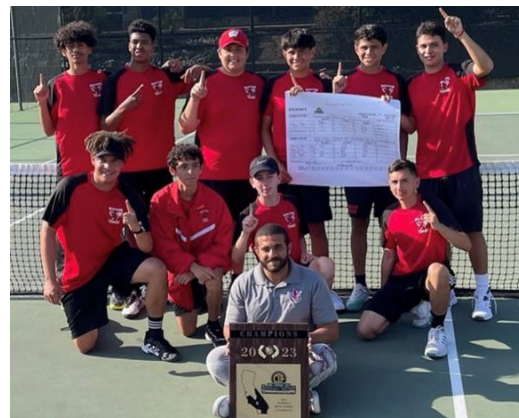


in this issue >>>

- New Slate of Assn Officers
- 2023 Hall of Fame Nominees
- HOF/Scholarship Event Review
- Upcoming Reunions
- All Class Alumni BBQ Date



Newsletter of the Whittier High School Alumni Association and Educational Foundation

Cardinal Chatter

WHSAAEF
PO BOX 65
WHITTIER
90608-0065

current topics >>>

- Boys Tennis Team Tops CIF in May
- New Board Members Carry the Torch
- Ben Chu to BBQ for you in October
- 123rd Cardinal Commencement
- Board President Eshilian bows out
- Hall of Fame Event has best attendance in new Luncheon Format



Hats Off to Outgoing Assn President Lori Eshilian whose leadership brought growth and accountability.

President's Message

Passing the Torch and Keeping True

SUMMER
2023

It is with great pride and appreciation for the entire WHSAAEF Board of Directors that I end my term as President and pass the baton to a new slate of officers: **President - Ellen Durman** ('81), **Chief Financial Officer - Stephanie Gotts** (2017), **Recording Secretary - Susan Astarita** ('72), and **Co-Directors of Marketing and Publicity - Charles Bennett** (2007) & **Sarah Peel** (2006). I will serve in the capacity of **Past President** for the Foundation's Executive Board. Returning Officers who will serve for another year are **Vice President - Stephanie Cuevas** (2008), **Corresponding Secretary / Membership Chair - Janice Zolnekoff** ('70), and **Co-Directors of Banking - Karen Boulter** ('71) & **Ben Meza** ('67).

I had the pleasure of serving with the current Executive Board since January 2021. In the past 2-1/2 years we had many commendable accomplishments. Thanks to our **VP, Stephanie Cuevas**, we hosted the Whittier Community Holiday Sing-A-Long Organ Concert last December, and she brought us several significant community sponsors. A debt of gratitude to our **outgoing CFO, Ellen Durman** ('81), who diligently worked with CPAs to dig us out of tax filing woes bringing us current and reinstated as a non-profit organization - retroactive to 2007, as well as reliably creating monthly financial statements. A report of appreciation to our former **Recording Secretary, Charles Bennett**, who has served in this capacity since July, 2019, never missing a meeting, writing succinct minutes, as well as coordinating our new Social Media presence. A note of gratitude to **Janice Zolnekoff, Corresponding Secretary & Membership Chair**, who has kept clear records of our ever-increasing membership and donations, sending thoughtful thank you letters and email acknowledgements to those who contribute so generously. Thanks to **Karen Boulter** and **Ben Meza**, both past presidents, who reliably take care of all **Banking Responsibilities** making sure incoming checks are picked up & deposited (Karen) and outgoing checks are mailed or delivered (Ben). And sincere thanks to **Rob West** ('78) who stepped into the **Chatter Editor** position producing three years of quarterly newsletters that have been essential to membership renewals and alumni giving.

(Continued on Page 4)

I greatly appreciate these dedicated Cardinals - it has been an honor to serve with you!

...And Always, Always Love You Whittier High!

2023 CARDINAL REUNIONS

- **1953** Contact Dick Fitzgerald 760-240-6720, or Emmy Brodell 760-524-8598, emmy114@verizon.net
- **1963** 60th Reunion **Sat. Oct. 28, 2023** - Contact Buddy Hamilton at ichamilt@umich.edu, 734-645-5881, Wilma Catlett Miller whs63@clearwire.net or John Moseley 714-731-1160 www.whscardinals1963.com
A three-day event: Friday evening no host get together — Saturday morning tour of WHS followed by no host lunch at California Grill — Saturday evening, Oct 28th, sit-down buffet dinner at DoubleTree Hotel 7320 Greenleaf Av — Sunday morning no host brunch at the DoubleTree Bistro.
- **1973** 50th Reunion is **Sat Sept 30** at the DoubleTree Uptown Whittier in the Bistro Room.
Contact Mary Hyatt 949-244-3040, email: mauimary92663@gmail.com
- **1983** 40th Reunion was held **Sat June 10, 2023** at Friendly Hills CC. Contact Ben Maynard 909-268-5135, PL8blocker@aol.com; Leonard Gastelum 562-397-6248, leonardjames2002@yahoo.com; or Joanne Sanchez Gomez 562-298-6450, displaymom@yahoo.com to see what you missed
- **1993** Contact Lin Browning (aka Mindy Wheatley) at 303-210-5249 or linbrowning@gmail.com
- **2003** Contact ASB President Frank Seijas on Facebook, 562-309-1418, frankbryanseijas@gmail.com
- **2013** Contact Ernest Escareno on Facebook or at ernest.michael34@yahoo.com

If you are planning a reunion reach out to the WHS Alumni Association to give you some ideas and to post your event on our website.
If any of the contacts above are incorrect, please let us know. Email whittierhighalumni@gmail.com or call Janice 562-556-4000.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY AT WHITTIERHIGHALUMNI.ORG

SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 15th - 12PM at Whittier High School

Annual All-Class Reunion BBQ Campus Tour & Organ Concert

Don't miss your chance to visit the Whittier High School campus and enjoy the company of fellow alumni at our 2023 Barbecue. Once again, Retired WHS Faculty Member and Hall of Fame Inductee Ben Chu will grill Tri-Tip Beef and join us for a meal in the Cafeteria.*

*Plant based options available

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW AT:

<https://www.whittierhighalumni.org/bbq/>

MEET US ON THE FRONT LAWN

Lunch from 12pm to 1:15pm

WHS Band and Cheer Perform 12-12:20pm

Campus Tours Begin at 1:15pm

Wurlitzer Organ Concert at 2:30pm

ADULTS \$30 – CHILDREN \$15

Come for the Spooky Halloween Concert at 2:30pm in the Vic Lopez Auditorium with David Marsh on Wurlitzer Organ

\$15 for CONCERT ONLY

Use our website, or send your check in the enclosed envelope with a note indicating the numbers in your party and any dietary needs.

Purchase Tickets by OCTOBER 6th



SPONSOR WHS AUDITORIUM SEATS

- PERFECT GRAD GIFT
- HONOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY
- CELEBRATE WITH YOUR CLASS



- Sponsorship levels vary by location
 - Discounts for one-time multiples
 - Brass Plate with 2 Lines, 40 Characters
- SELECT SPONSORSHIP LEVEL AND
MAKE YOUR DONATION AT:
whittierhighalumni.org/donate-form/**



Dining Al Fresco in the Horseshoe – While the Cardinal Brigade prepares to Perform nearby.

Record Attendance at 2023 Hall of Fame Event

The 2023 Hall of Fame and Scholarship Award Event included al fresco dining at the Whittier High horseshoe and an induction/award ceremony in the Vic Lopez auditorium on April 23rd. It was a tremendous success with record attendance (165) of alumni, family, and friends. Highlights include:

Awarding \$44,000 in scholarships to 22 deserving seniors.

Honoring 2023 Hall of Fame inductees: Judge Merton Wray '29, Dr. Judi Henderson '58, educator Robert Henke '70, sound editor Michael McDonough '70, author Christina Marino '72, and magazine editor Paul Pfanner '72

Catering by Lascari's Italian Cuisine (Pasta, Salad & Doughnut Wall), Providence Bakery (Fruit Tarts), Greenleaf Cafe (Taquitos) & Uptown Provisions (Sandwiches).

Entertainment by the Cardinal Brigade Band, who performed classic WHS rally music.

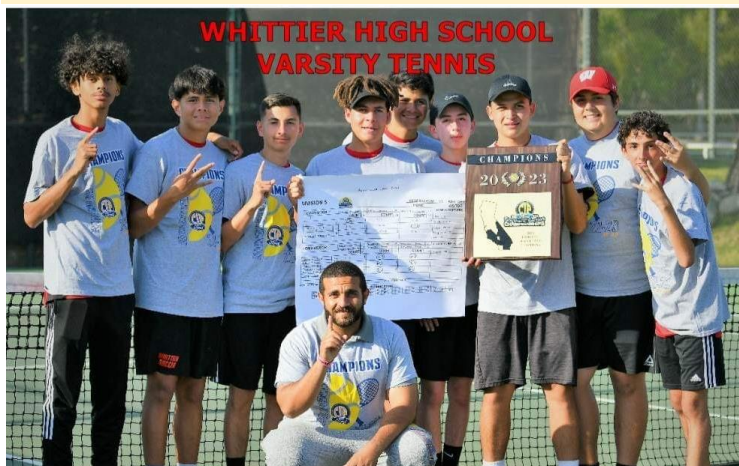
We are excited and proud to announce next year's Hall of Fame Inductees: Architect & Historic Preservationist Ray Girvigian ('43), Award Winning Author John Saul ('59), Environmentalist Teresa Porter Corwin ('70), Educator & Fundraiser Linda Winzenread, Faculty 1975-2005.

Above: Senior Sophia Martinez, winner of the Dr. Ivannia Soto Scholarship, with her mother.

Below (cw from upper left): Nominees 2024 HOF: Corwin, Girvigian, Saul, and Winzenread



CONGRATULATIONS! WHS BOYS TENNIS TEAM CIF SOUTHERN SECTION CHAMPIONS



Well done boys! And hats off to Team Captain and Vic Lopez Scholarship winner Trenton Gunderson (Center, holding poster).

Join us in supporting our Varsity Tennis CIF Championship Team by making a donation towards their CIF Rings. Donations towards rings can be made Online or via Check.

How Many Ways Can You Support Your Alumni Association?
Go to our website to find out – WhittierHighAlumni.Org



Online Options Include:

Annual Membership (\$20)

Monthly Recurring Donation

Special Gift Designation

\$100 Aloha Shirt Membership
<<<< (Sizes L and XL Only)

Auditorium Seat Sponsorship

Event Tickets
(HOF/BBQ/Organ Concerts)

Join These Lifetime Members: Tom August ('45), Brian & Patricia Beck ('61), Cathie (Moon) Brown ('49), Elizabeth (Snyder) Carroll ('48), Gordon Crocker ('50), Stephanie Cuevas ('08), Richard and Billie Deihl ('46), John & Robin Dewitt ('53), Ray & Joan Dezember ('52), George and Patricia Englage ('54), Billy Eordekian ('75), Walter Garrett ('51), Marjorie Johana (Moon) Garrison ('48), Eloise (Martinez) Gonzales ('70), Stuart Gothold ('52), Heidi (Frey) Greenwald ('78), Roderick Hills ('48), Amy (Balthaser) Jenkins ('77), Peter & Louise Kempf ('54), Richard Lantz ('48), John Law DDS ('70), Alan & Sylvia Lippincott ('79), Collette Marcellin ('77), Frank McKenna ('73), Dr. Joan Meister ('60), Jerome Montgomery ('52), Yoshio Nakamura (Faculty), Dr. Daniel Orr II ('68), Louise (Johnson) Pascale ('60), John and Laurie (Welsh) Peel ('74 & '80), William Prentiss ('72), John L Richardson ('52), Doreen (Albee Riddle) Riordan ('46), Dr. Francine Rippey ('56), Judge Carlos Rodriguez ('55), Joyce (Wall) Schilling ('56), Tom Seminoff ('51), Charlene (Peake) Sims ('61), Dr. Ivannia Soto Hinman ('94), Sandy (Sanchez) Thorstenson ('73), Richard Welsh ('74), Bill Welsh ('70), Jan (Slater) Lopez Wood ('47)



WHITTIER HIGH SCHOOL
Alumni Association &
Educational Foundation

PO Box 65
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90608-0065

President's Message (continued from front)

We have also had a wonderfully hardworking support team of **eight** additional **WHSAAEF Board members** who have served on committees to plan the All Class BBQ & Hall of Fame; who helped give tours to alumni; who helped with technical aspects of our Virtual Hall of Fame Production & Power Point presentations; who have helped to write or edit forms, letters, and Bylaws that serve to improve our Foundation's work; who have donated bookcases and others who transported and installed them in our WHS Alumni Office; who designed our WHS Aloha shirt for our 2022-23 membership campaign; who is working to create "tiles" to represent the yearbooks of each class since 1970, and even one who served as Santa Claus at our Holiday Sing-a-long - Huge Thanks to **Susan Astarita** ('72), **Randy Clark** ('78), **Mark Gotts** ('75), **Stephanie Gotts** (2017), **Deb Malchow McCarty** ('71), **Dan Orr** ('68), **Sarah Peel** (2006), and **Jonathan Tupanjanin** (2010). The WHS Alumni Association Educational Foundation could not have accomplished as much as we did without each of you!!

From January 2021 - June 2023 the Alumni Educational Foundation has awarded 75 Scholarships to well deserving WHS Seniors equaling \$124,500. We inducted 19 amazing alumni into the Hall of Fame and contributed an additional \$27,300 to WHS programs, athletics, Theatre, Band, and clubs. **We are proud Cardinals!** I look forward to our future as a successful non-profit foundation that will continue to serve students & programs at WHS.

You, too, can serve on our Board - We meet at 5:00pm via Zoom the 3rd Thursday of every month. Please contact us on our website at whittierhighalumni.org to let us know you would like to join!

"Once a Cardinal, always a Cardinal" – Lori Eshilian ('72)

Principal Liggett's Update

On June 6, 2023, Whittier High School proudly celebrated the graduation of the Class of 2023. They were an exceptional senior class who showed great resiliency throughout their four years of high school. With the pandemic hitting during March of their freshmen year, only their senior year was a "normal" year of high school. Despite the challenges, 17% of the seniors graduated Cum Laude or higher meaning that they had at least a 3.9 cumulative GPA over their four years of high school. While we don't have an official number yet, we are anticipating that the graduation rate of this senior class will be very high as they did a remarkable job of finishing the school year strong.

One of the highlights of this school year was our Boys Tennis Team who won the CIF Southern Section Division 5 Championship in May. They had a thrilling playoff run that saw them dominate the first three rounds before being tested in the semifinals. In the finals, they defeated Segerstrom High School from Santa Ana in a match that ended up tied 9-9 in sets but we had the advantage in total games won during the match (83-69) which gave us the victory. This was Whittier High's first CIF title in any sport in over fifteen years and the first CIF tennis championship in the 123-year history of the school. The jubilation in those boys' faces as they realized they had won is something that I will take with me for the rest of my career.

As always, the support of the WHS Alumni Association continues to be one of the real strengths of this school community. As principal, it is my great pleasure to uphold the legacy of excellence that all of you have played a role in building.

"Thank you so much for everything you do for our students."

WHS Principal – Timothy Liggett