

**Spring 2017**  
**([www.willsboroalumni.org](http://www.willsboroalumni.org))**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

**2016 – 2017 Willsboro Alumni Association**

**Officers**

**President** Douglas Ferris, [dferris@zebratechllc.com](mailto:dferris@zebratechllc.com) 518-572-3036  
322 Fish & Game Drive Willsboro, NY 12996

**“Vice President”** “Vacant” (**NEED A VOLUNTEER**)

**“Acting Treasurer”** Douglas Ferris (**NEED A VOLUNTEER**)

**Secretary** Kyli Swires, [kyliswires1994@gmail.com](mailto:kyliswires1994@gmail.com) 518-963-0659

**Board of Directors**

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**Committees**

<b>Historian and Memorial</b>	Janice Calkins Allen
<b>Website Manager</b>	Jane Feltt Reynolds
<b>Banquet</b>	Bill Dickerson / Larry Allen / Dick Blanchard
<b>Fundraising</b>	Larry Allen / Janice Allen / Douglas Ferris
<b>Finance</b>	Douglas Ferris / Shirley Strong Ferris
<b>Newsletter</b>	Gary Ferris / Hilda Ferris
<b>Special Projects</b>	Ada Sharrow Hutchins

## 2017 Willsboro Alumni Banquet

### “1967-The Summer of Love

#### **Celebrating the WCS Classes 1937-2017**

The Willsboro Alumni Association ANNUAL BANQUET has a NEW DATE and PLACE!

**DATE:** Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017  
**TIME:** 3:00PM – 7:00PM  
**LOCATION:** The Harmony Golf Course  
95 North Street  
Port Kent, NY

3pm: Sign-in

3pm- 5pm Social Hours

5pm- 5:30pm Ringing of the Bell & Welcome

5:30pm: Dinner served

6:15pm Short Business Meeting &  
Acknowledgement of

Class Reunion Groups

6:30pm Guest Speaker - John Dougan  
Class ('67) – [www.jidougan.com](http://www.jidougan.com)

During Social Hours, from 3:00pm – 5:00pm:

- Hors D'oeuvres will be served and a Cash Bar, offering reasonably priced beverages, will be available.
- Enjoy reminiscing with Alumni, some of who you may not have seen for 50 years!
- Have your photo taken at the WAA Photo Booth.
- Check out the video of Yearbook photos from years gone by!
- Enjoy live music by the Jam Band and Joe Ferris.
- Participate in the WAA Putting Contest.
- Caricatures by Joe Ferris

**SEE RESERVATION & SIGN-UP FORM (ATTACHED)! (Last Page)**

**OR**

Go to [willsboroalumni.org](http://willsboroalumni.org) - Buy Ticket and pay for Banquet with Paypal, Credit Card or send a Check.

### The Prez Sez

What a year it was! Your alumni board continues to do a fantastic job! To wit:

- Resumed annual skating party and added sliding!
- Website upgraded and Facebook page cranking
- Had our first and now or second bowling tournament
- Experimenting with new date and location for annual banquet and adding putting contest, cartooning and photo booth along with live entertainment for the “Summer of Love” graduates (1967)
- Continued financially supporting events/programs at WCS
- Working with Booster Club to introduce the Ralph Marcotte Memorial Alumni Basketball Tournament next year
- Adopted 3.1 miles of highway on Willsboro Mountain for annual cleanup

## The Prez. Sez (cont.)

All this didn't happen without volunteers' time, and in some cases, money. We no longer have dues so please donate what you can, but more importantly, if you can donate time and expertise to help us, **WE WANT YOU!** You don't have to live locally to help. We routinely Skype as many as 4 people into our meetings to get things done. We have openings for President, Vice President and Treasurer. Please contact us through the website ([www.willsboroalumni.org](http://www.willsboroalumni.org)), on facebook, or call me at (518)572-3036 how to get involved. Give us your email information so we can keep you posted on activities, or register for the 9-Pin Tournament. At least, I look forward to seeing you on July 1 at the Banquet. Here's to another great year!

## Guest Speaker John J. Dougan '67

John Dougan, a '67 graduate of Willsboro Central School, began enjoying a new career as a full-time watercolorist after retiring in 2015 from 24 years as a Risk Control Specialist with Adventist Risk Management, Inc., where he specialized in facility and operations safety around the world, particularly with higher education and hospitals. He holds a degree in Manufacturing Processes and attained both the Associates in Risk Management and Associates in Loss Control Management designations.

His professions were as varied as the locations where he lived and traveled, and included (not in any particular order) one season employed at Hurricane Island Outward Bound School following graduation, and four years as a Naval Aviation Mechanic, with deployment to the Tonkin Gulf during the Vietnam War. He was a mechanic for Chevrolet and contract employee working on aircraft and drones on a Navy base in the high desert of California, before serving as plant engineer and safety director for the Thunderbird furniture in Scottsdale, Arizona.

During a brief year and a half as Associate Director with the District of Columbia Office of Risk Management in Washington D.C., he was responsible for risk control and OSHA for D.C. employees. (He says 18 months of D.C. politics was more than enough.)

When asked if he is missing his former life, he's apt to laugh (something he does a lot). "There are many adventures still waiting out there, but now the how, when and where are choices for my wife and me to make. I like it that way. Toss in a camera, sunscreen and some painting supplies and things get even better."

## WAA News

### Annual Skating Party

- On Saturday February 18, we had a resumption of the former Annual Winter Skating Party at the Lee Arena in Foley Park was a smashing success this year as for the first time ever sliding was combined with skating. More than 50 people, from toddlers to seniors attended. Over 100 cups of hot chocolate, 30 hot dogs (unfortunately, some were charcoal dogs – give a hand to Cody Ahrent '19 for eating a whole charcoal dog, he said, "Ketchup makes anything edible"), and a dozen cookies were served. Over 200 trips down the sliding hill were performed along with more than 2 hours of action on the ice.

## **WAA NEWS (cont.)**

This event was made possible by a joint effort from your (WAA) and the Willsboro Youth Commission (WYC).

- Thanks to WYC members Jennifer (Sayward) Liebeck '92, Nancy (Blanchard) Arthur '77, Karen Arnold, Krissy Gay and Jhami Santillo for supervision and hot chocolate.
- The WAA provided hot chocolate, hot dog buns, condiments, and Hebrew National hotdogs that could be consumed by Christians, Jews and Muslims alike (yes, we had one Muslim boy from Senegal! His first ever hot dog! He came back for seconds).
- Mary White-Ferris '77 and Nellie's Bakery for insulated cups/lids, cookies and garbage cans.
- Drew Reithel '80 for donating an insulated container for hot chocolate from the Sportsman's Dinette
- Roger Ferris '56 for his signature Tiki Torches that circumscribed the Lee Arena to give a festive atmosphere and additional lighting.
- Zebra-Tech, LLC for providing garbage bags & silverware.
- The town of Willsboro DPW for providing portable lights, set up by the WYC, that illuminated the sliding hill.
- Peter Jacques '71 for cleanup

A good time was had by all. Weather being almost perfect, the night magical. Surely for some of the younger people it will be one of their lasting childhood memories.

## **Willsboro American Legion Post 405**

On Saturday March 19 WAA Alumni members participated in the William Nolan Post 405's 9 Pin Bowling Tournament held at the Willsborough Bowling Center. Net proceeds provide support in the following areas:

- Sending care packages to our locally deployed service members
- Help local Veterans
- Provide uniforms for our color guard
- Replace worn flags and other expenses that allow Post 405 to represent all veterans during parades and ceremonies

## **Polar Plunge**

The WAA was happy to support our local 4H with a donation to the Polar Plunge project. This event was able to raise a total of \$1090 to support the Special Olympic Athletes of Clinton and Essex Counties. We have now helped create a new generation of new Penguins.

## **WAA 9 Pin Bowling Tournament**

The WAA will host its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 9 Pin Tournament at the Willsborough Bowling Center, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Last year's tourney had a good turnout and we're anticipating an even better participation this year.

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

### **WHAT DOES WAA DO WITH OUR MONEY?**

Since we have expanded our open membership policy and no longer have dues, donations are our primary source of funding.

## FAQs (con.t)

The funds you provide are used to complete this organization's mission of being a clearinghouse/network of information and contacts for the Alumni of WCS and a source of funding to enhance the education and experience of current students at WCS. Examples of where your money has gone and will go are:

- Skating parties for the kids who don't get to leave the area during winter break
- Sliding parties for those same kids
- Anchor sponsor of the Pizza Bucks reading Program targeting children and rewarding them for reading
- 4-H and the Polar Plunge to raise money for the Special Olympics (in which many Willsboro CV-Tech residents participate) Various WCS organizations and trips, i.e., Drama Club, Booster Club, etc.
- Underwriting annual meeting/banquet, i.e., in case of poor turnout or cancellation
- Occasional capital projects at WCS.
- Entertainment fees for Annual meeting/banquet, i.e.
- Expenses for annual banquet place settings, decorations, etc. (we reuse and recycle so it's not an annual expense)
- Expenses for awards or plaques honoring or commemorating past/present Alumni such as :
  - The Wall of Distinction located at WCS
  - Memorial / Honor Wall located at the Willsboro Welcome Center (Provide inscribed brick with name of individual voted upon by WAA Board).
  - Memorial Garden Name Markers – Located at WCS for students who passed away during their active years of attendance at WCS.
- Internet and legal fees

The Board and its committees are all volunteers, using their own time and money to make things for the Alumni Community. We are always looking for more ideas and good causes, so if you would like to advise or participate, please contact our website [www.willsboroalumni.org](http://www.willsboroalumni.org) or our Facebook page or call Doug @ 518-572-3036.

**“Why does the Annual Meeting/Banquet Meal cost \$30.00? It's not worth \$30.00!”**

Money is important, especially to an aging Baby Boomer population with increasingly fixed (and shrinking) incomes, and yes you could stretch \$30.00 further at other restaurants, or really stretch it at home, but the \$30.00 is for more than just a meal. The per meal fee helps cover expenses associated with the meal such as:

- Invitation & mailings
- Name badges
- Place settings
- Awards or Plaques for honored guests
- Entertainment and props, e.i. Photo Booth, Caricaturist, music, etc.
- Meals for honored guests and Guest Speaker plus 1

The \$30.00 is for more than the meal, it's for the experience. The Board and the Banquet Committee are volunteers who spend their own time and money to make the annual banquet a success. The annual event has grown to the point where some classes utilize it as an opportunity to have their own class reunion anchored around it.

## FAQ's (Cont.)

This year we are moving to a new date and location. We have moved the event to the weekend AFTER WCS graduation, and having it at Harmony Golf Club in Port Kent.

We are expanding the event to take advantage of the new amenities and going to have a Chip'n Putt contest before dinner. We hope you see the value in the days' experience and look forward to seeing you there, Thank You.

## SPREAD THE WORD!

Just a reminder to everyone, (PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD) Last year the WAA redefined membership as being basically, ANYONE WHO HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH WILLSBORO CENTRAL SCHOOL! Faculty, volunteer, student who only went there one day or even if you brought your cousin, Wilbur, from Canada in for "Show and Tell", HE'S A MEMBER! (I remember Wilbur!) These people are all part of the fabric of who we are.

You are all welcome members of the WAA. We are no longer a dues-paying organization, we will be driven by donations or fund/friendraisers. Graduation is not required. If you ever attended WCS, you are a member! But, we need your contact info. Please go to [www.willsboroalumni.org](http://www.willsboroalumni.org) and click on "Sign Up". If you do not have a computer, please mail your contact information to Jane Feltt Reynolds. By using the Alumni website you can search for old friends through our growing network of alumni, rekindle old friendships, get help with renting camps, relocating to other parts of the country, look for work or find mentors in your career path.

We have 1000 alumni still kicking around out there that have made a dent in the world. What a resource! Stay tuned to the website, as it changes with times! Also, look for occasional e-mails from us announcing upcoming events, news and other important things we think you should know about. Also check us out on Facebook: Willsboro Alumni Association. Go to our page and "Like" us. Also check out the Facebook Group: Willsboro Alumni Friends. And, look for the biannual newsletter! If you signed up on the Website or returned your postcard, Spring and Fall issues will be coming your way, either by email or our website or by the US Postal Service. Sign up today! We've got a big year ahead of us as we'll have our second annual bowling tournament, our first Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup Day, a chili cook off in the fall, and of course, our annual meeting/Banquet the weekend after graduation at a new venue, The Harmony Golf Club in Port Kent.

Join us for live entertainment, Photo Booth, Caricaturist, Chip'n Putt contest, and more on July 1, 2017 at the Harmony Golf Club. Thank you for joining us at [www.willsboroalumni.org](http://www.willsboroalumni.org). Use this site for any questions or call Doug Ferris directly, at 518-572-3036.

Thanks again

## News from the Sports Desk

It's that time again. We are putting away sneakers and basketballs and bringing out gloves and baseballs. Both of the Varsity Basketball teams had really great years. The boys won the MVAC division again this year and went on to the sectionals. They finished the sectionals in second place. The girls finished in second place and went to the sectionals.

Thanks to the super talent of the players and great coaching by Jim Springs, class of '88 and Charlene Palmer Lobdell, class of '79. The modified teams are showing great promise and ready to join the varsity teams next year. Both varsity teams have five graduating seniors.

## News from The Sports Desk (cont)

The boys are Cody Divalereo, Jesse Hearn, Matt and Max Longware, and Nate Yeager. The girls are Trina Bigelow, Alex Bliss, Payton Gough, Katlin Shaw and Darrian Sweatt. All of the players will be greatly missed next year, but there are some talented players for next year left to continue and “carry the ball for us”.

The Willsboro Rifle Club is new this year. They have been very successful and are coached by John Oliver, class of '81. They sent three members to the State Tournament at West Point. The students attending were Savannah Bronson, Darrian Sweatt and Nate Yeager.

Now it's the baseball – softball season. The varsity softball returning coach is David Lee, class of '79. The modified softball returning coach is Charlene Palmer Lobdell, class of '79. We are hopeful we will have a varsity baseball team this year. The modified team will be coached again by Terry Cross, class of '81.

Please show your support and come to the games. The players appreciate your enthusiasm. Game schedules can be picked up at the school or viewed on the school website.

**[www.willsborocentralschool.com](http://www.willsborocentralschool.com)** Your reporter, Jane Lobdell

## News from Willsboro Central School Steven Broadwell – Superintendent

### Highlights from WCS

#### Regional Spelling Bee

Willsboro's Mallory Arnold was the overall first runner up and the sixth grade champion of the 2017 Regional Spelling Bee contest this year. Congratulations to Mallory for a great job!

#### Rifle Team

This year WCS instituted an air rifle team during the winter season. Several of our students competed during the regular season matches against other teams from around the state. We are very thankful to the Willsboro Fish & Game Club for the use of their facility. Three of our shooters competed at the Statewide Championships at West Point in March. We are looking forward to this program continuing to grow with more students participating in our newest sport.

#### Community Mentors

Our juniors and seniors continue to receive guidance and advice from community mentors. We have a great cadre of adult community mentors that are willing to meet with our students on a monthly basis to help provide insight and direction as they plan for life after high school. The students said the mentors helped them improve their listening skills and have helped them voice their own opinions.

#### Community Mentors (cont.)

The mentoring program is in conjunction with the district's College For Every Student program which is a nationally recognized organization located in Essex, N.Y.

#### Wall of Distinction

The school district continues to solicit recommendations for consideration of nominees for our Wall of Distinction. The application can be found on the district's website at **[www.willsborocsd.org](http://www.willsborocsd.org)** Please send in potential candidates for the committee to consider.

#### Drama Students Attend Hamilton in NYC

Thanks to the work of Derrick Hopkins (5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and drama director) several of our drama students will be travelling to NYC in March to see the play Hamilton. Our students will also attend acting and drama classes as part of the weekend events. This will be a wonderful experience for our students to see and learn more about professional acting. Trip feedback will be included in the Fall Newsletter.

### 70 Plus Graduation Anniversaries

The WAA Board would like to congratulate those individuals with 70 plus years. We try our best to maintain up to date information on those with 70 plus years.

We apologize for anyone we may have missed on this list. We ask for “everyone’s input” to assure our records in this area are as accurate as can be. Thank you.

<u>Name</u>	<u># Years</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u># Years</u>
Donna Baber Albert	70	Mary Provost Rivers	70
Dorothy Jacques Bridge	70	Robert Shambo	70
Bruce Hoskins	70	Janet Mason VanOrnum	70
Geraldine Wade Rathbun	70		

### 70 Plus Graduation Years (cont.)

<u>Name</u>	<u># Years</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u># Years</u>
Lucille Wrisley Little	71	Richard Connor	74
Dottie Patterson Dodd	71	Shirley Stanley Cross	74
Theresa Cushing	72	Marion Soper Rhude	75
Fred VanOrnum	72	Florence Richard Hathaway	76
Gladys Sayward Cushing	73	Thelma Coonrod Doty	77
Marjorie Patterson Forrence	73	Lucille Wade Feltt	79
Peter Young	73	Flora French McLean	79
		Joe Bruno	80

### PLEASE KEEP YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CURRENT

Thank you to all who have responded to the request for updated contact information, either by returning the post card or by emailing Jane Feltt Reynolds. Please keep her updated if your information changes. [jreynolds392@comcast.net](mailto:jreynolds392@comcast.net) or 115 Kylies Way, Colchester, VT 05446

The WAA Board is “Looking forward to seeing you” at this year’s Banquet on July 1<sup>st</sup> at Harmony Golf Club in Port Kent, NY. This is a great opportunity to reunite with friends and classmates.

Do it today! Mail your Banquet Registration Form or Buy your ticket at  
[www.willsboroalumni.org](http://www.willsboroalumni.org)

As always we thank you for your continual support which enables this organization to continually serve Willsboro Central and the Willsboro community.

Respectively: WAA Board Members

**Banquet Registration Form**