

FALL/WINTER 2017
WCS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER
www.willsboroalumni.org

The mission of the Willsboro Alumni Association is to create, maintain, enhance and promote Willsboro Central School and its students; and to unite, inform and involve alumni and friends in fellowship and support of education.

The Willsboro Alumni Association recognizes ALL who have, at any time, attended Willsboro Central School or its District Schools and anyone who has been a teacher at WCS, as a member of the Willsboro Alumni Association.

2017-2018

WAA OFFICERS

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The Prez Sez...

I am now acting (up) as President for a third year in a row! According to our Bylaws, President is 1-term only. Our founding mothers thought it appropriate the WAA not become a dictatorship! Would somebody please relieve me and put the Board, and the attendees at our annual banquet out of their misery?! To comply with the Bylaws I am officially the Immediate Past President, but, until someone steps up to take the fun away from me, you're stuck with me. I will continue to insult people until I get fired (that is Plan B).

Now seriously, I want to brag how the First Annual Ralph Marcotte Memorial Basketball Tournament is going to happen on March 3, 2018. The initial tourney will be open to alumni only (Yes, as in the case of WAA membership, alumni are defined as anyone who had anything to do with Willsboro Central. You didn't have to graduate to be one of us. YOU ARE ONE OF US...repetition is the mother of memory). So check the website and/or Facebook page for details and sign up. There are age-graded brackets and we'll have both men and women divisions. It will be 3 on 3 half court so lots of old, fat people can play. You just post up and stay in the same spot next to the basket for both offense and defense (at least that's what Dick Blanchard '56 from Reber said). This is going to be phenomenal.

More details coming soon on the WAA Website: www.willsboroalumni.org or our Facebook Page: WillsboroAlumniAssociation or the Facebook Group: Willsboro Alumni Friends.

PAGE 2...The Prez...Continued

More seriously, thank you to our recently retired (or fired) Board members, Jane Provost Lobdell '57, Gary Ferris '64, Hilda Turner Ferris '64 and Bill Dickerson '65. Jane L served the WAA forever, and Gary (past president) and Hilda were best known for the excellent Newsletters. (Please don't compare this attempt of a Newsletter to theirs!). Bill, in his few short years with the Board, is responsible for the myriad of changes you've recently seen in the organization (for people from Reber, myriad is a 50 cent word meaning "lots and lots").

Also thanks to a newer Board member Lorilee Morse Sheehan '81 who, besides being a mover and shaker, is an amazing Board member recruiter. She is responsible for our new Vice President Sue Collins Thompson '84 and Treasurer Valerie Wells Daniels '83. The Board is also bolstered by the likes of Jennifer Sayward Leibeck '94 and Krissy Gay Leerkes '99 who we've tried to sneakily absorb into our operations by collaborating with them (from the Youth Commission and Booster Club) on Skating Parties and Ralph's tournament (don't tell them).

The new ideas and attitudes brought by the newer members of the Board is refreshing and will ensure our organization evolves and will keep pace with younger alumni. Don't worry all of our staunch traditional supporters, this organization would not exist without you and we aren't forgetting you. The Board still has perennial watchdogs, Ada Sharrow Hutchins '59 and Shirley Strong Ferris '56 and Janice Calkins Allen 1887, and Dick Blanchard '57 to keep us on the straight and narrow. And we are very lucky to have sweet, smiley Kyli Swires 2013 as our Secretary! We're in good hands! That leaves Larry Allen '79, Jane Feltt Reynolds '65 and myself as kind've a bridge between the old guard and the new. Stuck in the sandwich generation position again! When will it ever stop!

We all owe Jane a big thanks for the yeoman work she does on our Facebook presence and Web page. Please remember the Facebook page is yours. Use it. Use it irresponsibly. I try to, but Jane edits me.

Enough from me!!!!

Have a great holiday season everyone, and Merry Christmas!
Doug

The Banquet Committee Sez....

"Great!" "Best Ever!" "Super!" These seemed to be the reactions to the 2017 Annual Willsboro Alumni Banquet, "The Summer of Love," featuring the Class of '67 and celebrating the Classes of 1937-2017! Nearly 200 persons, including Alumni, their guests and friends of the WAA, enjoyed the July 1, 2017, event held at the Harmony Golf Club in Port Kent, NY.

The change in venue was a great complement to our other changes at this year's Banquet. The Photo Booth was a fun way to have your picture taken by our Photographer, Richard Whitcomb. Many Alumni had the privilege of having their caricature drawn by our resident artist, Alumni Joe Ferris '07.

Of course, we also enjoyed the "regular" happenings of past Banquets:

Doug Ferris, President, entertained us with his wit! And wisdom???

The "Brick," was awarded to 100 year old Kathryn Curren Giancola (Class of 1936), the oldest living WCS graduate. The Brick will be engraved with her name and placed on the Wall behind the Willsborough Visitor Center.

The music by the Library Jam Band was amazing, like always, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. How lucky we are to have the support of these local musicians, several who are WCS Alumni!

The Speaker for the Banquet was John Dougan '67. With his wonderful slide show, John took us back in time and reminded us of teachers, friends and places we had not thought of for a long time! He shared with us his life experiences, including his amazing artistic talent. (Thank you, John, for the donation of your artwork for our Raffle.)

The 50/50 Raffle, managed by Board member, Dick Blanchard, continued to be a highlight. This year the Raffle was expanded to include "Theme Baskets," donated by Alumni and others and raffled off to the lucky winners. The 50/50 was won by Edrie Wisley Dickerson '49.

Thanks to all who attended the Banquet! It was a great success because of YOU!

The 2018 Alumni Banquet will again be held at Harmony Golf Club on June 30. More info will be available soon on our Website: www.willsboroalumni.org and our Facebook Group: Willsboro Alumni Friends and Facebook Page: WillsboroAlumniAssociation

Mr. Broadwell Sez....

The Fall Semester of the 2017-18 school year has been a great one! This year our enrollment is 270 students in PK-12 grade. While our graduating class of 12 students is a small one, they are wonderful young men and women that will make Willsboro proud upon their graduation. We average approximately 19 students in all our other grade levels.

Willsboro Central School continues to provide outstanding learning experiences for our students both in and out of the classroom. In September, our high school student body heard presentations on the Opioid Crisis from the Essex County Health Department, internet safety from the NYS Police as well as diversity education from Plattsburgh State professor, Dr. J.W. Wiley. Also, all of our students in grades 6-11 visited a local college campus as part of our college awareness program.

Mr. Broadwell continued....

Our boys and girls soccer programs continue to play well and this year our boys soccer team played in the sectional finals against the eventual state champions.

If you attended the school play of "Shrek," you were entertained by our student actors and actresses. We have very talented performers who dedicate a great deal of time and effort into learning stage presence. Also, taking the spotlight on stage, are our talented singers and in fact, our chorus performed on the stage of SUNY Plattsburgh in conjunction with a community event.

We are updating our building and very soon our campus will be equipped with wifi throughout. We will also be upgrading our camera and security systems as part of the Smart School Bond grant from New York State.

We anticipate engaging in upgrading our building via an energy performance contract in which we will be installing energy saving lighting, an energy efficient boiler and closing more of the building envelope, all geared toward efficiency. We continue to work with the Town of Willsboro on a shared service garage facility in which the school and town would share space and replace our current buildings that are rapidly deteriorating.

We are looking forward to the second half of the school year!

Stephen Broadwell
Superintendent of Schools
WCS

The WAA Committee Sez.....

The WAA is sending out information via the post office to ONLY those alumni who requested that we do so. ALL other information, including the Newsletter, can be found on our website. www.willsboroalumni.org

PLEASE keep your contact information updated. If you change your email or your postal address, notify your Class Contact Person or email Jane Reynolds. jreynolds392@comcast.net or send changes to 115 Kylie's Way, Colchester, VT 05446

We look forward to a great year ahead! Check out our website and Facebook Pages for info about the Skating and Sledding Event, the 9-Pin Bowling Fun, the Annual Alumni Banquet and of course, The Ralph Marcotte Basketball Tournament.

