tom Ramage '67** can definitely attest to that!! Also, the price is "very" reasonable. Everybody who has attended the past three years has been incredibly happy with the location and food. They have an awesome staff there and they always treat us like family.



We try to have it on the first Saturday in March. This year it was on March 7th. If we had booked it just one week "later" - this luncheon would "not" have happened due to the shut-down of all the restaurants

in Florida. As they always say, "Timing is everything"!!! Everyone always has a wonderful time.

Our banquet room was full again this year with 41 folks attending. The doors to our room are "supposed" to open about 11am but — almost everyone was already there by 10:30 "anxious" to get in.

Susan Fleming Miles '67 and I always bring some interesting nostalgia items and people enjoy looking at them. She has some unique items too. Everyone was so busy visiting with each other this year though that we "forgot" to take any pictures. I decided the next best thing to do was put this overview together of what went on.

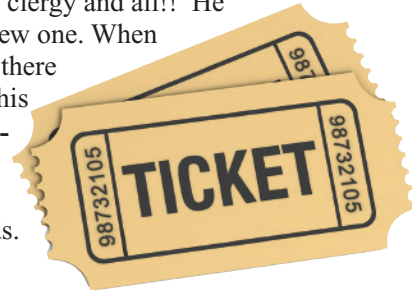
Normally the waitress brings in some delicious "special" deserts just for our group about 11:15 and puts them on a couple tables so they are ready for people to get when they want to. Since we do not actually go to the buffet till just after noon people go up and get one right away and, in most cases, start their meal off with desert "first." *Note: They also have great regular buffet deserts too.*

Right about noon time the **Rev. Ed Sensenbrenner, Jan. '50** gave the invocation and as always added a couple of his entertaining stories too. One of them he told this year was when his dad M.E. "Jack" Sensenbrenner ran for mayor of Columbus on a "whim" the first time back in 1954 at the suggestion of a friend and actually "won" the race by just a little over 200 votes when it was all said and done. It was an interesting story.

Our oldest attendee is **William Armine** who graduated in 1946. Yea, Bill!!!! He came with his wife Patricia, son Robert and

daughter-in-law Debra. The "kids" bring Bill and Patricia now, so they do not have to worry about driving up from Ft. Myers. We had a "new" youngest graduate this year. It was **Sandra Brown Stayton** who graduated in 1973.

Once we finished lunch and, in some cases, "two" deserts we moved on to some other items. One of them was the 50/50 ticket drawing. We put all the tickets in the bowl and decided to have **Ed Sensenbrenner** do the honors of drawing the winning ticket, with him being a member of the clergy and all!! He mixed up the tickets well and drew one. When he read off the winning number there was a little bit of a "pause" and his wife **Lois Farrand Sensenbrenner, Jan. '50** very "meekly" raised her hand. For once, poor Ed was at a total "loss" for words. What a laugh we all had on that one!!!!



Then, we played the nostalgia trivia game. We have been doing this for several years now. I put together a list of anywhere from 10 to 15 questions for people to try and answer. I have them break into groups and give them about 30 minutes or so to see how many correct answers they can write down. The questions range anywhere from things about the Columbus area to old TV shows, 50's / 60's songs, cars, etc. The people in the winning group get \$20.00 each!! **Denny Weisert '67** and his group have won it now 3 years in a row. The winning group consists of **Denny Weisert**, his wife Mary Jo, **Tim Miles '65** and his wife **Susan Fleming Miles '67** plus **Tom Ramage '67** and his wife Phyllis. I think we need to break that group up next year though to give some other groups a chance.



Once that is over, we always conclude with a singing of the West Alma Mater before adjourning. *Note: It definitely helps that all three verses are printed in the program!!!* We all do well on the "West High, West High, West High" part, but many of us are a bit "rusty" on the main parts of each verse. When we are finished singing it the time is usually about 2pm or so and we are pretty much ready to call it quits for another year.



As we are leaving many folks are already looking forward to next year's luncheon and asking Tom and I to let them know what the date will be so they can mark it on their calendar.

Summers Past



Hilltop Swim Club

By Nancy Lloyd Laver, '79

Many alumni spent their summers at the Hilltop Swim Club at 2735 Valleyview Drive. Memories of swimming lessons, buying a season pass, dancing at the Juke box, jumping off the high dive, and hanging out with friends all summer. This was summer vacation for many of us on the westside. Fellow alum, **Jill Maxwell Bradway**, class of **1975** contacted the *Occident* with an idea for an article about the Hilltop Swim Club. If any alumni would like to contribute and share memories of their summer at the pool, please feel free to write them down and send them to this editor.

Hilltop Swimming Pool			
Opens Saturday, May 30			
Open Daily 10 a. m. to 10 p. m.			
Family tickets are for immediate members of the family and are not transferable.			
First Member of Family		Additional Members	
Ticket	5.00	Ticket	4.00
Federal Tax	.50	Federal Tax	.40
State Tax	.15	State Tax	.12
Total	5.65	Total	4.52
Children		General Admission	
Federal Tax	.18	Adults	.31
Total	.20	Federal Tax	.04
Pool Phone RA. 9311		Total	.35
		Res. Phone RA. 3990	

Hilltop Pool prices a long time ago.

I visited the Hilltop pool a few times when I was a young adult, but I was never a member of this swim club. I did a little research to learn more about the history of the pool.

The property was initially purchased in 1929 and a swimming pool was constructed. Many people remember the pool when it was called Bender Pool. It was named for the first Hilltop resident killed in World War I, Sargent Curtis G. Bender.

Over the years there were a few problems. 1962, there were protests outside of the pool because African Americans were not allowed to join at that time. In the 1970's there was a flood that affected the



Hilltop Pool protest in 1962.

pool with overflowing muddy water. Again, another flood in 2015. The pool situated on a flood plain with a creek running near it. The pool closed their doors on Labor Day 2015. Cool weather and increasing expenses for repairing an aging facility contributed to the decision to put the pool for sale.

It was initially offered for \$375,000. The price was eventually dropped \$275,000 and it still did not sell probably due to federal regulations regarding the flood plain.



Beautiful day at the Hilltop Pool.

The building was caught on fire on December 27, 2019 by three juveniles who later confessed to the arson. The building was later demolished on February 13, 2020. The property is now owned by Boss Excavating and Grading Inc.



Arson by 3 juveniles.



Demolition in progress.



Today, leveled ground.



Dear Nancy,

I am curious as to the membership of the Alumni Dance Band as pictured in the Spring 2020 Alumni Occident. Any chance of getting IDs? When was that picture taken? On the same page, the photo of “singing the Alma Mater” brings up the question of the words to that song. Is it the one that starts out “as toward the west the constant sun proceeds”? I cannot remember any other possibility—it’s been too long!

Is it possible to come up with a story about the process of building a new West High School building? Was there oppo-

sition to the idea? How much development was around there at the time it was built? Controversies about various issues? Who was Otto Magly? How did the track end up not being exactly 1/4 mile (as it surely was supposed to be)?

There must be interesting stories there if they can be found! Maybe some journalism student would like to take that on.

Sue Glass Goodrich '50

Dear Sue,

I can identify the members of the Alumni Dance Band for you. The picture was taken on December 7, 2019 at the Christmas Luncheon.

On saxophone, **John Frank '63, Bryan Finley '67, Tom Shook '70.**

On trombone, **Brad Laver '75, and Kim Hardy '73.**

On trumpet, **Ken Neff '80, and Larry Fox '59.**

On guitar, **Aaron Jackson '72.**

On piano, Bob Robuck '56 from Columbus North High School.

On drums, Wally Richardson '59 from Bryan High School in Ohio.

I can also answer your question about singing the Alma Mater. These are the words as copied out of my 1979 yearbook.

*As towards the west the constant sun proceeds
Day after day across the sky,
So do our hearts hold true to you,
West High, West High, West High.*

*Men view the sun in many a distant land
His face still westward in the sky;
Though we should go as far, we'll love
West High, West High, West High.*

*And 'til the sun forgets his ancient goal
And seeks a new path through the sky,
Our loyal hearts shall beat for you,
West High, West High, West High.*



I know that Otto H. Magly was the principal at the old high school on Central Avenue when it opened in September 1908. He was also the principal when the new building opened in 1929 on Powell Avenue. I do not know how long he was the principal.

Mr. Otto H. Magly, Principal

It is possible that there was some controversy in planning the new building. In the 1929 yearbook, I located the following dedication page to Cecil J. Randall. I did some research and found out that he was on the Board of Education. Are there any members or historians that could help answer these questions?

Dedication – The Occident, 1929

There is one man to whom more than any other the parents and pupils of West High owe a debt of gratitude. At a time when the citizens of Columbus were about to accept without question the belief of the Board of Education that Central was the West High School, Mr. Cecil J. Randall became a member of that important body. It was his vision of a Hilltop community and his courage to present convincingly that dream to others which secured for us the magnificent structure we now have. In view of this fact, it is most fitting that the class of nineteen twenty-nine acknowledge the debt and dedicate to him this first issue of the Annual in the new home. It is our hope that his loyalty and vision may inspire both its makers and readers to the same kind of high service for the community in years to come.

In Appreciation – The Occident, 1929

The following page was also found in the 1929 yearbook in appreciation of the new building. I felt the joy that the student's felt when I read this page.

“We demand of buildings, as of men, that they do practical work and that they be graceful in doing it.” These words of Ruskin closed a talk by Howard Dwight Smith, the architect, to a group of Seniors when he was explaining the problems an architect must solve in the construction of a building like ours. The beauty of the past has been so marvelously combined with the practical needs of the present that such a thought must ever have been present in the mind of its creator.

Only those who spent the last dismal, hampered years in the old school can appreciate the glorious change. These is a spaciousness and light in the corridors, a quietness and dignity about the classrooms which is a constant delight.

Continued on page 9



You may have heard the story of **Lashawn Samuel, '20** on the local news who was accepted by 12 colleges and universities. He walked 3 miles every day to go to the Franklinton branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library for homework help. He did this for 5 years. His hard work has paid off. Lashawn has decided to attend The Ohio State University – Fisher School of Business. He will be the first person in his family to go to college. Congratulations, Lashawn!

Click on these links to read more about Lashawn and the struggles that he overcame.
<https://www.dispatch.com/news/20200428/columbus-teen-overcomes-violence-accepted-in-to-12-colleges>

<https://www.nbc4i.com/community/health/coronavirus/in-this-together/columbus-teen-who-walked-daily-to-library-for-homework-help-gets-accepted-to-12-colleges/>

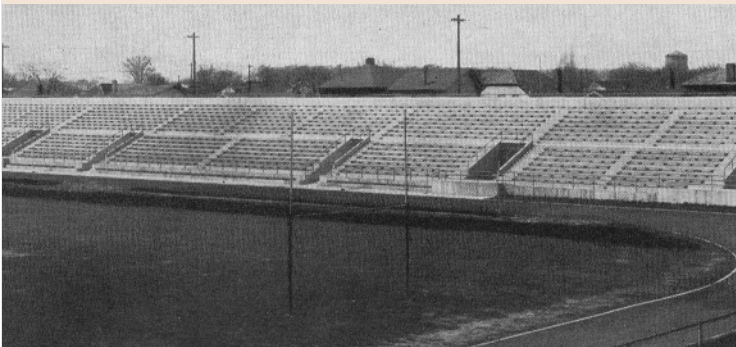
Continued from page 8

Mr. Smith has served his city well. So also have the Board of Education and Superintendents, whose wise foresight planned for and placed this beautiful building on the Hilltop. It is to us that the community looks for appreciation and, in their eyes, our regard for so noble a gift will be measured by the serious use we make of the new West High School.

We have dreamed of a library with vaulted ceiling and high-arched windows but never thought to see it a reality. No one goes into the auditorium but is impressed with its skillful construction and pleasing color harmony. The gymnasium and cafeteria, while unusual in themselves, are most impressive because of their equipment.

The exterior is equally beautiful and suggestive. Already we love the pioneer family on the top of our New England cupola. Since we think of the colonies as leaders in public assembly and education, a colonial type of architecture seems most fitting for our building. Again, large window spaces made it easier to meet legal requirements for light in classrooms. The court always so beautiful to look upon furnishes natural light to inside rooms.

One's heart thrills with imagining what splendid opportunities for practice and performance there are on the new athletic field. Its grassy carpet stretching away to the south makes the building much more impressive than if it were confined to a city block.



The West football stadium was built and named after Mr. Otto H. Magly in 1937.

Dear Nancy,

For the “*Alumni No Longer with Us*” page - **Irv Denune '50** and his wife Jackie were both Life Members of the Alumni Association. Irv performed his “clown act” for the Alumni Christmas luncheon several years ago! He was the Director of the Clown Unit at the Aladdin Shrine for many years. He received numerous awards for his skit with his little bike. He attended parades and performed at The Columbus Shrine Circus. And, most of his time was spent clowning.

Sincerely,
Ed Sensenbrenner, '50



Irv Denune

Dear Ed,

Thank you for the information about **Irv Denune**. I also found out that he volunteered for 45 years at the Memorial Day Golf Tournament at Muirfield.

He was quite a man with a real charitable heart.

Take care,
Nancy Laver, '79



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 General Fund Donation

James Graham, Jan. 1957
James P. Holl
Jamie Kennard, 1975

THANK YOU for Your Scholarship Donation

Jamie Kennard, 1975
Walter "Cy" Wolske, June 1950
Linda Yaple Wolske, June 1952
June Class of 1961

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

Gary and Maureen Nebinger, Jan. 1956 in memory of Sharon Robinson Keaney, Jan. 1955.

Gordon Jackson, 1972 in memory of Gerald Ocock, FOA/Teacher

Dorance Nichols Hornsby, 1963 in memory of David Westlake, 1953.

Jill Bradway Maxwell, 1975 in memory of Julie Schaub, 1975.

West High-Class of 1956 Lunch Bunch, in memory of Leah Miller Ritter, Jan. 1956.

Children of Wilma Gaa - Richard, Randall, Rodney, and Karen in memory of Wilma L. Kenworthy Gaa, Jan. 1953.

WELCOME New Life Members

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

Sharon Rothwell McVay, 1972
David Dobbins, 1991

WELCOME New Members

Nancy Stimpfle Wolfe, 1982
John Muir, 1971

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

Jack B. Bowman, February 24, 2020 1939

1940s

Howard L. Young, December 26, 2012 1946, June
 Jack C. Bates, December 2013 1944
 Betty Williamson Bates, November 1, 2019 1944
 Janet M. Young, February 24, 2020 1947, June
 Karen A. Dentner Howald, April 2, 2020 1944, June
 JoAnn Hayner Seagal Nichols, April 12, 2020 1945
 Florence N. Peponis George, May 9, 2020 1947
 Mary Christine Smith Mann, April 12, 2020 1942
 Dorothy J. d'Ambrosio Martens Murnane, May 13, 2020 1944
 Lois J. Batteiger Fitzer, May 28, 2020 1948
 Phyllis O. Elliott Wolf, June 2, 2020 1946, June

1950s

Patricia Humphrey Frye, April 19, 2020 1950
 Carol Rickert Neu, August 4, 2019 1953, Jan.
 Donald E. Fell, February 15, 2020 1950
 William A. Brokaw, February 29, 2020 1951
 Leah A. Miller Ritter, February 29, 2020 1956
 Sharon Robinson Keaney, March 1, 2020 1955
 Former Alumni Association Secretary
 Irven V. "Fuzzy" Denune, May 12, 2020 1950
 James Detamore, March 23, 2020 1956, June
 Vice President of his class
 Captain Ted A. Biddison, March 27, 2020 1951
 Judy Reece Stivers, April 8, 2020 1959, Jan.
 Roy B. McGarvey, April 17, 2020 age 84
 Linda Ross Orendorff, April 20, 2020 1957
 Rev. Richard Pendell, May 6, 2020 1950

Class

Albert R. Jester, June 3, 2020 1958, June
 Carol Luckshaw Evans, June 6, 2020 1950

1960s

Judy Cash Hayes, December 19, 2019 1965
 James Chrisman Biggers, February 27, 2020 1965
 Donna Jean Elliott Knisely, March 1, 2020 1962
 Ray "Bob" Robert Bobbitt, March 10, 2020 1961, June
 Lewis Irvin Conkey, March 31, 2020 1961, June
 John S. Williams, April 20, 2020 1969
 Gary C. James, April 26, 2020 1963
 David Boggs, May 6, 2020 1969
 Sandra Bean Lynch, May 25, 2020 1960, June
 Edward W. Roberts, May 28, 2020 1960, June
 Douglas Ison, June 6, 2020 1962

1970s

Charles O. Walraven, Jr., February 17, 2020 1971
 Scott Morlan, April 4, 2020 1972
 Vernon Leon McElroy, Sr., May 15, 2020 1978

2000s

John R. Johnson, May 1, 2020 2002

Teachers

Terry Elliott, March 18, 2020 1964
 Former Math and Science teacher.
 Terry helped with the band for 11 years.
 He was affectionately known as Mr. Tree.
 Miriam Hinton, March 18, 2020
 Commercial Courses Teacher and Guidance Counselor

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.

Missing Members

We have quite a few Life Member alumni whose newsletters have been returned to us because of incorrect addresses or possibly death. If you know the current address or any other information for any of the alumni listed below, please contact Nancy Laver at 614-570-0018 or nybryant@aol.com.

Lavern Collins Nix,	1936 Jan.	Annabell Kendrick Kay,	1949 June
Eileen Greenler Kern,	1940 Jan.	Walter Binkley,	1950 Jan.
John Kern,	1940 Jan.	Patricia Bennett Nicholson,	1950 June
Jeanette Hartsock Jenkins,	1942	Marlin Endsley,	1954 June
Paul R. Anderson, Jr.,	1945	Robert J. Thomas,	1954 June
Jean Meserve Hansen,	1947 June	Laura Hartsook Shipley,	1956 June
Jean Brown Hlay,	1947 June	Jim Kerr,	1957 June
Evelyn Rock Johnson,	1947 June	Mary Huff Freeman,	1960 Jan.
John Knox,	1948 Jan.	Charles Davis,	1961 June
Patricia Clum Mitchell,	1948 Jan.	Jacqueline Denune, FOA	
Robert Janes,	1948 June	Carol Smith, FOA	
Annabel Killian Staten,	1948 June		



Highland Avenue Elementary Early Years - Throwback to the Forties



Here is a picture of the Highland Avenue Elementary School 8th grade class of 1944. Do you recognize anyone?

This picture was contributed by Vida D. Williams, '73. Her mother, Dolores Manns, West class of 1951, is in the middle of the picture.



West Junior High Baseball

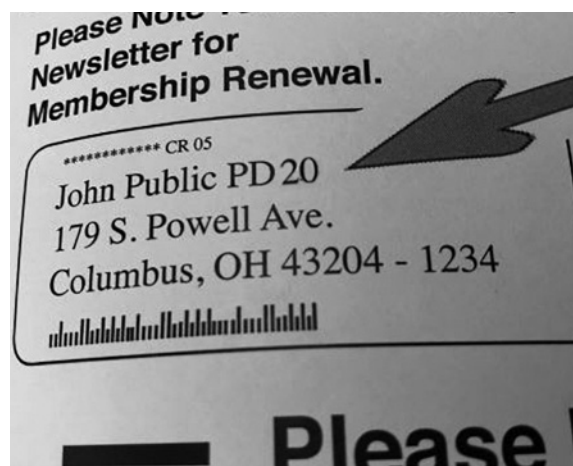
Here is a group shot of the West Junior High Baseball team. This picture was contributed by **Ginger Thrush, '79**. Her father **Glenn W. (Bill) Thrush**, West class of 1950, is seated on the far right. This would make this picture from around 1945 or 1946.

As you know, West had both Junior and Senior High schools together at that time. The coach was Mack Pemberton who later served on the Ohio House of Representatives for the 33rd district from 1961-1978.

Membership Renewal – Check your label!

If you have already paid your dues for 2020 before January 1, you will see a PD20 after your name on the 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!



Update Your Alumni 2020 Calendar!



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

August 16, 2020 Sunday	6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
Sept 20, 2020 Sunday	Hall of Fame Induction – CANCELLED
October 11, 2020 Sunday	6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
October 14, 2020 Wednesday	6:00 PM General Membership Meeting - Officer and Board nominations O'Charley's Restaurant, 1650 Georgesville Square, Columbus, 43228
November 15, 2020 Sunday	6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
November 18, 2020 Wednesday	6:00 PM General Membership Meeting - Officer and Board elections O'Charley's Restaurant, 1650 Georgesville Square, Columbus, 43228
December 5, 2020 Wednesday	11:00 AM All-Class Christmas Luncheon Raymond Memorial Golf Course Clubhouse

Reunions

Class of 1970 – 50th Reunion – Postponed until 2021
Classes of January and June 1950 – 70th Reunion - CANCELLED
Class of 1975 – 45th Reunion – Postponed until 2021
Class of 1960 – 60th Reunion - Postponed

Annual Alumni Golf Outing Cancelled

By Lynn Fullerton Johnson 1963

Regretfully, the 14th Annual Golf Outing scheduled for Aug. 14, 2020 at Split Rock Golf Course has been cancelled due to uncertainties surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. The hope is to come back bigger and better in the summer of 2021! Many thanks go to all of you who have participated in the outing over the past 13 years. Also, I want to express my appreciation to the golf outing committee: **Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63, Stacy Neff Campbell '78, Rosalie Martin Williams '72; Susie Katon Ward '70, James McKean '68 and Leslye Creek '70.**



Traditionally, the West High Alumni Scholarship Foundation has been the beneficiary of the net proceeds from the golf outing. If any player, hole sponsor, volunteer, or other donor would wish to contribute to the Foundation, the donation would be gratefully received and greatly appreciated.

Checks payable to: West High Alumni Association
(memo - "scholarship")
Mail to: 626 Scriven Ave.
Columbus, OH 43228

All-Class Summer Picnic - Cancelled

Greetings West High Alumni,
I am sad to announce that our annual picnic is cancelled for this year. I had a great time planning the 2019 picnic and was looking forward to seeing you all again this year. Next year we will plan on seeing you at the 2021 annual alumni picnic. We will be in touch. Stay safe.

Regards,
Vida D. Williams, '73
Travels.vida@gmail.com





Kroger Plus Card Benefits West Alumni Association

Twenty-seven alumni households contributed \$82.43 from 28 households to the Association without having to do anything but register their Kroger Plus Card on a computer. Thank you for the donation! This is one of the easiest ways for non-profit organizations to earn funds for their programs. Your Alumni Association has participated in this program for several years now. We receive a quarterly check from Kroger with proceeds from all who have made this designation for West High School Alumni Association. The Kroger funds are used to help pay for the general expenses of the Association, which include the preparation and printing of this newsletter.

Cards can only be registered via the Internet. If you do not have a computer, please ask a friend or relative to register your card for you. After you register your Kroger card, each time you make a purchase at a Kroger store use your Kroger Plus Card, Kroger Credit Card, or Alternate ID and a portion of your purchases will automatically be applied toward the Kroger Community Rewards donation. All participants must re-enroll each year to continue earning rewards for our organization.

Kroger Community Rewards Program

- Log onto the Kroger Rewards website:
<https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/>
- Click on the left where it says "I'm a Customer"
- Login into your Kroger account (if you don't have a Kroger account, please create one as it only requires an email address and a password)
- Under "Find an Organization" type West High School Alumni Association
- Click search
- West High School Alumni Association will show up with our number HA170
- Click Enroll



Amazon Smile to Benefit the Alumni Association

If you shop at AMAZON.COM, please consider signing in at [SMILE.AMAZON.COM](https://www.amazon.com/smile).

Once in the Amazon website, choose West High School Alumni Association, Columbus Ohio as your donation recipient.

Every order you place through <http://www.smile.amazon.com> will have 0.5% donated to your Alumni Association.

There is no additional charge for you to do this. It is an Amazon program to give back to charitable organizations in the community.

Our Alumni Association received \$5.57 in May.

Every little bit helps!

Yearbooks for Sale!

It is never too late to buy a yearbook. The Alumni Association has a collection of yearbooks that have been donated over the years. Dave Dobos is currently housing the collection of yearbooks that are for sale.

The yearbooks for years prior to 1960 are \$25 each.
The yearbooks for years on or after 1960 are \$30 each.

Please be advised that some classes have a waiting list until a yearbook becomes available. If you would like the yearbook shipped to you there is an additional \$9.00 charge.

Please contact Dave Dobos at davedobos@alum.mit.edu or at 614-580-7380.



Membership Application

2020 Annual Membership Dues are Due Now!



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

109 #
2020

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 _____

E-Mail Address _____ Phone (_____) _____

**Choose
One**

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 2020, 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

Choose One of these 3 options ☐ Sort by Last Name
☐ Sort by Graduation Year
☐ Sort by State

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

Total Enclosed \$ _____



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Ginger Thrush Class of 1979



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