

# West High Alumni Occident

www.westhighalumni.com

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



A Tradition  
For Tomorrow

Spring 2021

Number 112

## Wreaths Across America

By Ginger Thrush '79

The annual **Wreaths Across America** wreath laying ceremony was held December 18, 2020 at **Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery** located at 2900 Sullivant Avenue on the Hilltop. Each December, **National Wreaths Across America Day** is held across our nation and abroad, with wreaths being placed at Veterans graves. The first ceremony was held at **Arlington National Cemetery** and has expanded to over 2,100 cemeteries. Wreaths are purchased by private individuals, charitable and fraternal organizations, and corporate sponsorships to be placed on graves in designated cemeteries.



Alumni - Ginger Thrush '79, Dave Dobos '73,  
John Ward '67 and Linda Hessinger Hoffman '65

This year over 400 wreaths were placed on veterans' graves at Camp Chase. During the Civil War, Camp Chase was a large Union Army camp where soldiers were mustered in and out of military service. It was also a large prisoner of war detention Camp for captured Confederate soldiers. The cemetery is the only part of the vast camp that remains. 2,260 men are buried in the stone fenced enclosure, men who would never return to their southern homes.



John Ward '67 laying wreaths.

An act of Congress in the late 1950's officially designated these men as U.S. military veterans. The stone arch which stands in the center of this

hallowed ground was erected in 1902, a statue of a soldier sits atop the arch, above the word, "Americans."

This year many volunteers met at the cemetery to decorate over 400 graves. The **John Hoover Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)** raised funds for many of these wreaths. This DAR chapter meets in Grove City, Ohio and some of the organizing members are West High Alumni, **Ruth McDermitt Hegele June '57**, **Ginger Thrush '79** and **Lora Thrush Yank '83**.

The **Hilltop Historical Society** organizes this event with the permission of **Dayton National Cemetery** which manages Camp Chase. Additionally, members of the **Hilltop Historical Society** organize a commemoration ceremony held the second Sunday of June at 3:00 pm annually. The public is invited, and it is a rain or shine event. The 125th annual event was cancelled in 2020 however we hope to resume in 2021. Several



West High Alumni serve on the board of directors of the **Hilltop Historical Society**, **Dave Dobos '73**, **Stanton Prior '46**, **John Ward '67**, **Stacy Neff Campbell '78**, **Dave Northrup '73**, **Paul Pennell '57**, **Earl Potts '51** and **Ginger Thrush '79**.

# President's Message



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

## President

Dave Dobos '73 (614) 580-7380 Davedobos@alum.mit.edu

## Vice-President

Stacy Neff Campbell '78, 614-580-3584, stacyberndsen12@gmail.com

## Secretary

Georgia Ward '70 (614) 203-4068 Georgiamward@gmail.com

## Treasurer

Nikol Madison '97 moniquenmadison@gmail.com

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### Summer Picnic

Vida Fulton Williams '73

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2013-14 Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63	1996-99 Ed Schmidt '45
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2007-08 Robin Schmidt '49 Jan	1993 Connie Vanderburg Murphy '70
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2005 Paul Pennell '57	

## Newsletter Editor

Nancy Lloyd Laver '79 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

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**

**Unbelievable!** Your gifts to the Leadership Campaign have continued to flow in. As of March 7, a total of 92 alumni and friends have made gifts to the WHSAA Leadership Campaign, totaling \$31,342.21. We have exceeded our goal of \$25,000 by over 25%. I continue to be overwhelmed with our collective response. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Your generosity will allow our alumni organization to continue to support West High School and its students at a time when that support is needed most.

The gift designations thus far are as follows:

\$20,135.21	Scholarships
1,500.00	Academics
1,350.00	Athletics
300.00	Performing & Visual Arts
1,205.00	WHSAA Operations
850.00	Other
<u>6,002.00</u>	Undesignated (for allocation via WHSAA Board to areas of need)
\$31,342.21	Total gifts as of 3-7-2021

Many alumni gave in recognition of other alumni. Here is the listing since the last newsletter:

Ron Moder '60 in memory of John Peterson '60  
Dr. Rebecca Miller '64 in memory of Dave Spangler '64  
Tom McGill '60 in memory of Sally Morgan McGill  
Rosalie Martin Williams '72 in memory  
of Joy Martin Williams

Beatrice Jane McLaughlin Carpenter '48 in memory  
of Col. David A. McLaughlin, Ret.

Dorothy Pemberton '55 in memory of  
Warren W. Pemberton '55

Rachel Graham Nachman '64 in memory of  
David C. Nachman

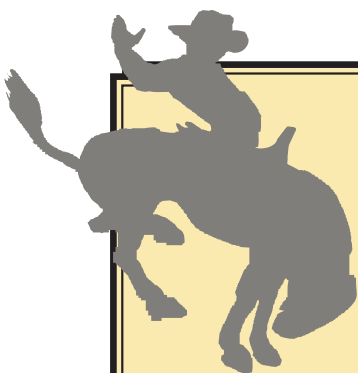
Don Speakman Jan '49 in memory of  
Margaret Bishop Epps '54

William Daugherty '63 in memory of  
Beverly Kimball Daugherty '63

We have credited all contributions during the last six months to the campaign.

As folks get vaccinated and our nation begins to return to normalcy, the WHSAA will begin to reinstate our regular activities by the end of the summer. Although we will not hold our annual July Picnic, we anticipate conducting the annual Golf Outing, Hall of Fame Induction, concessions at home football games, fall regular membership dinner meetings, and Christmas Luncheon. Indeed, we will celebrate

*President's Message, continued on page 3*



## THANK YOU, COWBOYS!

### West High School Alumni Association Leadership Campaign

**Total Collected (as of 3/7/2021): \$31,342.21**

*---- Exceeded \$25,000 goal by 25% ----*

**Number of Gifts (since 11/29/2020): 36**

#### **Benefactors (gifts > \$1000)**

William L. Daugherty '63  
David & Renate Hughart '63  
Jill Maxwell Bradway '75

#### **Ambassadors (gifts > \$500)**

Sandy Bukey '59 & Jim Turner

#### **Fellows (gifts > \$250)**

West High Classmates, June 1958  
Pamela Wentworth '65  
Anita & Bud Raike Jan '53  
Lois Stansell Wittke '49

#### **Patrons (gifts > \$100)**

Richard Furry Jan '56  
James & Kathleen McWilliams '57  
Abby Mayhew Hellstrom  
Larry Doyle '57  
William Haire '53  
Dianne Krebs FOA  
Larry Wooten FOA  
Jane McIlyar Conrad '59  
Katie Lorenz Haddox '47  
Rachel Graham Nachman '64  
Karen Ruegg Montgomery Jan '60  
Don Speakman Jan '49

#### **Contributors**

Carol Jones '62  
Ron Moder '60  
Dr. Rebecca Miller '64  
John Edwards '61  
Tom McGill '60  
Rosalie Martin Williams '72  
Beatrice Jane McLaughlin Carpenter '48  
Janet Sisson Levering Jan '64  
Michelle Wood Shimmel '83  
Marie Stafford FOA

#### **Additional Donors**

#### **(with unpublished gift amounts)**

Suzanne Kanatas Mardas '61  
Lynn Bohanan Caldwell '56  
Vicki Stewart Schwartz '64  
Calvin Lutz '58  
Dale Elliott '58  
Anonymous (both name & amount)

### *President's Message, continued from page 2*

when we dine together for our annual Christmas Luncheon on Saturday, December 4.

At this writing, the Columbus City Schools are preparing to re-open high schools in a post-COVID world. Everyone is anxious to welcome back students and teachers. In the next newsletter, I will report on an exciting new partnership between The

Ohio State University Medical Center and West High School geared toward exposing our students to and encouraging their interest in medical-related professions.

You may still participate in the Leadership Campaign. We will continue to welcome all gifts. Simply designate any contribution to the campaign and specify where you want it earmarked.





## Annual Summer Picnic – CANCELLED

*By Vida Fulton Williams '73*

The West High Alumni Annual Picnic is always a lot of fun. We really missed not having it in 2020. Our next Alumni picnic will be next year in 2022. At our 2019 picnic there were 70 people in attendance. Eli Bowen's Sloppy Joe's were the delicious main course along with the specialties of the many alumni.

There were many door prizes that were given away and we hope to have an array of door prizes in 2022, as well. If you would like to contribute, please let me know at [travels.vida@gmail.com](mailto:travels.vida@gmail.com). Restaurant gift cards are great door prizes, but we even received gifts from Mark Wahlberg Chevrolet, Dave & Buster's, Embody Health and Wellness and Foundation Chiropractic.

The attendance at our 2019 picnic included 6 alumni from the class of 1940, 25 from 1950s, 16 from 1960s, 13 from 1970s, 2 from 1980s and 1 from the 1990s. Thank you for attending and representing your class. We hope our 2022 Alumni Picnic will be greatly attended since we will not be having a 2021 picnic. No date has been determined yet, but we will keep you posted.

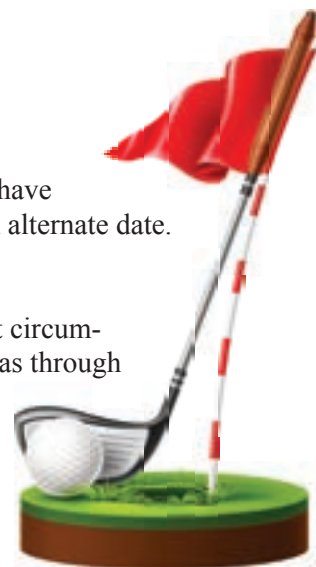
## Annual Alumni Golf Outing

*By Lynn Johnson '63*  
*Golf Chairperson*

The golf committee is in the beginning stages of planning the Annual West Alumni Golf Outing. We have chosen **Friday, August 13th at Split Rock** for the event with the following Friday, August 20th as an alternate date. Of course, whatever COVID-19 protocols are in place at that time will be followed.

We are aiming to make every effort to have a successful and fun outing this year, but we all know that circumstances can change rapidly. Any updates will be posted on the Alumni website and Facebook as well as through email. The summer newsletter will have information and an entry form. As always, door prizes, raffle prizes and monetary donations are gratefully accepted and greatly appreciated.

So, please mark your calendars for August 13th and you might want to cross your fingers as well! Thank you for your continuing support.



## Hall of Fame Nominations Due on April 1

If you would like to nominate someone for the Hall of Fame, please do so by April 1. The nomination form and information are on the West High Alumni Association website. If you previously nominated someone and you would like to add additional information to your nomination you may do so at any time. Nominations are never discarded.

## Call for Articles

This Editor is always looking for a good story to publish. And, especially during this pandemic when most of our Association events have been cancelled. Do you have a special memory of your years at West? Do you have a funny story from one of your classes? Do you have lunch once a month with your friends from your ole' alma mater? Do you have a storied keepsake from your high school days that you cannot part with? Send your tales and even a photo if you have one in c/o Nancy Lloyd Laver, at [nybryant@aol.com](mailto:nybryant@aol.com) or you can mail it into the association. Do not worry about punctuation or spelling. I can tweak it for you.

*Dear Nancy,*

I am going to call this segment: Looking Back or Do You Remember. I am going to go back to first grade. I was living on Doren Avenue and I would walk to Brembeck's at Doren and Wrexham to buy penny candy and those were the days and of course you had to pass by the Fetherolf's house, who had a German Shepard, and he would always bark at you.

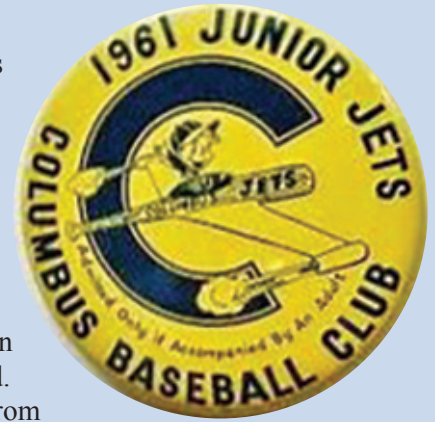
Now let us move on to Highland Avenue Elementary School, do you remember Air Raid Drills? You had to go to the basement, put your head between your legs and put your hands-on top of your head. It was like being in a dungeon – scary times they were. Highland did not have hot meals and for some strange reason in our brown bag lunches everyone had a dill pickle. How weird! About once a month they had a Jitney Lunch that was a hot meal. You thought you were in heaven! My first and second grade teacher was Ann Proctor. I still remember her bringing in an electric mixer and we would make butter. Then one day she was going to leave us to get married and move to Florida. We all cried. Later, I would learn from a Graham/Goddard family tree book (on my grandmother's side) that I was related to Ann Proctor. How ironic. The meanest teacher that I had was in third grade. I believe her name was Miss Richards. She was so nasty. Then there were the many winter snows of sledding at Glenwood Park. Several years ago, I went back to Highland (and to my surprise) they let me tour the school. They now have a kitchen in the basement to serve hot meals.

Now let us move to Hilltonia. If we left early enough to walk, Mr. Evrett, West High School alum, would come by and take us to school. Who could forget Dorcas Miller the math teacher yellow Chevy? Then the art teacher had a Karmen Ghia we called it a pregnant roller skate. Then I remember how myself, Jimmy Rhea and Greg Temple helped Mr. Post and his wife move who lived in an apartment over a garage in the north end. They moved to a beautiful home on Westmoor. He converted his attic into a dark room. Then how disrespectful we were to call Mr. Larkin "Peg Leg." He had a wooden leg – shame on us. He also carried a paddle up his sleeve. Then there was Russ Friend and Catherine Rush the P.E. teachers. Then there was Mrs. Cockerill, she once told me if I wanted to, I could be on the Honor Roll. I should have listened to her.

Now let us move on to West High School. Who could ever forget Francis Davis and her red wooden apple that she would bang on her desk to get your attention? From her

room we could see the atrium and it was so beautiful! Then there were many teachers that we could not forget, Miss McCormack. I thought the woman hated me, but when I finally graduated in 1964 instead of 1963, I found out she really did like me.

Now let us go back to Hilltonia, who remembers "Jet Badges"? I think I still have mine. I remember mom and dad were looking to buy a house. We lived at 750 South Harris Avenue. They looked at a house in Grove City and in Hilliard. I was devastated. How could you take me from Hilltop U.S.A.? We ended up at 2540 Spaatz Avenue and I was a happy camper.



Now, it is my opinion that Lazarus, now Macy's, should still be on Town and High. Clipper Stadium should still be on Mound Street as it has such a history going back many years from Blue Birds, to Red Birds, Jets, and Clippers. Who could ever forget Green Gables? I wish I had a dollar for every time I drove around that place. I asked Mrs. Nita Sokol of Tee Jayes Country Restaurant, why she did not buy Green Gables and she said McDonalds out bid her. What a shame.

One more thing to remember is the Hague Avenue cross-town bus. That is how we got to the pool. It is a shame that the pool is not still there.

I could go on and on, but I think I have taken enough of your time. Thanks for listening to me. In closing, as Roy Rogers and Dale Evans used to say: "Happy trails to you until we meet again." I am so proud to be a West High School alum and a resident of Hilltop U.S.A.

*Dave McManus '64*

*Dear Dave,*

Thank you for writing into the newsletter. Your reminiscing thoughts always make me think of my school days. I had never heard of the Columbus Blue Birds and found out they were part of the Negro National League.

Take care,

*Nancy Laver '79, editor*



## Congratulations Cheryl Holt '65

*John Morlan '65 and his wife Susan sent in this article about Cheryl Holt who is a friend and classmate of John's. Cheryl was voted Best Female Athlete in 1965 at West and she continues to impress today. This article is reprinted with permission of the author Cody Bush, Austin Peay State University, Director of Athletics Communications, May 7, 2019.*

Brentwood, Tenn. – (ESPN Clarksville) **Cheryl Holt**, who served in Austin Peay State University's athletics department in various roles for nearly 35 years, has been selected to the Ohio Valley Conference Hall of Fame. She will be inducted during ceremonies held in conjunction with the OVC Spring Meetings in May.

Inducted into Austin Peay's Athletics Hall of Fame in 2012, Holt joined the Governors athletics program in 1982 as a tennis coach but was tapped by then Director of Athletics Johnny Miller to elevate the volleyball program. She served just two seasons as tennis coach, but her tenure as volleyball coach lasted much longer – an impressive 23 seasons.

Holt ultimately amassed 364 career wins as the Gobs volleyball head coach. Under her leadership, the Gobs qualified for the OVC volleyball tournament in 19 consecutive seasons, capturing the tournament title in 1991 and the regular season crown in 1992.

However, it was mentoring student athletes where she made the most significant impact. She coached 21 All – OVC selec-

tions, including OVC Players of the Year Connie Caldwell and Isabel Canedo.

In addition, Holt's volleyball teams annually were at the top of the athletic department's rankings regarding grade point average and graduation rates. In 1997, Holt was named the athletic department's first Senior Woman Administrator and in 2003 was elevated to assistant athletics director. She held both positions until her retirement in 2017.

In addition to her induction in Austin Peay's Athletics Hall of Fame, the Austin Peay community recognized Holt's significant contributions to women's athletics, including the softball program initiation in 1986,

by naming the softball facility Cheryl Holt Field.

Holt becomes the 10th member of the Austin Peay family inducted into the OVC Hall of Fame. The OVC Hall of Fame recognizes coaches, administrators, faculty and staff members who have been associated with the league for at least five years and have had extensive outstanding service to the Conference.



## Pitt State Athlete of the Week - Antonio Givens '16

**Antonio (Tony) Givens** is a proud 2016 West High alum that will do good things after his college days are over. He was a great kid at West and is proof that West continues to graduate superior students and athletes.

This picture was in a Pittsburg State (Kansas) publication when Tony was named their Athlete of the Week. Tony transferred to Pitt State from Kent State University and is currently playing his second season on the men's basketball team. At 6'8", he has already earned a bachelor's degree in general studies at Pitt State and is now a first-year graduate student working toward a master's in health, human performance, and recreation.



Tony first attended Wabash Valley College. As a sophomore there he averaged 3.5 points and 3.0 rebounds per game in the 2017-2018 season and shot 62.5 percent from the field.

He then transferred to Kent State where he redshirted his only year there before transferring to Pittsburg State.

Tony said he grew up playing little league football on the westside starting at about five until he was 13. He played with a local team, Ohio Dynasty, before joining the program All-Ohio.

He didn't participate in sports his freshman year at West, but





## West Alumni Memorabilia Historian / Archivist and Yearbook Sales

by Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63

### MEMORABILIA

The current Alumni Association was started in 1992. Our first president, **Dean Potts '59 Jan.**, asked one of the first alums to join, **Alberta Seely Schneider '47**, to start a file of any West High memorabilia, newspaper clippings, historical information - anything having to do with West, its students, and alumni. When Alberta's health started failing, she asked me if I would take it over. Since then the amount of memorabilia we have had donated by our alumni has grown substantially. We have graduation programs, school programs, pictures, scrap books, school newspapers, newspaper articles about alumni - you name it, we have it.

We would like to have someone take what we have and organize it and document what we have. Possibly a couple of friends could take on this project together and split the materi-

al into categories. We already have some of the material documented in computer records that we will share with whomever would be willing to take this project on.

When possible, we have taken some of these items to the Hilltop Bean Dinners, the Christmas Luncheons, and to class reunions. We don't want to store these things away and not allow our alumni to see them. We like to share these wonderful reflections of our days at West. When going to class reunions, it helps when we can look at our records and see what we have for the reunion years. Whomever would take on this project would probably need to take everything to his or her house to sort and document. Once this was done, the documents could be returned to where we store other Association materials. We would like the person doing this to maintain a computer record of everything documented and update it when other items are donated.

### YEARBOOK SALES

We have about 300 yearbooks available to sell. All of these have been donated by alumni, retired teachers, West High, or the families of deceased alums. The proceeds from our yearbook sales go to our Scholarship Foundation. Whomever would take over this project would only need to keep one of each year we have available to sell at their home. Once one is sold, if another yearbook is available to sell for that year, we have them at a storage facility. The ones we sell are stored in two 'banker boxes.' We have a list of alumni who want to buy a yearbook. Whenever yearbooks are donated, the list of those who want a yearbook needs to be checked to see if the newly

donated yearbook is on our Wait List. There are currently about 200 people waiting on yearbooks (obviously for years we do not currently have).

If you think you might like to be our Association Historian / Archivist or oversee our yearbook sales, give me a call and we can talk about what our needs are and how you can help. A computer is necessary to keep a record of our memorabilia and to keep a record of the yearbook sales.

**Dorance Hornsby, [dorancehornsby@cs.com](mailto:dorancehornsby@cs.com) / 614-208-0964**

*Antonio Givens, continued from page 6*

he did play on the West basketball team from his sophomore through senior years. He also played football his senior year. Tony has said it meant a lot for him to be a part of school athletics. He was recognized as an All-City athlete for both football and basketball. His picture hangs on the West Athletic Hall of Fame with other West athletes who have earned All-City recognition. He is honored to have that recognition. He started to love basketball in high school where he was a 3-year varsity starter. That was what made him choose basketball over football in college!

Tony's mother, uncle, and grandparents have been his biggest supporters during his athletic career and journey. He has a lot of plans after he graduates from Pitt State. He wants to 'explore the world, take care of my family, and be an inspiration to young kids in his community.' 'If playing overseas

**“... explore the world, take care of my family, and be an inspiration to young kids in his community.”**

professionally presents itself, I would be more than happy to play.” Per Tony, “There are a few crucial elements to balancing school and athletics. The secret is time management and dedication. If you put the same passion and dedication into school as you do your sport, it'll be easier for you and less to maintain. Some tips... (are to) check your email daily, travel with your laptop, and make good relationships with your professors to communicate about what's going on.”

We couldn't be prouder of Tony Givens. We wish him the best in whatever avenue his career takes him in the future – Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63

*Portions of this article were reprinted with permission from Lilliana Black at PSU Collegio publications.*

## Special Memory

By Gary Smith '65

I am writing about friends who have influenced my life as it is today. These friends are extraordinary individuals. **Jim Hughes '64** and **Mike Hughes '66** both graduated from Harvard University. The golfing picture is of **Mike Baker '65**, **Johnny Morlan '65**, **Gary Smith '65**, **Charlie Castle '63**, and **John Sines '65**. I went to school with these guys and each one of these gentlemen have achieved that which cannot be matched! The second photo is of **Johnny Morlan** and me. Believe it or not I am still blocking for Johnny! He is not only one of the best athletes to ever come out of West High but just a great person. Johnny was a quarterback on the football team, and I was a fullback. **Skip Sanford '64** and his wife Julie have also been wonderful friends. Great friendships are one of the things I appreciate most about my years at West High School.



*Johnny Morlan '65 and Gary Smith '65*



*Mike Baker '65, Johnny Morlan '65, Gary Smith '65, Charlie Castle '63, and John Sines '65*

*Editor's Note: In talking to **Gary Smith** on the phone, I learned that he served in the Army in the Military Police from 1966-68. He even transported prisoners to the United States Penitentiary in Leavenworth. His brother, **Charles "Chick" Smith '63** also served in the Army as a medic in the Vietnam War and he saved many lives. Thank you for your service!*

### Class of 1970 – 50th Reunion - Rescheduled

Friday Night Mixer - August 13, 2021, TBD  
Saturday Night Dinner - August 14, 2021  
Courtyard by Marriot Hotel  
2350 Westbelt Drive near Roberts Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43228

For more information contact  
Susie Katon Ward at:  
[Susanward228@gmail.com](mailto:Susanward228@gmail.com)

### Dear Class of 1961,

As you have probably figured out, our graduation class should be celebrating our 60th reunion this coming summer in 2021. But it has been decided to not have the 60th reunion this summer due to Covid-19, but to work toward our celebration the following summer in 2022 –just one year later. We think this would be the safest way to enjoy our 60th.

We are interested in establishing a committee that would like to plan together starting in the summer/fall of 2021. In addition, reunion ideas/activities would be very welcome even if you are unable to serve and if you are possibly interested in attending summer of 2022.

Please text/email/call:

Judy Pagura 1-330-421-6245 [jpaguramedina@aol.com](mailto:jpaguramedina@aol.com)  
Or Judy Warner 1-513-324-0443 [JWarner43@aol.com](mailto:JWarner43@aol.com)



***I'll Be Right Here***

***By Greg Costello - Principal***



**For 92 years I've stood on this corner.  
I've witnessed triumph...and pain.  
Jubilation...and heartbreak.**

**I've welcomed...and I've lost.  
I've endured.**

**When the time is right, I'll welcome everyone back.  
I'll rejoice in the laughter of colleagues, the thrill of Cowboy victories, and  
the joy of learning.  
I'll be whole again.**

**To all of my dear students...I miss you.  
To all of my staff...keep on, keepin' on. You are my heroes.**

**I'll be right here.**



## Who's Who on the WHSAA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

*In an effort to let you know who is running this organization, I will be featuring autobiographical information of the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs. I hope you enjoy reading about these fascinating people. This column will run in the next few editions of this newsletter or until the pandemic is over. Enjoy!*



### Georgia Martin Ward '70

#### What year did you graduate from West?

Class of 1970; should have had our 50th reunion this summer but had to postpone it. Hoping for a WONDERFUL 51st!

#### What were you involved in at West while in high school?

I was secretary of Student Council; a member of GAA, FTA, Debate Club Secretary, Y-Teens, Delphi, Jr & Sr Choirs, Gym Monitor, Class Teams and Class Teams Cheerleader. (GAA - Girls Athletic Assoc; FTA - Future Teachers of America). I was a joiner and remarkably busy. I also worked part time my Sophomore/Jr and Sr years.

#### What were some of your favorite classes? Why?

I loved all my advanced math classes. I have always liked math and I had many great teachers. I also liked Sr English Lit and POD (Principles of Democracy) - again because I had interesting teachers. I never cared much for History in school, and now I wish I had. Now when I see a movie or read a book that deals with history, I actually get out my encyclopedias and read up on the event to see what is a fact and what is fiction!

#### Who were some of your favorite teachers? Do you have any specific memories of those teachers?

Loved Mr. Zadrozny. He was young, probably right out of college and had funny stories to tell about his years in TBD-BITL at OSU. Also loved Mr. Drury. I had him for calculus my Sr. year. We were a small class made up of mostly "brainiacs" (me, not so much). Mr. Drury put up with a lot from us; we were all close since we had many advanced classes together, so we had lots of joking and stories between us. One day Mr. Drury came into the room to find his desk hanging halfway out the window. The guys had lifted the desk up and had it hanging with 2 of its 4 legs out the window. He was not happy but took it pretty well!

#### What are you involved in with the Alumni Association?

I have been a member of the Association for several years but have only been on the Board for 2 years. I have volunteered to work the concession stands at Football and Basketball games the last few years. I donated some food for the Summer Alumni Picnic last year and now serve as Secretary. Now that I am retired, I hope to get more involved - after this crazy COVID-19 THING is over! I pray!

**What is your motivation for being involved with the Alumni Association?** The thing that impressed me most about the WHSAA and what makes me want to do more, is finding out

### Michele Redd '00

#### What year did you graduate from West?

Class of 2000.

#### What were you involved in at West while in high school?

I was involved with the Cheerleading Squad, I was JV Captain my Freshman Year and went on to Varsity Squad.

#### What were some of your favorite classes? Why?

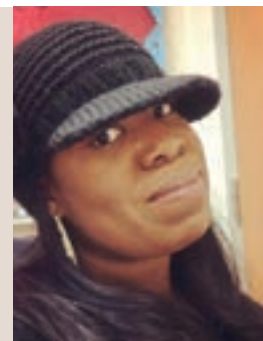
My favorite classes were English with Mrs. Phillips and History with Mr. Blume. Both teachers made learning fun and it was never a dull moment.

#### What is your motivation for being involved with the Alumni Association?

My motivation for being on the Board is to bring diversity amongst all the different classes and bring back that Cowboy pride and togetherness.

#### What would you like members to know about you personally and your family?

I am the daughter of James "Wes" Redd Class of '74 and the sister of Michael Redd Class of '97. I am the mother of my seven-year-old daughter Sarai Michele Redd who I adore. I am in my fifteenth year in education. I have been the Dean of Students at Shady Elementary for the last six years. I am so blessed to be a part of this extraordinary board.



how much money the Association has given to West for scholarships and other needed items! I look at West today and cannot help but be depressed about the decline of the facilities, football field/track/stadium, marching band, drama department, etc. I know it is not much, but what the Association does for WHS is incredible and I look forward to helping contribute even more.

#### What would you like members to know about you personally and your family?

I am the mother of incredible twin boys/men (42 years old). And the grandma of 2 wonderful boys (20 and 6.5 years old). My family has always been 1st in my life, and I was very much involved when my sons were in school and continued that devotion for the 20-year-old and now the six-year-old. Their schools are newer and are thriving, so I feel the need to devote more time and effort to my Alma Mater.

#### Any other ideas?

I love all sports, long walks on the beach, the color blue, lilacs in the spring, yadda, yadda, yadda.

# 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

Betty Jane Perry Galbraith, November 22, 2020	1937
Nick J. Cannell, February 17, 2021	1938

### 1940s

Annabel Killian Staten, November 6, 2017	1948, June
Donald L. Mathews, April 10, 2020	1943
Paul "Ty" Theisen, December 2, 2020	1949
Betty J. Somers McDonough, December 11, 2020	1943, Feb.
Jean Brown Hlay, December 17, 2020	1947, June
Mary Jane Earnest Miller, December 25, 2020	1947, Jan.
Dorothy Evans Pettenski, January 9, 2021	1945, June
Helen Chesher Cline, January 9, 2021	1947
Mary Jo Dolby Buckingham, February 12, 2021	1948

### 1950s

Sue E. Rinehart Strohm, October 1, 2020	1957, June
Reverend Walter W. Smith, November 30, 2020	1950, Jan.
Joan Arena Potts, December 5, 2020	1951, Jan.
Joyce Ours Sarver, December 8, 2020	1950, Jan.
Robert "Bob" Christopher, December 27, 2020	1959
Dick Lehmkuhl, January 11, 2021	1950, June

#### Class President

Gary L. Link, January 12, 2021	1957
Janet McDermitt Billman, January 16, 2021	1952, June
Barbara Fisher Winkler, January 16, 2021	1954, Jan.
Barbara Suver Thrush, January 19, 2021	1952, June
William "Bill" L. Fisher, January 25, 2021	1951, June
David "Pete" A. Howe, January 26, 2021	1959
Barbara Hill Kable, January 27, 2021	1950, June
James Edward Hastings, January 28, 2021	1959
Gale Elaine Marzluf McLinn, February 1, 2021	1955
Aurelius Thomas, February 5, 2021	1953

#### Hall of Fame Member, 1995

Robert "Bob" Roach, February 19, 2021	1957, June
Jim Kerr, February 24, 2021	1957 June

## Class

### 1960s

E. Michael Kight, December 18, 2020	1967
Earl Newman, December 25, 2020	1962, June
Bonnie Parker Nix, April 11, 2020	1961, June
Diane Popp Jones, December 18, 2020	1964
Robert Earl Christopher	1960
Robert "Bob" Landthorn, February 7, 2021	1963
Harold Pennington, February 14, 2021	1961, June
Edward G. Gatliff, February 17, 2021	1968
Marge Blackburn Beaver, February 18, 2021	1969
Ronald G. Friend, February 21, 2021	1964
Thomas Wuertz, March 2, 2021	1962, June

### 1970s

Steven M. Rowland, November 25, 2020	1977
Patrick J. Steger, December 19, 2020	1970
Brenda C. Basil, February 5, 2021	1970
Don R. Fridenmaker, January 12, 2021	1978
Jim Propst, January 31, 2021	1975
Richard "Rick" K. Cooper, February 5, 2021	1972
James M. Chesbrough, February 7, 2021	1974

### 1980s

Thomas R. Noel, December 28, 2020	1984
James R. Hickman, December 28, 2020	1984
Jeffrey D. Clark, January 15, 2021	1987
Kenny Wolford, February 2021	1981
James E. Courts, Jr., February 26, 2021	1983

### 2000s

Billy Joe Binns, January 19, 2021	2000
Misty Gillespie Fulford, January 31, 2021	2000

## Staff

Gary L. Van Arsdale, December 21, 2020	age 72
History and Cultural Affairs Teacher	
Gary L. Link, January 12, 2021	1957
History Teacher and Coach for 30 years at WHS	

*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.	Evelyn Rock Johnson, 1947 June	Carolyn Stickel Moore, 1956 Jan.
Paul R. Anderson, Jr., 1945	Patricia Clum Mitchell, 1948 Jan.	Leon Evans, 1960 Jan.
Harold L. Buchanan, 1945	Robert Janes, 1948 June	Susan Knollman Evans, 1960 Jan.
Betty Knight Recob, 1945 Jan.	Walter Binkley, 1950 Jan.	Marilyn Myton, 1965
Harold F. Hill, 1946 June	Marlin Endsley, 1950 Jan.	Lisa Thorn Titus, 1981
Charlene Rolsten Cassell, 1947 June	Don Riser, 1954 June	Carol Smith, FOA
Jean Meserve Hansen, 1947 June	Robert J. Thomas, 1954 June	



# 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

Ron Moder, June 1960  
John Edwards, June 1961  
William Haire, June 1953  
Janet Sisson Levering, 1964  
Michelle Wood Shimmel, 1983

## THANK YOU for Your Scholarship Donation

Carol Jones, June 1962  
John Edwards, June 1961  
Lois Stansell Wittke, Jan. 1949

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

Ruth Topping Flumerfelt, June 1955 for nursing school in honor of the class of June 1955.  
Lorane Morgan Hawk, June 1963 in memory of her husband Dan Hawk '62.  
Ron Moder, June 1960 in memory of John Peterson, June 1960.  
Dr. Rebecca Miller, June 1964 in memory of Dave Spangler '64.  
Tom McGill, June 1960 in memory of Sally Morgan McGill.  
Rosalie Martin Williams, June 1972 in memory of Joy Martin Williams, 1974.  
Beatrice Jane McLaughlin Carpenter, June 1948 in memory of Col. David A. McLaughlin, Retired.  
Rachel Nachman Graham, June 1964 in memory of David C. Nachman.  
Dale E. Elliott, 1958 in memory of Mrs. Frances Evans, Latin teacher.  
William L. Daugherty in memory of Beverly Kimball Daugherty, 1963.

## WELCOME New Life Members

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

Barbara Brown Dooley, June 1958  
Florence DeMatteo Stokes, Jan. 1961  
Rachel Nachman Graham, June 1964  
Gary L. Smith, 1965

## WELCOME New Members

Dr. Rebecca Miller, June 1964  
Megan Jones Martin, 1968  
Susan Pitt Houser, 1966



## Amazon Smile to Benefit the Alumni Association

If you shop at AMAZON.COM, please consider signing in at  
[SMILE.AMAZON.COM](http://SMILE.AMAZON.COM).

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 \$6.91 in November.**  
Every little bit helps!

AmazonSmile is now available in the Amazon  
Shopping app on your iPhone.

Turn on to start generating donations in the  
app, at no cost to you.

You are currently supporting:  
West High School Alumni Association



# Update Your Alumni 2021 Calendar!



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

<b>March 14, 2021 Sunday</b>	<b>6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting</b> at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
<b>April 21, 2021 Wednesday</b>	<b>6:00 PM General Membership Meeting - Officer and Board elections</b> O'Charley's Restaurant, 1650 Georgesville Square, Columbus, 43228
<b>May 2, 2021 Sunday</b>	<b>6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting</b> at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
<b>June 26, 2021 Saturday</b>	<b>10:00AM to 5:00 PM Hilltop Bean Dinner – TENTATIVE DATE</b>
<b>July, 2021</b>	<b>Summer Potluck – CANCELLED due to Covid-19</b>
<b>August 13, 2021 Friday</b>	<b>8:30 AM Annual Alumni Golf Outing – Split Rock Golf Club</b> Alternate date is Friday, August 20, 2021
<b>August 29, 2021 Sunday</b>	<b>6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting</b> at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
<b>September 19, 2021 Sunday</b>	<b>3:00 PM Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony</b> West High School Library
<b>October 10, 2021 Sunday</b>	<b>6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting</b> at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
<b>October 13, 2021 Wednesday</b>	<b>6:00 PM General Membership Meeting - Officer and Board Member Nominations Due</b> O'Charley's Restaurant, 1650 Georgesville Square, Columbus, 43228
<b>November 14, 2021 Sunday</b>	<b>6:00 PM Board Meeting - WHS Alumni Board Meeting</b> at Next Level Prep, 1805 O'Brien Rd, Columbus, 43228
<b>November 17, 2021 Wednesday</b>	<b>6:00 PM General Membership Meeting - Officer and Board Member Election</b> O'Charley's Restaurant, 1650 Georgesville Square, Columbus, 43228
<b>December 4, 2021 Saturday</b>	<b>11:00 AM All Class Christmas Luncheon</b> Raymond Memorial Golf Club



## Kroger Plus Card Benefits West Alumni Association

Thirty-three alumni households contributed \$109.83 to the Association without having to do anything but register their Kroger Plus Card on a computer. Our Alumni Association received \$9.94 in February. Every little bit helps! 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 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

## Wrestling Champions



*Christian Little, Gabe Cassanova, Anthony Harding,  
and Coach Mark Antonelli*

Congratulations to **Gabe Cassanova** and **Christian Little** on 3rd place finishes at the Columbus City League Wrestling Tournament on February 13! Christian and Gabe also tied for 'quickest pin' in the tournament at 15 seconds. And during this difficult COVID-19 year, Gabe earned a 4.0 GPA for the 2nd quarter in all his classes. Excellent kid being excellent!

**Anthony Harding** is another Junior heavyweight. He just barely missed the 220 lb. weight class this year but pinned the 220 lb. City Champ from Northland High School three days ago in an event. Anthony also plays on the West football team.

*Congratulations to these superior student-athletes!*

*Gabe Cassanova after winning his 3rd place match.  
This wrestler 'left it all on the mat!'*



## Nancy Wilson Way

As seen on **Facebook**, The City of Columbus Department of Public Service has received and approved an application to have **Nancy Wilson Way** ceremonial street signs displayed on Civic Center Drive. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic regulations which restrict the number of people allowed to assemble the sign ceremony will be at Civic Center Drive and West Broad Street across from City Hall on Friday, June 11, 2021 at 4:00 PM. If you are on **Facebook** please like the page **Nancy Wilson Way** to show your support in honor of one of our own graduates!



Click here to go to Facebook: <https://fb.me/e/4FC5rmJXG>

## HELP ★ WANTED ★

The Alumni Association has been asked to help make phone calls to the homes of students who are not attending school on a regular basis. The attendance rate is down this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Alumni Board met with Yolanda Stewart, West High School Vice-Principal, and she reached out to us to see if we could help. Alumni volunteers will be given a script to follow along with training on how to contact the families. A computer is necessary to record information on a form. This volunteer job can be done once a week. Please contact Vida Williams '73 at travels.vida@gmail.com for more information.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



# Membership Application

## 2021 Annual Membership Dues are Due Now!



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

# 112 #  
2021

### 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 2021, 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

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**2021 Membership Dues are Due Now!**

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