

West High Alumni Occident

www.westhighalumni.com

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



A Tradition
For Tomorrow

Winter 2024

Number 123

Leadership Campaign Thank you, Mr. Robert DeRoberts, '48!



On October 3, 2023, **Robert DeRoberts from the June 1948 class** presented a significant donation of \$25,000 to **Dan Martin '72**, President of this association and Dr. Daniel Roberts, principal of West High School. This donation was designated specifically for the purchase of weight room training equipment for the students at West High School. This equipment will be used in the Physical Education program and in the training of athletes at West High School.

The West High School Alumni Association is ready to pump up our support this year by providing new and improved weight room technology and equipment.

We humbly ask that you please consider supporting this cause by donating TODAY! Please designate contributions to "Weight Room" and make payable to West High School Alumni Association. Mail checks to P.O. Box 28056, Columbus, OH 43228.

Donations can also be made by going to www.westhighalumni.com and clicking "Fundraisers – Leadership Campaign". Did you know that you can also bequeath and leave a donation to this association in your final wishes?

Thank you for your consideration - Go Cowboys!

Share this newsletter with a friend!

President's Message



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

Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

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Nancy Lloyd Laver '79

Greg Large '70

Kaneeka Dalton Paul '02*

Karen Nixon Stattmiller '79

Nikol Madison Owens '97

Althea Seagraves Williams '73

Greg Large '70

Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63

December Luncheon

Florida Reunion

Fundraising Events

Golf Outing

Hall of Fame

Newsletter

Membership/Nominating

Scholarships

Summer Potluck Picnic

Website

Yearbooks

Members at Large denoted with *

Past Presidents

2021-22 Vida Fulton Williams '73	2005 Paul Pennell '57
2018-21 Dave Dobos '73	2002-04 Nancy Hardy Smith '50
2017 Susie Katon Ward '70	2001 Donna Spring Falter '49 Jan
2016 Paul Pennell '57	2000 Richard Borrer '48
2015 Bill Pabst '56	1996-99 Ed Schmidt '45
2013-14 Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63	1995 Gus Cross '47
2011-12 Baileen Gary Dodd '48	1994 Dick Weber '43
2009-10 Susie Katon Ward '70	1993 Connie Vanderburg Murphy '70
2007-08 Robin Schmidt '49 Jan	1992 Dean Potts Jan '59
2006 Ed Sensenbrenner '50 Jan	

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:

November 20th - February 20th - May 20th - August 20th

President's Message

Dan Martin '72



The West High School Alumni Association has been very active recently and I would like to share what has been taking place between the association and events/improvements to West High School.

The Hall of Fame induction for 2023 honorees was held at the Crossroads Church on Sunday, September 17, 2023. It was a personal honor, and one that I am very appreciative of, to be one of 4 recipients on this occasion. Being recognized for achieving as a student, athlete, teacher, coach, and

administrator at West High School, as well as the acknowledgment for involvement within the community for service and volunteerism is very humbling as I have strived to make a difference in the success of others throughout the years.

The induction also included the works, careers, and dedication of service by fellow alums, **Dr. George A. Marzluf '53**, **Linda L. Schuler '64** and **John Williams '69**. Kudos go out to **Sara McPeck Sampson Class of 1969**, HOF 2022, and Chairperson for the 2023 induction, as well as the HOF Committee that included **Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63**, **Patty Krizinski Drumheiser '65**, **Greg Large '70**, **Joyce Johnson '70** (Co-Chairperson), **Michael Miller '70**, **Dave Dobos '73**, **Steve Scarpitti '74**, and **Nancy Lloyd Laver '79**. Hospitality was provided by **Joyce Johnson '70**, **Nancy Hardy Smith '50**, **Dorance Nichols Hornsby '63**, **Vida Fulton Williams '73**, and **Nancy Lloyd Laver '79**. For the record, additional and new display cases have been installed in the hallways of West to accommodate the growing annual addition of honorees for several years to come.

I would like to share a recap on the General Meetings for the Association that were held at York Steak house to nominate a slate of board members and officers on October 25, 2023, and election of board and officers on November 15, 2023. The newly elected WHSAA board and officers are posted on this page. Thank you for your volunteer service!

Improvements and activities around West High School include the start of reconstruction on a newly built all-weather track that will replace the old, well-worn-out existing track that is well past its glory days. Maybe we will be treated to the return of the Hilltop Relays in the not-so-distant future.

The WHS gymnasium is getting a new facelift in the form of a refreshing paint job and new banners through funding assistance by members of the alumni association. New rims and backboards are to

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Hall of Fame Ceremony



Dr. Dan Roberts, Principal

On September 17, 2023, our alumni association inducted four outstanding alumni into our Hall of Fame. All four alumni were highly accomplished in their respective fields and contributed substantially to their community.

It never fails to amaze me the accomplishments of these fellow Cowboys. This editor actually had goosebumps while hearing a story from the wife of **Linda Lee Schuler**. As she was looking for memorabilia to bring to this event, she serendipitously found Linda's 1964 graduation speech hidden in a drawer of her house. She then proceeded to read the speech for all of us to enjoy. Many family members and friends were in attendance for this remarkable presentation.

Read the following biographies of a scientist, a photographer, an activist, and an educator. Thank you to **Sara McPeck Sampson '69** and **Joyce Johnson '72** for your work on this incredible ceremony.



Linda Lee Schuler Family



Mike Miller '70, presenter



Myra Clark-Foster '69, presenter



Dan Martin Family



John Williams' wife



George Marzluf Family



Dan Martin, '72



Mr. Dan Martin class of 1972, was welcomed back into the hallways of West High School (WHS) in 2008, appointed to the leadership position by the Superintendent of the Columbus City Schools (CCS). Having spent his life growing up in the district, the alum was honored to claim his association with WHS as a student, leader, athlete, teacher, coach, and eventually principal. Were it not for the lessons he learned and developed throughout his education in the CCS system,

particularly his accomplishments at West, he believes he would not have been afforded the success and experience in life that brought him full circle back to those WHS halls.

Mr. Martin's return to West High School was almost inevitable. Growing up in the Hilltop schools, Dan was encouraged by his middle school Secretary, at the time, (Mrs. Haynes) to work in the middle school office. Dan's leadership and interest in school operations continued when he was co-chairman of the West Safety Club and member of "Future Teachers of America."

No education is complete without sports – and Dan was a stand-out at West and beyond. As a student, he participated in Track, Wrestling, and Football. His sophomore year he was on the 1969 City Reserve Championship Football Team and also earned a letter in Wrestling as well as receiving awards in track. During his senior year, Dan excelled in football as a defensive linebacker and offensive fullback. That same year, he received his second letter in football and was the second-highest award winner of Stars For Exceptional Play as well as being designated the team's Most Improved Player. For his hard work on the gridiron, Dan received All-City Football Honors after the 1971 season. During high school, he also was a member of Varsity W, Student Council, and served as the treasurer of Hi-Y. It was by way of football that Dan earned the financial aid necessary to attend The Defiance College in northwest Ohio, where he would go on to earn a degree in Comprehensive Business Education. While at Defiance, his leadership continued as a member of the Student Senate and the Football team. Dan was a four-time letterman and received both league and district Football honors during his sophomore and junior years.

Upon graduation from Defiance in 1976, Columbus City Schools hired Dan to teach business classes at North High School. He spent several years teaching Office Education and coaching both

football and wrestling. Due to the busing issue, North closed, so Dan decided to try something new – bank management. As a management trainee, his training included volunteerism within the community in the way of a three-month stint as a Loaned Executive with United Way. His performance was at such a level that United Way persuaded his employer to allow him to continue his assignment for an additional three months. Upon his return to working as a banker, he was assigned as an assistant manager to a branch where duties were given to lead the branch office to be the first to come "online" with technology, then train other offices to install the system within the organization. The opportunity presented itself to learn about computers and data processing. Dan ultimately found his way back to teaching in the CCS district in 1985. The advanced computer skills learned allowed him the chance to teach his newly found knowledge at Fort Hayes, where he remained until 2004.

As an instructor of Data Processing, Business Computer Information System, and Cooperative Office Education, Dan planned curriculum, cultivated employment worksites, placed students in entry-level work positions, and provided daily instruction to students in the use of personal computers for business applications. Dan developed a hands-on shadowing experience for students within the Office of the Secretary of State, The Limited, the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation, and *The Columbus Dispatch*, to name a few. In addition, he taught adult education computer classes in the evenings, as well as conducted keyboarding training as an instructor for Columbus State Community College for members of the American Bankers Association.

Dan remained active in the schools and his community by serving as the President of Columbus and Metropolitan Area Coordinators (CMAC) and President of the Columbus Ohio Federal Teachers Credit Union. As a community volunteer, Dan became an active member of the Charity Newsies Organization serving underprivileged school children. Their mission states, "no child shall be kept out of school for lack of adequate clothing." Dan served as a board member, officer, and eventually President. Through his work in the classroom and with Charity Newsies, Mr. Martin was recognized by the CCS Board with an "*Apple Award*", presented for developing classroom shadowing work experience for students and by providing assistance for vocational uniforms by way of Charity Newsies. Dan recently completed a three-year stint as President of his church council, but he continues as the Treasurer of his church's Men's Club. Also, he has recently become President of the West High Alumni Association.

Throughout his career, Dan has held tight to the historic WHS Motto, "Wisdom, Honesty, Sincerity". Upon his "full circle" return as Principal of West in 2008, Dan's daily goal for staff and students was to share and instill this Motto with the student body

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Dr. George A. Marzluf, '53



Dr. George A. Marzluf was born on September 29, 1935. He spent his entire childhood living in the Hilltop neighborhood of Burgess Avenue in Columbus, Ohio. Throughout his life, no matter where it took him and what he was doing, George always considered himself a product of the Hilltop and was proud of his Westside roots.

George was the oldest of four siblings born to Faun and Paul Marzluf. He graduated from

West High School in 1953 and attended The Ohio State University. While a student, he served as President of Civitas as well as in the Student Senate. He graduated in 1957, Summa Cum Laude, receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree. While at OSU, he joined the Army National Guard leading him to attend and graduate from the Officer's Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He then served as a lieutenant in the Ohio National Guard, eventually rising to the rank of Captain.

After teaching at Cleveland's John Adams High School for one year, he returned to OSU and received his Master's Degree. He continued his studies at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland and received his Ph.D. in 1965. After teaching several years at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Dr. Marzluf returned to OSU's Department of Biochemistry in 1970. He would remain on the faculty of OSU for over four decades.

George was both a gifted teacher and researcher. He was able to obtain strong grant funding for his varied programs, as well as mentoring over 36 graduate students, including 14 PhD's while at OSU. His prolific research career and accomplishments were widely recognized by many. He was awarded the NIH Career Development Award as well as The Ohio State University Distinguished Scholar Award in 2000. This competitive award is the highest recognition given to a senior faculty member who has exhibited an aptitude for exceptional scholarly achievements.

Based on this outstanding record, Dr. Marzluf served as the Chair of the Legacy Department of Biochemistry between the years of 1986 and 2000. As a faculty member, he also served in the University Senate, the Senate Rules Committee, the Faculty

Council, the Distinguished Scholar Awards Committee, and others. He was known for being well organized, challenging, and highly effective by everyone who knew him.

Eventually George retired from being a full-time professor in 2011, but continued to teach as an adjunct until 2015. Overall, George was a very successful scientist, being published well over 100 times and was recognized in 2008 for the faculty award in addition to the others previously mentioned.

When not working in the classroom and laboratory, George was busy as a lifelong outdoorsman; his primary passion was fly-fishing. He authored books, fly fished all over the world, and was an active member of Central Ohio Fly Fishers and the Zanesfield Rod and Gun Club for many years. He was a rare individual, who was comfortable without creature comforts in the most remote places in the world – snowbound in Alaska fishing for Salmon while on the lookout for Grizzlies, or along the Amazon River in Brazil looking for crocodiles, or primitive camping anywhere fishing could be had! So it may be surprising that he was equally happy and comfortable at a symphony, the opera, or viewing theater on Broadway.

His passions often moved into new areas, as George was a lifelong learner. In his final years, he continued to learn new things: deciding to take up Astronomy, joining book clubs, classes, and even learning new languages on his own.

George was also a family man. While in Columbus, before leaving for Graduate School, he married Sandra Tesmer. They had three children: Bruce, Julie, and Phillip. In 1971, George married Dr. Jackie Rice, and they had a son, Glenn. His last marriage in 1998, which was the longest, was to Dr. Zarife Sahenk. Zarife and George lived in Clintonville and were able to travel extensively until George's health started failing in 2016.

He had a love of reading, good wine, and rarely passed on a good desert. His friends and family miss his smile, wit, and sense of humor. George died on May 4, 2017. He would be very pleased and proud of being honored in the West High School Hall of Fame. He regularly attended his West High Class Reunions and always considered himself to be a west sider.

Elaine Marzluf McLinn, sister, Class of 1955, nominated George before her death.



Linda Lee Schuler, '64



Linda Lee Schuler was born on May 25, 1946, in Charleston, South Carolina. She and her parents, Anthony Leo and Virginia Maxine Schuler, moved to the Westside of Columbus when she was an infant. Although she is a true Charlestonian, she claimed Columbus as her hometown. Linda cherished her time at West High School and was a member of the esteemed Weskets Drill Team and was a class speaker at her graduation. Linda was very proud to be able to address her

classmates. The theme of her speech was “*Age is just a Number*” and you should never let it keep you from achieving your life’s purpose.

Linda began her college education in political science, but ended with receiving a Bachelor’s Degree in Speech and Theatre from The Ohio State University. Upon completion of her degree, Linda started her career at the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department. While there, she founded the Park Playhouse Children’s Drama Company. This was later followed by her appointment as the Senior Center Director, a position she held for 30 years until her retirement in 1999.

Linda settled in Victorian Village in the mid-1970’s and became an Urban Pioneer. She was one of the first women in Columbus to receive a loan to purchase, renovate, and restore property. Linda was honored for her work in restoration in 2016, when the Short North Business Association chose her as one of their unsung heroes.

Linda met her wife, Karla Rothan in 1996 and they were married in 2018. They continued to fulfill their family mission of volunteerism, together, for over twenty-six years.

Linda chaired the Stonewall Columbus Pride Parade for twenty-two years, from 1997 – 2019. She was chosen as The Grand Marshal in 2002. Under her leadership, the parade grew from just 200 marching activists into a community wide event with public officials, churches, employee resource groups, and activists marching together to celebrate and support the LGBTQ+ community. In 2019, at the age of 73, Linda and her dedicated team produced one of the largest Pride marches in the United States.

Linda was also the driving force behind the creation and management of the Stonewall Columbus Trailblazer Program, which provides social, educational, and other opportunities for age 50+LGBTQ adults. Her outreach, creativity, persistence, and leadership to this often-overlooked group changed the lives of so many.

The Human Rights Campaign chose Linda as an Equality Award winner in 2012 and in 2019 she won the Steven Shellabarger Illuminator Award, which recognizes individuals within the Columbus community who have demonstrated outstanding initiative by promoting LGBTQ rights and creating a more inclusive Columbus.

In 2021, Linda was inducted into the Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame and in 2023 she will receive the Legacy Fund Honors Award from the Legacy Fund of The Columbus Foundation.

In 2023, Mayor Andrew Ginther will induct Linda into the City of Columbus Hall of Fame, which honors outstanding individuals who, “through exemplary accomplishments, have gained national recognition for themselves and have brought credit to this City.”

Linda’s legacy is one of exemplary service and accomplishment, always striving to leave things better than she found them.

Linda passed away on October 1, 2022 at the age of 76. She is survived by her beloved spouse, Karla Rothan and her numerous, extended and chosen families and friends.

Dorance Nichols Hornsby, Class of 1963, nominated Linda.

DanMartin, continued from page 4

and increase academic achievement. He was often heard stating: “Bring Your Best to West Every Day” as an encouragement to foster daily academic success and future lifelong learning. He increased classroom participation and attendance at sporting events by creating classroom incentives using opportunities to earn “Cowboy Bucks” for academic achievement to purchase admittance to school events as well as at the concession stand and school store.

All the while, implementing safety measures to make the school a more student-friendly and safe environment for both students and

staff. Mr. Martin’s vision and plan to move the students of West to personal success saw a fifty-percent increase in graduation rates during his tenure as Principal.

Under Dan’s leadership, WHS and staff received a 4-million dollar grant to provide equipment and professional development to assist staff to transform student success by creating, following, and changing into a school of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). Additionally, Dan was nominated for and

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John Steven Williams, '69



John Steven Williams spent the first nine years of his life growing up in Mansfield, Ohio. He was a typical kid, except he carried around a camera. One of his favorite things to do was to assemble his green Army men or cars and set up scenes for his action photography.

John moved to Columbus with his family in 1960. He grew up on the west side, first attending Hilltonia Junior High followed by West High School. He became a member

of the Hi-Y, perhaps, because its purpose was “to create, maintain, and extend through the home, school, and community high standards of Christian character”. John lived his life with Wisdom, Honesty, and Sincerity – WHS. During these years he was active in Boy Scouts of America and activities at Hogue Memorial Presbyterian Church. After graduating from West in 1969, he attended The Ohio State University and studied journalism. He became a freelance photographer and worked for one of the local community newspapers. Everywhere he went, he made friends and connections. He was often hired as a photographer to do weddings, take portraits, and shoot family pictures. During this time, he was busy raising three sons.

In 1994, a member of Governor George Voinovich’s staff approached John to see if would like to work as the staff photographer to help document the Governor’s Administration. John was both excited and honored to accept the position. John spent almost eight years “shooting George”, as he called it. He also worked with other State Government Departments, including: Travel and Tourism, Natural Resources, and Agriculture. He traveled throughout Ohio with Governor Voinovich visiting the State Fair, the groundbreaking and the grand opening of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, as well as other events. He met Heads of State, politicians, rock stars, as well as the diverse

residents of Ohio. John was always humble, treating everyone with dignity and respect. He could be seen cracking jokes with travel writers or eating Buckeyes with Bob Dole. He made all his subjects feel comfortable, while remaining in the background and getting the best shots, making everyone and everything look their best. When his time with the governor ended, he entered private life with many friendships, connections, and great stories that carried him into the next chapter of his life.

John continued photographing many events, both corporate and private. He was rarely seen without a camera. However, his true love was always nature photography. He enjoyed the serenity of nature and finding the little things, the right light, and the pieces of nature that most people missed. Photography was John’s heart and soul. It was the one thing that brought him pleasure and peace.

John’s other passion was motorcycles. For twenty years, he traveled with his wife beside him (on her own motorcycle) and a camera in his saddlebag, exploring new places and people. He visited over thirty states and Canada. Everywhere he went he found new friends, while capturing the beautiful scenes around him.

When John learned there was a group of his West friends who met monthly for lunch, he knew he had to attend. He was reunited with so many friends from years gone by. With a camera in one hand and his easy-going wit in the other, he took pictures of anyone who attended. His joy was sharing these photos with all his classmates. In 2019, John was able to attend his 50th Class Reunion. With his camera by his side, John was able to capture the many magical memories of the evening and felt great joy in sharing them with his beloved classmates.

John kept his illness private. His Multiple Myeloma got the best of him and he succumbed to this cancer on April 20, 2020. His wife Kathie and his sons Adam, Erik, and Brian survive John. Also surviving, are his special kids (stepchildren) Erin and Kyle as well as six grandchildren and a loving mother, Erma Williams.

Myra D. Clark-Foster, Class of 1969, nominated John.

Dan Martin, continued from page 6

received the White Castle sponsored Ingram Principal’s Award. Also, his leadership led to several projects to update the building ascetically as well as becoming technically advanced to generate student success. The academic programs implemented led to West being designated and featured on Channel 6 news feeds as a “Cool School”.

The CCS Motto is “Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.” The history and life’s work of Dan Martin as a Columbus City Schools’ student, athlete, educator, principal,

and as an empowered, productive member of the Central Ohio community exemplifies what it means to be a CCS success, and he is a most proud member of the West High Cowboy legacy.

Dan retired from education in 2013; is married to Beverly and is the father of four and the grandfather of four, as well.

Mike Miller, Class of 1970, nominated Dan.



Reservation Form



Florida Mid-Winter All-Class Reunion



March 9, 2024



Reservation Deadline
March 1, 2024

No refunds after March 1, 2024.

All alumni, spouses, and friends are invited.

Anyone who comes for the very first time gets in for FREE!

Same price as last year for the all you can eat buffet!

WHEN: Saturday, March 9, 2024 • 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

WHERE: Sarasota, Florida

Der Dutchman, 3713 Bahia Vista St., Sarasota, Florida 34232. (941) 955-8007

Saturday Luncheon Buffet at the Der Dutchman.

Doors open at 11:00 am with lunch at 12:00 noon.

Cost is \$24.00 each. Fun and Prizes until 2:00 pm

Chairs: Joe Castorino '67 and Tom Ramage '67

Questions? Contact Joe Castorino '67 at 352-683-5135

e-mail: joecastorino@earthlink.net



Clip along dotted line and return form along with your check



Number
Attending



2024 Mid-Winter All-Class Reunion Reservations

Luncheon - number attending @ \$24.00 each

Saturday _____ X \$24.00 each = _____ Total enclosed --->

\$



PRINT LEGIBLY Year Graduated _____ January or June _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Maiden Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

email _____

PRINT LEGIBLY Year Graduated _____ January or June _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Maiden Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

email _____

Make check out to:

West High Alumni Association

Mail check to:

West High Alumni Association

P.O. Box 28056

Columbus, OH 43228

List any additional names
included in your registration.



Class of 1953 – 70th Reunion



Row 1 - Bonnie Brewer Jones, Joann Wilson Carter, Marlene Tague March, Sylvia Matter Schneider, Kay Hoffman Sands, Ruth Wise Strader

Row 2 - Charlene Franks Hampton, Hilda Lyle Ridgway, Vera Adams Robison, Darcy Crispin Fortner, Don Martin, Evelyn Brofford Zarzano

Row 3 - Alan Fenstermaker, Bob McLinn, Roger Hamrick, Don Rings, Don Linn

Not in photo - Harold Charles, Bud Norris

Class of 1966 – 57th Reunion - 75 years old! September 7, 2023



Row #1 Patty O'Neil Smith, Susie Hoffmann Gordon, Kathleen Dennison Morrow, Carol Deitrick Rayburn, Ginny Hane Wittkugle, Kathy Fitzpatrick Eder, Barbara Tatman Petrosky, Shirley Pritchard Nolan, Ruthie Robinson Middlebrooks, Janet Dorcheff Durfey

Row #2 Sharon Hartzell, Carolyn Finley Mann, Bob Mann, Joy Rector Culler, Susie Pitt Hauser, Al Jim Hane, Rick Smith, Phil Cutlip, Ed Burris, Everett Gene Harley, Judy Muir Parrish, Sharon Dennison Cambell, Liz Dennis

Row #3 Jan Williams, Elaine Ragan, Gary Cyrus, Cindy Echols Hilling, Mary King, Hanna Fuller, Donn Young, Tom Hoffmann, Dave Chrisman, Bill Dennis

Row #4 Hugh Williams, Gary Hartzell, Rick Ewing, Fred Berkemer, Terry Jester, Jack Howell, Steve Edgar, Dan Petrosky, Norm Parrish, Don Gordon



**Class of 1979
45th Reunion
Saturday, June 29, 2024**

7:00 pm - Midnight

Aladdin Shrine Center
1801 Gateway Circle, Grove City, OH 43123

\$40 per person

Send check or money order to:
Dino Melfi
3252 Stephen Drive S, Columbus, OH 43204
614-537-7572

DJ music - Heavy Hors d'Oeuvres bar - Cash bar

Images of memorabilia are being collected for the
reunion. Send digital pictures to Kenny Grant at:
wkg28-53@hotmail.com

The Class of 1978 is invited to attend also!

For more information:
Karen Nixon Stattmiller
614-325-4775

Ginger Thrush
614-214-2522



**Class of 1974
50th Class Reunion
Saturday, July 20, 2024**

SAVE THE DATE!

At the Hollywood Casino on Georgesville Rd.
6 – 10 pm

A Friday night gathering on July 19th & Saturday golf outing
are being planned as well.

Stay tuned for more information coming your way in early
2024.

**Class of 1969
55th Reunion**

Friday, July 12, 2024

Heritage Golf Club
3525 Heritage Club Drive
Hilliard, Ohio. 43026

Time: 6:00-11:00
\$40 per person

More information to follow.

If your contact info has changed contact:
Robin McMillen Gray at 614-870-8905
Debbie Graves Hunt at 614-370-5445

**Class of 1964
60th Reunion
Saturday, August 3, 2024**

2:00 – 5:00 pm
Der Dutchman
445 Jefferson Avenue
Plain City, OH 43064
Cost to be determined.

Send your questions,
contact information about classmates
or other communications to:

Dave Holdren, 614-580-2519
Alice Devaney Biggers (Bob/Stoney), 630-334-2034
Susie Griffith Conrad (Rick), 614-889-0727
Rachel Nachman Graham, 614-208-9371.
Please text first.



2023 Homecoming Highlights – Photographs by Ian C. Powell, 1999



President's Message continued from page 2

be installed by the district for the start of this year's basketball season.

The West staff and administration are making great strides in revitalizing the building, facilities, and programs of the school. A wish list of improvements has been compiled. First on the list was the building of a modern Weight Room that will be located in the small gym area. The goal amount for this project is \$55,000.00. A fellow alum, **Richard DeRoberts, class of 1948** has generously gifted nearly half of the requested amount that allowed the purchase of the first wave of equipment from Rouge Fitness. In order to complete this project, I personally ask that you send in a generous donation to the West High School Alumni Association. See the front page for more information. Donations in the amount \$100 or more will allow your name to be

prominently displayed on a plaque along with Mr. DeRoberts within the newly repurposed Weight Room Area.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I didn't share that we look forward to seeing you at this year's meetings and activities throughout the year. Volunteer opportunities are always welcomed by the association and in fact we have an immediate need to help out with the concessions during the basketball games. Please contact **Eli Bowen** at 614-595-2459 or **Rosalie Williams** at farmwilliams@yahoo.com to volunteer. Thank you in advance for your continued interest and support in the betterment of West High School. Enjoy the upcoming holidays and what the new year has in store for you.

As always, "Go Cowboys!"

THANK YOU for Your Donations!



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 donating in memory of, or in honor of, an individual

Nyla Grabill Johnson, Jan. '53, Clara Grabill Callahan, '55,
and Mary Grabill Thomas, '58 in memory of our sister
Nancy Grabill Burtch, '56

Robert L. Keel, '63 and Patricia A. Keel, '64
in memory of *Dottie Clark, '63*

Drinda Maxwell in memory of
a dear friend *Dottie Clark, '63*

Shirley Forgrave Nyhan, '63 in memory of *Dottie Clark, '63*

Dorance Nichols Hornsby, '63 in memory of
Dottie Clark, '63

Dorance Nichols Hornsby, '63 in memory of
Kathy McDaniel Baisden, '63

Dorance Nichols Hornsby, '63 in memory of
Phillip Edwards, '54, Jan.

Shirley Nyhan '63 in memory of *David Holloway, '63*

Debra D. Miller in memory of *Carl Barton, '69*

Colleen Ewing Hazelbaker, '69 in memory of *Carl Barton, '69*

Don Speakman, Jan. '49 in memory of
Virginia Martin Brady, '49, Jan.

Lowell and Linda Marx in memory of
Phyllis Martin Slee, '63

Linda Mersner in memory of *Joyce V. Miller Fout*

Lorane Morgan Hawk '63 in memory of *Dan Hawk*

Thank you for Your Leadership Campaign Donation

Judith Thirtyacker Dilsworth, Jan. '54
Daniel A. Martin, '72 in memory of Danny Krebs
Amanda Roberts, WHS teacher 2017-present
Dick DeRoberts, 1948
Richard and Jane Conrad, 1959
Edgar and Laurie McCleaf, Jr. 1957
Larry and Denise Wooten, FOA
Ronald Forrer, 1955
Russell F. Marx, 1960
John and Carol Blum Jackson, 1960
E. Dean and Linda Potts, 1959, Jan.
Jean Stewart Frass, 1958

Thank you for Your Scholarship Donation

Bill Lust, 1963
Colleen Ewing Hazelbaker, 1969
Class of 1963 Silent Auction Donation
John Edwards, 1961
January and June Classes of 1960
James Worthington, Jan. 1957
Paul Brown, 1963
Ann Blair Schmidt, 1972
Family of Marilyn Myton, 1965

THANK YOU for Your General Fund Donation

Dianne Krebs, FOA
James Worthington, Jan. 1957
Paul Brown, 1963
Vera Jean Ruff, 1957

WELCOME New Members

Ann Steece Edmonds, 1979
Patrick Dino Melfi, 1979
Kenny Grant, 1979
Timothy Guyton, 1973
Colleen Ewing Hazelbaker, 1969
Christine McCutcheon Byrne, 1968
Griffin Kenny Butler, 1967
Bobbie Simons Merritt, 1984
Gretchen Kerns Roberts, 1985
Thomas Martin, 1981
Paul Brown, 1963

Welcome New Life Members

... who never have to remember to pay their dues!
Pam Caton Abbott, 1973
Jody Eichenberger Luken, 1969
Stephen Ulrey, 1969
Ellen Kendall Ulrey, 1970
John Edwards, 1961
Pamela Wallar Duncan, 1963

Update Your Alumni 2024 Calendar!



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**January 21, 2024
Sunday**

6:00 PM Board Meeting
ERA Solutions Realty Office, 3656 Broadway, Grove City 43123

**February 22, 2024
Thursday**

6:00 PM General Meeting
York Steak House, 4220 W. Broad St., Columbus 43228
All are welcome! Speaker TBD.

**March 9, 2024
Saturday**

11:00 AM Florida All-Class Reunion in Sarasota
Der Dutchman Restaurant
Reservation form in this issue.

**April, 2024
Wednesday**

6:00 PM General Membership Meeting
West High School Cafeteria
Minelli's Pizza and Salad. Tour the school.
Date TBD.

Kroger Plus Card and Amazon Smile Benefit West Alumni Association



Thirty-one alumni households contributed \$101.52 to the Association without having to do anything but register their Kroger Plus Card on their computer. This is easy money! Please follow the directions on our new website to see how to join the Community Rewards Program.

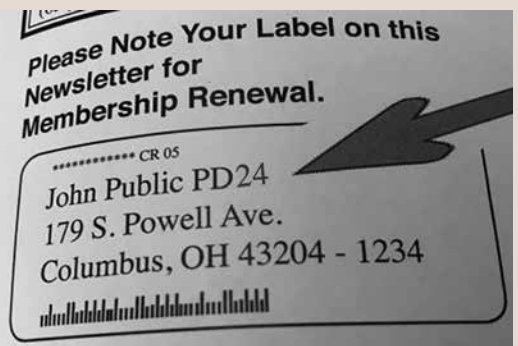


Amazon Smile is discontinuing their charity donation program to our organization. They have donated to more than a million eligible organizations over the last ten years. They will continue to launch other programs to support charities in local communities. Thank you so much for your participation in this program. We did not earn a lot of money, but we did earn some.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR DUES BY MARCH 1.

Membership Renewal – Check your label!

If you have already paid your dues for 2024 before January 1, you will see a PD24 after your name on the mailing label. If you are a Life Member, you will see LM. If your label does not show either of these, please renew your membership dues now.



NEWSLETTER MAILINGS

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





In Memoriam - Alumni No Longer With Us

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

Class

1940s

Joan Smith Reppert, January 9, 2023	1948
Hall of Fame Honoree	
Pat A. Bohanan Hatton, September 7, 2023	1946, Jan.
Robert W. Johnson, August 17, 2023	1948
Nellie J. Evans Ardle, December 8, 2022	1949, Jan.
Wilma June Lacey Brehm, November 19, 2023	age 92
Jacquelyn Gross McPherson, November 11, 2023	1947
Ann M. McKinley Hanby, September 12, 2023	1941

1950s

Harry Dick McDermitt, October 15, 2023	1951
Donnie Martin, November 9, 2023	1953
Nancy Grabill Burtch, October 27, 2023	1957
Patricia Kelly Baker, October 23, 2023	1951
Carol Muncie Rieser, October 22, 2023	age 89
Barbara Druar Schumann, September 23, 2023	1956
Phil Edwards, October 2, 2023	1954, Jan.
Kay Wells Lester, September 3, 2023	1957
Robert F. Sager, November 13, 2023	age 82
Carol Kresse Wallace, November 7, 2023	1954
Robert Brokaw, November 17, 2023	1956
William A. Baker, August 25, 2023	1954, Jan.
Harriet Herron Seedle, July 24, 2023	1956
Kathryn Seeds Keefe, September 23, 2023	1953
Donna Contizano Poston, October 31, 2023	1956
Allan Fenstermaker, November 5, 2023	1953
Billie K. Marzluf Williams, November 28, 2023	1955

1960s

Bob Krueger, April 4, 2023	1969
Willie McGuire, June 6, 2023	1969
Carl Barton, October 11, 2023	1969
William A. Paszke, November 4, 2023	1961
Nancy Stewart Jackson, October 7, 2023	1967
Roger Broseus, Ph.D., August 8, 2023	1961
Dottie Clark, October 24, 2023	1963
Ron Blythe, July 16, 2023	1964
Kathy McDaniel Baisden, October 10, 2023	1963
Dinah Baker Howell, September 10, 2023	1961
Garry L. Weigand, July 2, 2023	1961
Martha Webb, March 19, 2023	FOA
John D. Agin, August 26, 2023	1967
John M. Hawkins, November 13, 2023	1968
Stephen Takos, September 22, 2023	1963
Florence DeMatteo Stokes, September 3, 2023	1961, Jan.
Ronald L. Vagnier, April 18, 2023	1962, Jan.
Jesse G. Dickinson, October 19, 2023	1960
Christopher Canaday, October 14, 2022	1967

Class

1970s

Stephen Sparks, October 18, 2023	age 71
Robert R. Gregory, September 10, 2023	1974
Bobby Binns, September 2, 2023	age 66
Bill Wellman, November 3, 2023	1970
Michael T. Bayes, October 28, 2023	1976
Joseph P. Sarvino, September 15, 2023	1972
Mike Congrove, September 5, 2023	1973
Deborah G. Nicholson, August 16, 2023	age 66
Keith E. Kirk, August 22, 2023	1973

1980s

Tracy Thompson, February 19, 1994	1985
Jeff Madison	1985
Kip Estep, February 2, 2007	1985
Dawn Kitchen	1985
Polly Mauer, February 18, 2017	1985
Denise Gentile, November 30, 2018	1985
Danny Humphrey, November 13, 2022	1985
Robert W. Rector, September 8, 2023	age 61
Robert L. Wright, November 21, 2023	age 57

1990s

John E. Woodall, September 21, 2023	1990
Emma McCutchen Lane, September 27, 2023	age 47

2000s

Wayne Howard, August 7, 2023	2005
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West Teachers and Staff

Eugene K. Bay, Principal, October 27, 2023
Joanne Georgiton Stamatakis, Teacher, November 1, 2023

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.



Membership Application

2024 Annual Membership Dues - Remit by March 1, 2024!



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

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PLEASE CHECK:

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

Member
Information

PRINT LEGIBLY

Year Graduated _____ January or June _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Maiden Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____ + _____

E-Mail Address _____ Phone (_____) _____

**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 2024 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 (Mailed in May)
\$20.00 \$ _____

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

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

Total Enclosed \$ _____



West High School Alumni Association
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2024 Membership Dues are now due!

Ginger Thrush, Realtor ERA Real Solutions Realty

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gingerthrush@gmail.com

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of Central Ohio buyers and sellers.*

*Call Ginger for help
buying or selling!*



Ginger Thrush



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