

**Fall 2016**  
**WCS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER**  
([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; and to unite, inform and involve alumni and friends in fellowship and support of education.

**2016-2017 Willsboro Alumni Association**

**Officers**

President. Douglas Ferris, '76 [dferris@zebratechllc.com](mailto:dferris@zebratechllc.com) 518-572-3036  
322 Fish & Game Drive, Willsboro, NY 12996

Vice President. (Vacant)

Treasurer. Jane (Provost) Lobdell, '59 [grama.jane@hotmail.com](mailto:grama.jane@hotmail.com) 518-963-4047

Secretary. Kyli Swires, '94 [kyliswires1994@gmail.com](mailto:kyliswires1994@gmail.com)

**Board of Directors**

Gary Ferris, '64 [ghf66@comcast.net](mailto:ghf66@comcast.net) (Immediate Past President) 802-879-0396

Janice (Calkins) Allen '51 [allens@willex.com](mailto:allens@willex.com) 518-963-8912

Larry, Allen '79 [willsboro@willex.com](mailto:willsboro@willex.com) 518-963-8912

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Hilda (Turner Ferris) '64 [ghf66@comcast.net](mailto:ghf66@comcast.net) 802-879-0396

Shirley (Strong Ferris) '56 [phillipss1016@hotmail.com](mailto:phillipss1016@hotmail.com) 518-963-1016

Jane (Feltt) Reynolds '65 [jreynolds392@comcast.net](mailto:jreynolds392@comcast.net)

Lorilee (Morris) Sheehan '81 [lorileesheehan@aol.com](mailto:lorileesheehan@aol.com)

**Committees**

Historian and Memorial  
Coordinator Janice (Calkins) Allen

Banquet Bill Dickerson  
Larry Allen  
Dick Blanchard  
Jane (Provost) Lobdell

Website Maintenance Jane (Feltt) Reynolds  
Ashley (Ryan) Blanchard

## Committees (cont.)

Fund Raising	Larry Allen Janice (Calkins) Allen
501c3	Douglas Ferris Shirley (Strong) Ferris Jane (Provost) Lobdell
Finance	Jane (Provost) Lobdell Shirley (Strong) Ferris
Newsletter	Gary Ferris Hilda(Turner)Ferris
Special Projects	Ada (Sharrow) Hutchins '59 Darcy (Lobdell) Ziemer '81
Data Base	Jane (Feltt) Reynolds

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

### ALERT!!!

#### IF YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER IN YOUR MAILBOX:

In order to continue receiving the Newsletter and other info via the Post Office (instead of email) you **"MUST"** fill out and return the enclosed postcard. If you have **"NO EMAIL"** and **"YOU DO NOT RETURN THE POSTCARD, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THE NEXT NEWSLETTER."**

If you have an email address, please update it, if necessary, either by returning the postcard or by emailing Jane - [jreynolds392@comcast.net](mailto:jreynolds392@comcast.net) Thank, You!!

### Prez. Sez

Welcome to our fall 2016 edition of the WAA newsletter. Below I re-emphasize a few of the important changes we have made in the past year, and draw special attention to some of our diehard alumni.

We continue marching toward becoming an Internet based organization and Jane Feltt Reynolds '65 continues to do an outstanding job as our first ever Internet Czar. She is The Man (Yes!) when it comes to managing our Facebook Page and launching our new website. Please check it out.

## Prez. Sez (cont)

The internet provides infinite possibilities for each of us to learn about our fellow alumni and connect with the very people that were so important in making us who we are.

Since doing away with dues last year and becoming a donations-based organization, we have raised more money than ever. This year, we will be giving our largest donation ever to the school for programs for kids. Programs like Pizza Bucks, that give children incentives to read...the foundation of all learning and their futures. New Board-School Liaison Lorilee (Morse) Sheehan '81 is being instrumental in finding the best way to share your generosity with the children at WCS.

A key component of the surge in donations has come from people who are, now that we redefined what it means to be a Willsboro Alumnus (graduation not required, just any attendance at WCS), our newly minted Alumni who didn't graduate with us but nonetheless were our friends and one of us! Thank you all for giving to the future alumni of WCS and joining the party again.

We have opportunities for new board members. After serving for a number of years Joan (Cross) Aubin and Ada(Sharrow)Hutchins have stepped back. Joan always brought a touch of class to every meeting, and Ada, well she has been stewarding the original Alumni database created by the late Betty (Rodenhiser) Lawrence. Ada was always behind the scenes working like a dog and making things happen.

She has said she will continue to work behind the scenes, just not like a dog. Bill Dickerson had to step down as Vice President. He is staying on as a committee member, but will not become President in 2017. Is there anyone out there would like to come in and kick butts as the next President? Come on! It's a lot of fun.

And of course, we need to thank the lady who has been holding the fort for so long, Jane (Provost) Lobdell '59, continues to put in an incredible amount of time keeping us on the right track and functioning as we go through these growing pains derived from the transition to the Internet, increased donations, and increased membership. She and I will be working to receive 501(c)(3) tax status for the organization.

So, anyone interested in joining the fun? The more the merrier. Contact me if you have an idea or a complaint (call me out on some of my fibs). Remember, you don't have to live locally to be a board member, members have skyped into our meeting from Arizona, California, Hawaii and Vermont. Keep in touch, and spread the word! Willonites Unite!

Douglas R. Ferris, P.E.  
President

Website: [www.willsboroalumni.org](http://www.willsboroalumni.org)

The WAA Officers, Board and Committee members are very excited to be launching our updated website, [www.willsboroalumni.org](http://www.willsboroalumni.org)

The website will allow Alumni to stay connected, share ideas, share photos, sign up for the Banquet and other events and to make a Donation.

Because the internet offers so many advantages, we want to be able to contact and send the Newsletter to as many Alumni as possible using email. This will also enable more of your donations to be spent on programs for the students at WCS.

For those Alumni who DO NOT have internet access or an email address, we will continue to correspond with you via the post office!

### Changes are happening in the Willsboro Alumni Association

Our updated website is up and running! [www.willsboroalumni.org](http://www.willsboroalumni.org)

- 1) Want to know who graduated in 1958? 2006?  
Click on "CLASS ROSTERS"
- 2) Do you want to help plan your next Class Reunion?  
Click on "CLASS CONTACTS"
- 3) Do you want to volunteer to be a WAA officer, on the Board, or on one of the committees?  
Click on "Officers" and send an email to Doug Ferris, President.
- 4) Do you have any new ideas, suggestions or complaints?  
Click on "CONTACT" and let us know what's on your mind.
- 5) Haven't shared your contact info with the WAA?  
Click on "JOIN" and fill in the form.
- 6) Do you want to "Donate" to the WAA?  
Click on "DONATE" and send your donation via PayPal, credit card or send a check to the WAA postal address.
- 7) Do you want to sign up and pay for the Banquet?  
Watch for the Banquet sign up info!
- 8) Don't have a computer or email address? PLEASE contact US via USPS at:  
Willsboro Alumni Association  
Jane Reynolds  
115 Kylies Way  
Colchester, VT 05446

### WILLSBORO ALUMNI FACEBOOK PAGE

Please be sure to visit the Willsboro Alumni Association Facebook page and check out the fun and photos on the Facebook Group called: Willsboro Alumni Friends.

## Willsboro Central School News

Willsboro School had a great opening for the 2016-17 school year. We currently have 257 students who enter our doors on a daily basis. We have GREAT kids in our school and an amazing faculty. This year, we have the same faculty and staff as last year which provides our students with consistency in their learning.

“Hamilton: An American Musical.” Willsboro Drama Club students are planning to attend “Hamilton in NYC.” A Broadway Student Summit March 17-20, 2017. Willsboro theater instructor and fifth grade teacher Derrick Hopkins wrote for a grant and scored 22 tickets to take 19 students and three faculty members (Derrick Hopkins, Jennifer Moore - Music Director & Laura Bridge - Social Studies teacher. Workshops were included for further educational as well as life experiences.

This is a four day event and includes: A lecture by Hopkins at the Lincoln Center Theater. Two days of workshops, including a team to talk with the kids. There’s always Broadway professionals there, usually a choreographer and music director. The group will do a panel discussion with professional actors, Toni nominated or have won Tonys.

The Drama Club needs to raise money for transportation, hotel and Broadway shows. Approximately \$10,000.00 is needed.

To donate: Send a check made out to WDC or Willsboro Drama Club to:

Willsboro Drama Club  
P.O. Box 180  
29 School Lane  
Willsboro, NY 12996

The Booster Club is selling Willsboro apparel on the school’s website [www.willsborocsd.org](http://www.willsborocsd.org) under athletics and booster club. The order form is also included on this site.

The school is always looking for nominations for our Wall of Distinction. The nomination form can be found on the website under the Alumni link [www.willsboroalumni.org](http://www.willsboroalumni.org)

Thomas Sucharzewski a third grader was a big winner in the Lake Champlain International Fishing Derby. He placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Junior Coldwater Grand Prize and took 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in the adult standings for Atlantic Salmon. Thomas’ salmon weighed in at 9lbs. and was 29” long. Our congratulations to Thomas. So many of us would like to be so fortunate!

## From the Sports Desk

Well we are back to school and we have taken out the shin guards and soccer balls. The Varsity boys are being coached by Andrew Lee, class of 1995.

From the Sports Desk (cont)

The modified boys are coached by Terry Cross, class of 1981

The Varsity girls are being coached by Dawn Bronson, Physical Education Teacher. The girls modified team is coached by Charlene Palmer Lobdell, class of 1979.

All teams are performing very well and having a "field full of fun." That's what sports are all about. Of course, a win now and then is a lot of fun as well.

Starting after Thanksgiving, we will bring out the sneakers and basketballs. This year should be a big season again. The Varsity girls are being coached again by Alumni, Charlene Palmer Lobdell, class of 1979. The modified girls are being coached by Dawn Bronson, Physical Education Teacher. The Varsity Boys are being coached again by Alumni, Jim Spring, class of 1988 . The modified boys are being coached by Terry Cross class of 1981..

Please show your support and come to the games. The players love your enthusiasm. Schedule of the games can be obtained at the school or on the school website. [www.willsborocentralschool.com](http://www.willsborocentralschool.com).

Your reporter Jane Lobdell.

### Alumni News

Happy to report that the class of 1951 celebrated their 65th year since graduation, sadly only two from the class could attend. Many have passed away while many others are battling health issues. This class was so appreciative of one of our teachers Don Gurien, as he served as our class advisor. He went on our class trip to New York City with us along with Cay Sullivan. It was a feeling that as a class we needed to find a way to keep his name in the community even though he is no longer with us. So we purchased a Memorial Brick and placed it on the wall at the Visitor's Center. Many thanks to some of us offering the money donation to the Alumni organization to assist with the work of the group. Hopeful that you will continue to support the efforts of this group in the years ahead.

Janice Allen

The 2016 Banquet was a big success. We had 137 in attendance, special music provided by some members of the Library Jam Band, this was the first time music was provided in many years. Our honored guest was Mrs. Ann Choate who has served the school & community in many ways for many years. Our thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Choate for all she has given to our school & town. Our special guest speaker was Rick Behan Class of 1976. Following college he worked on Staff for a couple of years then for a total of 24 years for a couple of New York State Assemblymen. Rick then felt a calling to the ministry in 2001 . In 2007 he was ordained and in 2008 became Pastor of the Third Reformed Church of Albany where he currently preaches. Rick gave a great speech and we appreciate his willingness to join us and share a part of his life's story and the influence Willsboro had on his life.

### 2017 Banquet Moved to July 1<sup>st</sup> at Harmony Golf Club

The 2017 Banquet is moving away from the traditional June Graduation Weekend to the 1st weekend in July in response to a recent Internet survey of alums that suggested that more alums may be able to attend on an alternate weekend.

## 2017 Banquet Moved to July 1<sup>st</sup> at Harmony Golf Course (cont.)

Not only that, the location will be changing as well - moving to the Harmony Golf Course in nearby Port Kent. It's a beautiful facility -- getting rave reviews for the high quality of its banquets -- AND -- we've been able to retain the \$30 price / person.

More details to follow.

## Class Contacts

Class contacts are an important link in the WAA organization and help to share the work needed to make the WAA successful.

Your responsibility as a Class Contact includes:

- 1) Keeping your class list updated with current email and or postal address.
- 2) Contacting WAA with any changes of classmate information.
- 3) Optional: Notifying the WAA of upcoming class events, such as Class Reunions to be shared on the website.
- 4) Optional: Sharing photos of your classmates or events to be used on the website.

If anyone who is currently a Class Contact DOES NOT WISH TO CONTINUE, please email Jane- [jreynolds392@comcast.net](mailto:jreynolds392@comcast.net)

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We wish everyone a healthy, safe winter, and we look forward to seeing you at the banquet. We're looking forward to the new location and all it has to offer.

The Alumni Association Board