

WAITSBURG HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Purpose: To promote WHS and its graduates

Volume 2, (2) Nov. / Dec., 2015

Happy Holidays! Updates & Highlights



DUES INCREASED TO \$10.00 per YEAR. A reminder—when you send in your dues for 2016, they are \$10.00 and can be paid at any time to: PO Box 834; Waitsburg, WA 99361

- **Your WHS Alumni Association is selling bricks to be placed outside the entrance to the WHS Gym as a fundraiser for the Alumni Scholarship**
- **Jeff Broom receives Alumni award**
- **Bronze Art graces three sidewalk areas in downtown Waitsburg**
- **Has your address, phone number, or email changed since the 2015 banquet invitation? If so, please email the changes to: pjmantz@charter.net**

*Dues-paying members (without an email) will need a first-class Mailing Subscription that will cost \$12.00 per year **for all newsletters.***

Nov./ Dec. 2015

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The Alumni Board provides newsletter articles and all edits

Feedback is always appreciated.
Please email feedback to:
katie.leid@gmail.com

Message from WHS Current ASB President—Greetings Alumni!
Stuart Walsh, your WHS ASB President here! Give a welcome to our other officers: Vice President, Jacob Dunn; Secretary Sky Wood; Treasurer, Taylor Spoonmore. WHS Class Presidents are: Caitlyn Jones, Senior; Emily Adams, Junior; Chloe Pearson, Sophomore; and Loren Negron, Freshman. Club Presidents are: FFA President, Tristan Newman. LEO President, Timber Frohreich. NHS President, Stuart Walsh.

This year, our High School theme is: We Believe—

We believe everyone matters.

We believe everyone has a voice that needs to be heard.

We believe in working to best of our ability.

We believe everyone can achieve.

We believe there is more than one answer.

We believe everyone's opinion should be heard and respected.

We believe change can be for the best.

We believe in having fun.

WHS Alumni Banquet, 2015— In the Books!

There were over 141 attending our banquet on May 23, 2015. Fifteen Seniors and over thirty parents, siblings, and other family members attended to honor the 2015 graduates. We guaranteed and paid for 180 dinners—based on the number of RSVP's on May 19th.

When the Alumni Board met to de-brief after the banquet, we discovered two things: 1) that there was enough food and plenty extra this year, and 2) because the Board and the Caterer did not want to run out of food, we overestimated by about 20, and consequently didn't break even. In spite of the loss, as well as a number of no shows, and last minute walk-ins, those who took the time to fill out the "comments sheets," reported positively on the events of the evening.

Dr. Carol Clarke, Superintendent shared the successes of the District with us, citing

examples of two 2015 graduates, Hannah Grant and Emma Philbrook providing outstanding service and commitment to our community throughout their high school years. Carol also mentioned the 100% graduation rate of WHS (well above the state average) and how WHS has been one of the "Top High Schools in the State" for the past seven years! She also recognized Waitsburg Elementary School for their achievement in raising money for a clean drinking water project in Guatemala City.

**Hannah Grant & Paige Wood,
2015 Graduates, received the
two Alumni Scholarships!
Congratulations to both
women.**

Judy Duckworth Mulhair, Class of 1962



"It is always hard to talk about yourself," Judy said. She considers herself as pretty ordinary, but she was filled with the energy to pursue her dreams. She was born in Walla Walla, Washington, to Gwen and Gene Duckworth on June 26, 1944. The Duckworth family had 3 boys (Ernie, Bill and Lory) and 1 girl (Judy). Bill still lives in Waitsburg and Lory lives in Walla Walla. Ernie moved to Clarkston, WA where he built jet boats and made a real name for himself in that business. Unfortunately he was diagnosed with prostate cancer and passed away 10 years ago. Judy's mom and dad have since gone as well and all are greatly missed. The family moved to Waitsburg when Judy was in the fourth grade. She completed grade school and graduated from Waitsburg High School in 1962.

Judy's father grew up on Coppei Creek, where her grandparents raised wheat. Her younger brother, Bill, informed her that her grandfather had used that wheat to make the best hooch this side of the Mississippi. Bill heard that story for the first time while camping at Yellowstone Park in the 1970's from one of the Waitsburg Brown brothers. As Bill noted, they had some stories to tell about his grandparents.

Judy's mom was born in San Diego and lived much of her life in Portland, Oregon. She stayed with a Salvation Army family in Walla Walla to finish her senior year in high school. Gwen met

Judy's father there and they were married. Judy's mother had a brother with whom she lost contact after her youthful adoption. This amazing story can be found at her business web site (www.ayhranch.com). This is a wonderful story and one that should be celebrated at this time of year. Gwen found her brother after 72 years. The address is noted above, look under newsletter and you will see the title – ***Miracle on Flight 50***, click on that and you will know the full story. One never knows when you take a pathway in life, where that journey will end.

Judy attended Washington State University and graduated in 1966 with BA in Business, focusing on marketing and finance. Judy always had a dream of being a college graduate, particularly the first in her family. She had a passion for learning that was never quenched and she knew she would persevere until her degree was obtained.

Waitsburg was a great place for her to go to school, as the classes were small and felt more like family, where all students received help and encouragement. The high school principal, Mr. Lloyd Perry, was outstanding and always encouraging. Mrs. Nadine Gerkey, her English teacher, pushed all of her students to think more deeply and stretch their minds. "Mrs. Gerkey was the first teacher to make us think outside the box," Judy recalled. There were only 18 people in her high school graduation class and they remain an extended family, getting together on a regular basis.

Upon her graduation from WSU, she had a dream to see the world outside of her little corner of Washington state,

so she decided to become a stewardess for United Airlines to accomplish this goal. Now fifty years later, she is still flying, but Judy plans to retire in 2016. Judy has no regrets about her career choice, as she has seen the world, and flown military charters to all parts of world. This latter activity allowed Judy to serve her patriotic duty, and was a highlight of her career

Judy was able to fly around the world, raise a family and create several businesses in her spare time. She created an American Youth Hostel on her Vashon Island property, later changing the name to Hostelling International. Her hostel was in business for thirty years with the Western Theme of Indian Teepees and Covered Wagons. The hostel was open during the summer and attained a worldwide reputation. She recently dropped the hostel label to become a campground, the only legal one on Vashon Island. The hostel helped her buy a B & B called the Lavender Duck and two other rental properties associated with the web site Vacation Rental by Owner (VRBO.com #388767 and #652004). Judy's latest business adventure is the production and sale of Teepees.

One of the most positive influences in Judy's life has been her relationship with a long-time Waitsburg resident, Carol Weir. Carol really believed in Judy's potential to be successful in life and encouraged her to join a sorority at WSU called Kappa Kappa Gamma. Carol thought Judy had great potential and said she needed a strong organization behind her. Every summer while Judy was in high school and college, Carol provided employment for her to assist in paying for her education. They developed a wonderful friendship with each other, one valued to this day. As so often is the case, role models other than those associated with school, are instrumental in our successes in life.

Judy cherishes her Waitsburg friends, such as Kathryn Hall Maoli, who remains her dearest friend today. Kat and Judy were roommates at WSU for two years and she is always there when Judy is feeling a bit low.

"Friends are forever," Judy said. "The biggest advantage we had in growing up in Waitsburg was the freedom from today's technology. We had to be creative in our play, as we did not have all the technology available to students today." Judy's family did not have a television until her latter years of high school. While she thinks students of those days were less advantaged in their exposure to the world, all of her classmates grew in creativity, as they focused on what they could do with the material at hand.

Judy's advice to all WHS graduates is to "persevere if you want to attain your goals in life. You are as worthwhile and as good as any person on the planet. It is important to have dreams and you need to strive to obtain them. Simply put, be the very best you can be, each and every day of your life."



New WHS Service Award Presented at the Alumni Banquet

President Darleen Smith Dozier announced a new, yearly Alumni Service Award in honor of Karen Huwe Mohnney, class of 1980, who passed away this past year. Meredith Huwe, mother of Karen, and Kelly Mohnney, husband, presented the first award to Jeff Broom, class of 1964.

A plaque honoring Jeff is hanging in the high school with room for other deserving alumni who continuously give service in a variety of ways to the community of Waitsburg and the schools.

Departed Alumni May, 2014-May 2015

Lawrence "Barney" Fullerton	1931
Pete Kinder	1936
Virginia Rinehart Neace	1939
Bernard Donnelly	1944
William E. Brown	1948
Mary Ann Shaffer Yancy	1950
Arvilla Katsel Cyr	1951
Elena "Daisy" Brown Perry	1951
Gary White	1961
Margaret Nettles Picton	1965
Karen Huwe Mohnney	1980

Alumni Association has two (2) Funds

- **Lloyd Memorial Loan Fund:** a loan specifically for any WHS student in their last semester or quarter of their educational program.
- Assets (including this year's banquet) exceed \$36,000. Applications are available through Jeff Broom—See Board Member Page for email.
- The newest is the **Alumni Scholarship:** it is for any student just graduating from WHS, or alumni either entering the next phase of or continuing their education. (Whether you are a WHS senior, or entering graduate school, you are eligible to apply through Blue Mountain Community Foundation, PO BOX 603, Walla Walla, WA 99362.)

The current balance is over \$50,000.

The Alumni Association encourages seniors or college/career students to apply for one, or both!

There is NO competition between these two funds. They are for separate purposes.

Thank You for Donating

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TAKE a look at the Waitsburg School District WEB Site to see all of the exciting happenings:
<http://www.waitsburgsd.org>

FACEBOOK members: Check out the WHS Alumni page—feel free to contribute information on our page.

Also—check out the WHS Facebook Page!

All officers agreed to stay on for another year. The vote for the slate of officers was unanimous. IF you would like to become a Board Member/Officer, please contact President Dozier or Vice President Cole

Membership Categories

- Graduate of WHS
- Honorary Alumni Member
- Associate Alumni Member

Graduate: Just that—be a graduate of Waitsburg High School (first year dues are free). A voting member (if dues are current)

Associate Alumni Member: A person who attended Waitsburg schools, but did not graduate who wants to be a dues-paying member of the Alumni Association. This person will be able to attend the banquets and receive all communications. Non-voting member. The Board will review all applicants.

Honorary Alumni Member: A person (or persons), not graduates of WHS, who have contributed over the years to the school and/or the community. Non-voting member, approved by the board.

Pay your Dues Today!

\$10.00

PO Box 843

Waitsburg, WA 99328

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**What if all 1,000+ Alums paid
their dues each year?**

That brings in \$10,000!

Many uses for WHS

**Pictures of Alumni
Gathering for Reunions
throughout the Year:**

Is your Brick outside the Entrance to the WHS Gym?

To help raise funds for the WHS Alumni Association Scholarships, the alumni association has picked up the alumni remembrance bricks of several years ago. We are currently selling them to all alumni who wish to be remembered in this way or who wish to remember other family graduates as well.



We would hope that all of you reading this newsletter that have not purchased brick might do so at this time. Proceeds from these sales will be given to the WHS Alumni Scholarship fund. **The cost of engraving 1 brick is \$50.00 and further information is available on the alumni Facebook page.**

Thanks to those Alumni & future Alumni families and friends who have purchased fifteen bricks in six months! Names to go onto bricks: Kyle Dozier, Logan Dozier, Ed Lawrence, Susan Lawrence, Patty Mantz, John Hadley, Jo Hall, Kenny Morris, Amber Morris, Martin Huffman, Deanna Huffman, Doris Huffman, Jim Mitchell, Steven Brooks, Michelle Brooks, Lexi Benson, Ashlyn Borrks, Del Benson, Sky Benson, Grace Coulston, Tyler Coulston, Cody Coulston, and Alex Dill

When you sign in to Facebook, go to the “search” feature and type in: ”Waitsburg High School Alumni Association.” The address is:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/133246603413582/>

Class of 1945-- Carroll Smith



Class of 1980: Randy Hutsell, Pam Gales Alexenko, Ross Hamann



Class of 1950: Erma Lee Kessler Smith, Dorothy Gagnon Hall, , Jack Roberts, Betty Dunn Callahan, Beverly (Roberts) Low, Meredith Hulce Huwe



Class of 1958: Sharon Dolan Dooley, Bob (Red) Hays, Linda Harris Stonecipher, Jill Smith Wood, Marilyn Archer Wilson





Class of 1975 taken at the Salmon Bar-B-Q in September:
Front row, L to R: Teresa Hulce Johnson, Susie Danforth Payne, Lauri Smith McKinley, Krista Archer McKinley, Linda Smith Henze, Sara Nichols Bassford, Sherrie Sickles Morris
Back row: Tim Able, Ron Jensen, David McKinley, Neil Henze, Rick Coleman, Dan McKinley, Jake Long, Richard Bowman, Jerry Smith, Andy Winnett



2015 Alumni Float: Second Place. Thanks to Jack Otterson who let Alumni borrow his pickup!

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Class of 1965: Doris Jensen Luellen, Claudia Moberly Allen, Everett White, Billie Jean Towers, Katie Mantz Leid



Class of 2015: From Left to Right-Front Row: Samantha Walker, Hannah Grant, Mikala DeRue, Analise Salazar, Paige Wood. Back Row: Talen Larsen, Mark Grant, Luke Gales-Alexenko, Sofia Mercado, Chance Leroue, Eric Heisey, Devin Acevado, Troy Anderson.



Downtown Waitsburg at night!

The newest editions to Waitsburg's downtown are three Bronze Sculptures commissioned for Waitsburg's 150th Centennial Celebration in May, 2015. Fanny Weller and an avid young reader, designed by Wayne Chabre, is positioned outside of the old City Library.



see next page for picture and description of the Obelisk.



Celebration Days Parade—What would happen if ALL the classes had a float in the Parade? Just Saying—Challenge is on!

* * * * *



A whimsical Bronze, designed by Jeffray Hill, depicts three Founding Fathers moving flour from the flourmill in downtown Waitsburg!



*Alumni Board
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An Obelisk, designed by Squire Broel, stands outside the Old Town Hall. Waitsburg's students have added their personal touch to this bronze!

Anyone who is willing to donate can do so by sending money to the City at P.O. Box 35, Waitsburg, says Randy Hinchliffe, Mayor. This is called the "Founding Father's Art Project, and "We did not receive an expected grant to fully fund this project, so any help is appreciated." Jeff Broom believes that the Founding Fathers bronze was not selected for grant funding but the other two were. People can also drop money off at City Hall. Questions can also be directed to me at City Hall or at this email: rjhinch@gotvc.net