

Cardinal Chatter



Newsletter of the Whittier High School Alumni Association and
Educational Foundation

Spring/Summer
2014

MESSAGE FROM CHRIS MAGDOSKU, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Hello fellow Cardinal alums!...I am a second generation Cardinal. My mom, Robin (Lockwood) Sundberg and her 2 sisters, April (Lockwood) Morrow and Susan (Lockwood) Gale were also graduates of Whittier High in the late 60's and early 70's. (My dad, on the other hand, was a graduate of El Rancho High School. So, our household was a fun place at times). As the years went on after graduation, I became aware of the WHS Alumni Association and was so impressed with its work, but work and family made it challenging for me to join and lend a hand. I am now honored to be in the position of First Vice President and your youngest alum on the Board. I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to contribute.

Earlier this school year, I had the privilege of mentoring five seniors for their Senior Projects. All five were interested in engineering as a future career goal. As I am a Civil Engineer and work for the city of Whittier, Mrs. Eshilian reached out to me. So it was a win-win situation to be able to return to my alma mater and help where I could, but I also learned a lot from them. These students have so much on their plate but also have the resources at their disposal to aid in their success. These resources include the internet to help with research and the Alumni Association and Educational Foundation for financial support. With shrinking school budgets and increased costs to put students through school, the Association/Foundation asks that you donate your time and/or your financial resources, as you are comfortable, to help with the student's successes throughout the year.

Changing gears...a big thank you goes out to those who attended the recent 15th Annual Hall of Fame banquet in April. It was a fun and inspiring night as there were seven awardees chosen as lifetime members and for the twelve students who received various scholarships. This would not be possible if it was not for our alumni and their support in continuing the success of Whittier High School. It is amazing that Whittier High School has so many successful and popular graduates in this world! John Peel did an awesome job as our emcee for the event.

We are finding that more and more people are interested in receiving the Chatter via the internet. We need representative "Decade Volunteers" to help send emails to Alumni who would rather hear from us in that format. It is so wonderful to see how this organization benefits the students of WHS.

Again, thank you for your support.

Chris Magdosku '89
First Vice President

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE ALL CLASS BBQ ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH!

"...and always, always love you, Whittier High"

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The best news at WHS, since my last Cardinal Chatter article, is that we received a full 6-year accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)! A full 6-year accreditation is the highest accreditation that can be received, and is very rare for high schools in California. The WASC visiting Committee reported that "WHS is clearly invested in our school improvement process; we are enthusiastic about our work and our students; our students are actively engaged learners and the use of best practices is a rule in WHS classrooms; and our sense of collegiality and developing a nurturing community with a high level of trust and school spirit was highly commendable." This full accreditation is a strong validation that WHS has worked effectively over the past six years, and demonstrates trust that we will continue our focused efforts in achieving learning success for ALL students!

As we transition into the new computer assisted Common Core standardized testing, WHS has worked together in our course-alike teams to increase the rigor, higher order thinking, problem solving and creativity that is essential for 21st Century college and career success. WHS teachers are excited about this challenge! Part of the preparation for the new computer assisted testing is increased accessibility and technology literacy for all students. WHS, with the support of LCAP (Local Control Accountability Plan) money, and alumni contributions, has developed a comprehensive plan to increase the number of technological devices for all WHS students. We currently have 5 designated computer labs, 10 lap top carts, and 4 iPad carts, equaling approximately 685 devices. Our plan is to have 2,300 computers available for in class, before, and after school use by 2017.

Our Advance Placement testing will take place in May and I again want to thank the Alumni for their annual support of \$12,000, which helps defray the costs of AP tests for a large number of WHS students. 81% of WHS students come from families who fall within the low socioeconomic income level; therefore it is difficult for them to pay for all of the tests they are qualified to take. Our high achieving group of AP students will be taking over 800 tests this year, an increase of about 85 tests this year. Because of the annual Alumni support, WHS has again ranked in the top 5% of the schools in the nation in preparing students for college. The "College Readiness" ranking is derived from the % of AP tests taken, student passing rate, and our school API score. We are most proud of this recognition and most grateful to your support!

Thank you Alumni for your continued generosity – *"always, always love Whittier High"*!

Sincerely,

Lori (Peel) Eshilian – WHS Alum '72

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.whittierhighalumni.org

***THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR WHITTIER HIGH SCHOOL CONTRIBUTORS FOR
UPHOLDING THE RED AND WHITE, THE BEAUTY OF OUR CAMPUS,
AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OUR GRADUATING CARDINALS!***

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"...and always, always love you, Whittier High"

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Theo Robert Seeley '69
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Don Taylor '46
Patty Sanchez Thomas '84
Bill Thomason '64
Ruth Ann Humiston Thurman '51
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Carol and Tom Tracy '56, '55
Allan Trefry [faculty] '54 -'74
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Wayne Wells '59
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Robert Max Willsey '53
Fred Winnen '44
Joan Peters Woehrmann '48
Jan Lopez Wood '47
Ray Zabel '50

This list may be incomplete

CARDINAL PASSINGS

The Alumni Association extends sincere sympathy to the families, friends, and classmates of these Cardinals.

Carol Hoberg Allen '49
Dee Dundas Bentley '54
Donald Brenier '83
Avery Lee Brakebill '57
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Rusty Paris '58
Aimie Quintanar Pasillas '47
George Pendleton '51
Clarence Peterman '44
Lew Rainey
Ron Roberts '55
Susan Coleman Ross '78
Lorraine McPherson Sawyer '58
Maxcine Rusk Smith '58
Arthur Waer '33
Raymond Wilcox '50
Gustavo R. Velasco '58

Eldora "Dorie" Graham '55 was a devoted Cardinal alumnus who passed away on April 4th. Her husband, Marvin, wanted us to print this letter she received just before she died, from a student who had received AP testing assistance from the Association.

Dear Whittier High School Alumni Association,

Thank you for your generous donation on helping me proceed to take the test for AP Human Geography. I as a student will really benefit from taking the test on helping me through college and hopefully will help me get into a university. I am thankful for the opportunity to even be in an AP Human Geography class. The money has helped a lot and will make a big impact in my education for being able to take the test. Thank you.

Raquel Castillo

WSSAAEF BOARD

The WSSAAEF board is comprised of 18 dedicated alumni who represent each generation of Whittier High students from the forties to the eighties. Established as a not for profit organization in 1998, the board is dedicated to enhancing the opportunities of the students of Whittier High and encouraging them to adhere to the ideology of the Cardinal Creed (“...building steadfastly toward her goals of companionship, scholarship, citizenship, and service.”). Class representatives from each graduating year are welcome and encouraged to attend the board meetings held on the 3rd Thursday of the month. At each meeting the board is made aware of activities and needs by the presentations of Principal Lori Eshlian and a student representative. Members are:

- Karen Boulter '71, President
- Chris Magdosku '89, 1st Vice President
- Michele Montanez '88, Past President
- Annette Montanez '86, Treasurer
- John Peel '74, Treasurer
- Laurie Welsh Peel '80, Secretary
- Dick Ferguson '54
- Donna Rich Ferguson '56
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- Henri Pellissier '46
- Mike Sands '88
- Joe Vinatieri '70
- Bill Wood '41
- Jan Wood '47
- Janice Lanham Zolnekoff '70

REUNION INFORMATION

Visit the WHS website www.wuhsd.org/whs and to the Alumni Tab for the most up to date info. Or contact Janice Lanham Zolnekoff (class of '70) at the school (562) 698-8121 x2010 or email Janice.zolnekoff@wuhsd.org

1954 – Contact Pat Brown Engelage (562) 698-5649, Pat Rogers Hall (951) 599-4687, or Bonnie Moore Jelinek (714) 447-1140. 60 year reunion planned for Saturday, August 16, 2014 at the Friendly Hills Country Club.

1959 – 55 year reunion is October 3-4, 2014. Contact Richard Grubbs (714) 357-6095 richard92352@gmail.com or Guy Talbot egtalbott@verizon.net or (714) 848-9618. Click on the class website <http://whitterhigh59.com> to see details.

1964 – 50 year reunion will be October 17-19 at the Whittier Radisson Hotel. Contact Mary Melodee Williams Zamudio (949) 322-1954 mczeduc@gmail.com or Nancy Weeks Lewis (847) 372-0417 nancylewis7674@aol.com. Check out their NEW website... <http://www.whittierhsclass1964.com>

1969 – 45th reunion Saturday, September 13, 2014 at Mile Square Banquet Center, 10401 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley. Contact Rita Foiles (562) 692-6037 or Nancy Watson Taylor or “like” us on Facebook, Whittier High School Class of 1969

1984 – 30th reunion will be at the Whittier Radisson Hotel on Saturday, July 26, 2014, 7pm-midnight. Deadline to pay \$65.00 is July 1. Contact Patty Sanchez Thomas (702) 255-6955 pattythomas@cox.net or message her on Facebook.

1994 – Planned for Saturday, August 9, 2014, 7pm - 1am at the Whittier Radisson. Contact Francine Lopez Garcia francinee1@yahoo.com or Laura Camacho lauravcamacho@yahoo.com. (562) 656-9608. Pay via PayPal to whs1994reunion@hotmail.com

2004 – Are you ready for your 10 year high school reunion? Contact Senior Class President Jennifer Alvarez on facebook (jennifer alvarez 716195) or jenniferalvar@gmail.com.

“...and always, always love you, Whittier High”

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Engraving Information - limited to 40 characters

To be engraved on brass plate: _____

Check enclosed in the amount of \$_____ payable to WHSAAEF for _____ seats at \$_____ each.

HALL OF FAME

Over 150 attended the 15th celebration dinner on Sunday, April 27, 2014 at the Whittier Radisson to honor seven Cardinal Alumni and twelve graduating seniors. The evening was a fabulous way to honor and highlight the accomplishments of some talented people who have graced the same hallways as you and I. A gathering of family, friends, classmates, teachers and future alumni we listened to stories on why the roots of Whittier High run so deep and how we have all bloomed. The Hall of Fame inductees have covered the spectrum with their talents, Glenn Allison - Class of 1948, Clark Brundin – Class of 1948, Alfred Gobar – Class of 1949, Carol Tenopir – Class of 1970, Lori Peel Eshilian – Class of 1972, Carol Bennett – Class of 1972, and William House **posthumously** – Class of 1941. All in attendance were inspired by the accomplishments of those named to the Hall of Fame, each achieving world wide recognition for the work they have done since leaving Whittier High. As John Peel reminded the students present, each Hall of Famer was once a student just like themselves – they also have the opportunity to do great things.

The twelve scholarship awardees were also inspiring, each grateful for the Alumni's help and dedicated to continuing their studies. These amazing students: Kimberley Arreola, Adrian Delgado, Carlos Flores, Lydia Gil, Jasmine Hernandez, Samantha Lopez, Matthew Oliver, Aaron Peretz, Daniel Rivera, Ruben Rodriguez, Camilla Salas, and Katherine Winans have excelled in their studies and have aspirations in which we knew we should invest in as they too, one day be inducted into the Hall of Fame. WOW! How amazing would that be?

We also gathered to honor a person who is inspiring our future alumni daily with his dedication and mentoring, business teacher, cross country and track & field Coach **Dan Whittington - Teacher of the Year**.

Special thanks to sponsors whose generosity made the event special and successful:

The Bennett Family, Richard and Billie Deihl, Dick and Donna Ferguson, Alfred Gobar, Candace Walker-Kilinski, Henri & Diane Pellissier, Say Cheese Photography, and Carol Tenopir.

Congratulations to ALL!

"...and always, always love you, Whittier High"

Whittier High School
Alumni Association
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Hall of Fame recipient Lori Eshilian, and grandson, receive congratulations from Karen Boulter, Whittier High Alumni President

Cardinal Chatter Editor
Jan Lopez Wood
janlopezwood@verizon.net

If you would like to submit something for the next issue,
please send it by August 1, 2014

"...and always, always love you, Whittier High"