

WAITSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Purpose: To promote WHS and its graduates

Volume 4, (1) February, 2017

Updates & Highlights



- Your WHS Alumni Association is selling bricks to be placed outside the entrance to the WHS Gym as a fundraiser for the Alumni Scholarship Contact Margie Benson for information
- Coats for Kids—Two years in a row—Alumni helping all students in the District stay warm.
- Has your address, phone number, or email changed since the 2016 banquet invitation? If so, please email the changes to, or call—509-520-0525:

pjmantz@charter.net

February 2017

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The Alumni Board provides newsletter article contributions and all edits

**Alumni Banquet 2017--May 27th Multi-Purpose Room,
Waitsburg Elementary School—*Meet & Greet begins at
5:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:00 p.m.***

Message from WHS Current ASB President—

Our officers for this current 2016-17 school year are: Jacob Dunn, President, Vice President, Taylor Hays, Secretary, Kelsey Alleman, and Treasurer, Loren Negron. Mrs. Roseann Groom is the Advisor.

Officers and class representatives identified several goals for our year in August, and have been carrying them out through assemblies. One of our main goals is to involve all students in some way throughout the year.

Football Combine With Dayton

In the early spring of 2016, Waitsburg and Dayton began talking about combining their football teams so both schools could continue to play 11-man football. Both communities met with stakeholders individually, and both school boards joined together with administrators, athletic directors, coaches, students and communities to better understand how the combination might work.

Both school boards approved the Combine, with Troy Larsen, WHS Alumni, as head coach. The team began spring practices shortly before the school year ended, and at the end of the Football Season, the team had a record of: 10-2. According to *The Times*, “DW finished their season with a 10-2 record. The team won the Eastern Washington Athletic Conference championship, going undefeated in conference play. DW also won their first two playoff games, against Tonasket and Tri-Cities Prep. Not only did DW win the title in the

conference's first year of existence, but also it was the first year of the Dayton-Waitsburg combine. The success of the combine has led the Dayton and Waitsburg schools to explore working together in other sports. The schools have approved a baseball combine and wrestling co-op.” (Nov. 24, 2016)



This 4-year commitment is off to a great beginning, and has allowed both schools to work together to make sure that all student athletes have a chance to participate in any sport (wrestling and cross country, for example) that one or the other school is not able to offer. Another great feature of the Combine was a chance for both cheer teams to work together,

under the direction of Kristine Warren, Advisor from Dayton. When visiting with students, parents, and community members throughout the season, the comments were very positive.



DW Cheerleaders (l to r) Deja Williams, Olivia Ortiz, Ally Chapman, Jennifer Warren, Isabelle Houdak; flyer, Kitty Lambert

* * * * *

WHS Alumni Association

Is about to launch our WEB Page with a link to Pay Pal to send in your dues, alumni banquet reservation and payment, and donations

WaitsburgHighSchoolAlumni.com

Coats for Kids

During November and December in 2015 and 2016, your Alumni Board worked with school district personnel to make sure every student had a warm coat to wear. Through donations, past president, Darleen Dozier purchased over 50 coats, mittens, and several pairs of boots, delivered them to the school where they were handed out.

Board Member, Margie Benson, was also instrumental in helping Darleen coordinate the project. Thanks also to Kathy Schirm, WSD employee, for working with us.

* * * * *



**First Karen
Huwe Mohnhey
Service Award
(2015) goes
to 1964
Alumni, Jeff
Broom**

The Alumni Association Board established a service award to honor graduates who have gone above and beyond to help others, just as Alumnus Karen Mohnhey (who passed away in 2014 had done).

Jeff, a retired mechanical engineer, and his wife Gayle, moved back to Waitsburg in the 1990's. He continued to consult on various construction sites around the country for another 5 or 6 years. Jeff has served on the City Council, has been president of the Waitsburg Historical Society, and helped establish the WHS Alumni Scholarship fund as an Alumni Board Member. Jeff served on the United Way of Walla Walla County, and the WWCC Foundation Board of Governors. He is a Lion's Club member, and has spent hundreds of hours making Waitsburg a better place in which to live.

**Margie Gagnon Benson Honored at
the 2016 Banquet**

Margie (Class of 1966), received the second annual Karen Huwe Mohnhey Service Award, established by the WHS Alumni Association. Margie retired from the WSD district several years ago and has continued to coordinate the setting up and taking down of the Multipurpose Room after retirement, as well as serving on the Alumni Board. She has taken on the "Brick Project," so alumni can continue to purchase brick markers located near the entrance to the High School Gym.

Margie also serves on the Waitsburg Resource Center Board, volunteering hundreds of hours each year. In addition, she volunteers for the French-town Historical Society, located in Touchet.



When asking about Margie's involvement, one citizen said, "She is everywhere – she helps anyone in need, and doesn't want any recognition."

Another said: "She is always willing to do what it takes to 'get things done.'"

Departed Alumni 2016-2017		
Graduation Date	Name	Date of Passing
1937	Myers, Elizabeth "Betty" Wolfe	9/27/16
1940	Speratos, Lola Burch	11/19/16
1941	Hansen, Ruth Leid	6/28/16
1945	Hinchliffe, Wayne	12/13/16
Honor '48	Baker, Tom	11/14/16
1952	Nelson, Jim	12/23/15
1957	John, Dick (Dan)	11/19/16
1957	Maxwell, Jack	10/15/16
1958	Gosney, Dick	12/1/16
1966	Reyman, Janell Groom	1/15/17
1970	Elsey, Jerry	8/28/16
1972	Thomas, Roger	6/25/16
1975	LaRue, Doug	Sept. 2016
2012	Wooderchak, Dustin	6/18/16
Editorial from Board Member Wes Leid, Scholarship Committee Chair		
Dear WHS Alumni: I am sorry that there has been an absence of stories on WHS alumni, but I have had a few health problems that took my mind off of this important job. I am feeling up to writing stories about WHS alumni again and leading the Scholarship committee in the raising of funds for WHS scholarships. To that latter end I would encourage you to donate to the WHS Scholarship fund in memory of WHS classmates or WHS school friends who have passed (see above) As my father, Roy Leid said: “ Waitsburg is God’s country,” and the Waitsburg community benefits greatly from your new and continued support of these scholarships.		The Association owes all of you donors a big thank you and a debt of gratitude for your past and future contributions to the WHS scholarship fund. Finally, we solicit nominees for our stories on successful WHS graduates, so please send deserving names to me. We always welcome new nominees. R. Wes Leid (“63”) 240 Wolf Fork Road Dayton, WA 99328 509.382.2257 Lose a classmate? Honor his or her memory with a donation to the WHS Alumni Scholarship and help Cardinals with their ongoing education far into the future!

A look back at the 2016 Alumni Reunion

(Courtesy of *The Times*)

Class of 1941: (l to r) Erma Crallo Gilbertson,
JoAn Hamilton Stonecipher Fiala



Class of 1956: (Back l to r) Bob Baim, Jack Otterson, John Liebermann, Russell Hays,
George Young, Glenn Callahan, Glenn Vogt, Des Witt (Front l to r) Frances Donley, Beryl
Witt, Marjorie Lowe. Not shown: Merry Smith



Class of 1966: (Back l to r): Joe Allen, Ron Miller, Steve Will, Butch Peck, Neta Henze McKenzie, Jim Bloor, Elaine DuPree Sullivan, Norm Hansen, Steve Olsen (Front l to r): Richard Finch, Patty Harris White, Gene Drake, Chris Mohny Lewandowski, Joan Land Miller, Charie McCowan Flanigan, Gary Seagraves, Gail Carpenter.



Class of 1971: (l to r) Judy Harper Deines, Jim Hubbard, Howard Smith, Jr., Michele Saranovich, Sana Mings Nel- Jaidyn Brown son, Jim Western, Jani Keve Jansen, Glen Smith, Jo-Ellen Watson, Carol Willis Heilbrun, Becky Huwe, Gary Pierson

Class of 1976: (l to r) Loyal Baker,
Steve Pierson



Class of 2016: (Back l to r) Trey
Potts, Coe Richards (Front l to r)
Rachel Gradwohl, Stuart Walsh,
Megan Morrison, Jaidyn Brown

Photos by Darleen Dozier

CLASSES THAT END IN 2 & 7, SEND US YOUR REUNION INFORMATION
VIA EMAIL. Contact Patty Mantz (page 9) if you want emails and phone numbers.

Word has it that the Class of '57 is already making their plans! Contacts: Mary
Phillips (page 9) & Nancy Otterson 509-337-6793

Class of 1997: Contact Holly Ruzicka---509-240-5128

[mailto:Holly Grazes@windermere.com](mailto:Holly_Grazes@windermere.com)



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**Annual Auction at the 2017
Banquet**



Alumnus Lynn Mantz-Powers, winner of the 2016 Auction item, has donated this lovely winebarrell clock back to the Alumni Association to re-auction at the 2017 Banquet. Tickets will be \$10.00, and you can send in your money designating it to the drawing when you also send in your \$10.00 dues! You do not have to be present to win. Mail \$10.00/ticket to: P.O. BOX 834, Waitsburg, WA 99361