

WEST CATHOLIC ALUMNI EMISSARY

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Highlights of the 89th Annual Communion Breakfast

For the 89th time, West Catholic Alumni, family members and friends gathered to honor our Catholic heritage on November 1, 2009. Almost 375 members of the Burr community gathered to celebrate the 89th Annual Communion

Breakfast, publicly demonstrating our devotion to the Holy Eucharist, socializing with friends and honoring fellow alumni and others who have contributed to West and the community at large.

The Association would like

Changes Made to Burrs at the Beach

Burrs at the Beach will be held on Sunday, July 18, 2010 at Westy's Irish Pub, North Wildwood, N.J. Since no other events are scheduled to take place in North Wildwood the weekend of July 16, 17 and 18, there will be plenty of parking available in the area.

The price will be \$20.00 prevent and \$25.00 at the door. Free parking for a number of cars is available at Spruce and New York Avenues, Fifth and New Jersey Avenues and on nearby streets. There will be two trolley buses on Surf Avenue from 26th Street to Westy's, 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Park on a nearby street and ride free to Westy's.

Entertainment will be supplied by DJ Jerry Smith (inside

and outside) from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm featuring music from the 1940's, 50s, 60's 70s 80's and 90's.

Buffet is included in ticket price. There will be discounted prices on all drinks at numerous bars for your convenience.

Transportation on an air conditioned bus will be provided from Tip O'Leary's on West Chester Pike in Havertown, PA, at a cost of \$20.00 round trip.

A 50/50 will also be held. Last year's first prize was \$1,000.00, and 2nd, 3rd and 4th prizes were \$500.00 each.

For additional information, contact: Tom Dorrian, 609-368-3395; George Light, 610-853-2028; John McMurrrough, 610-328-0558; Bob McGovern, 610-583-4469; or Marty Moran 610-356-6072.

to extend its thanks to Rev. Joseph Callahan, '54 for serving as the Principal Celebrant. The Association also was fortunate to have Father Richard Maisano, a member of the Golden Anniversary Class of 1960, serve as Homilist. The Association also extends its gratitude to the concelebrants who helped make the Mass a beautiful service. The Mass featured a beautiful liturgical music program arranged by violinist Bob Rossi, '55, along with cantor Sarah Agnew, cellist Dr. Stephen Framil and pianist Patti Georges. Dr. Framil, the Director of the West Catholic Music Program, is a world renowned cellist.

Each year, the Alumni Association utilizes all proceeds from the Offertory Collection at the Communion Breakfast Mass to establish a new, four-year Communion Breakfast Scholarship for incoming Catholic boys. Currently, four students are receiving Communion Breakfast Scholarships as a result of the generosity of Alumni, family and friends.

This year, the total of \$2,260 was donated to the Offertory Collection, which will provide a scholarship to an incoming student beginning in September 2010. (To nominate a student for this Scholarship, please use the Application Form found elsewhere in this edition).

The Mass and Awards Ceremony were attended by alumni from classes in the 1930's to the 2000's! George Light, '58 presided over the Awards Ceremony and moved the day's events along smoothly and quickly. Brother Tim Ahern, '65 provided those in attendance with his perspective as President of West Catholic.

This year's nine honorees were selected from a very strong field of over thirty well-qualified nominees. The awardees each epitomize the Spirit of West

Catholic, through their many contributions of time and talent to the School, the Alumni and youth, and also achieved success in various fields of business, community service, education, law, and sports. The honorees were: Michael Wishing, '58; Frank Adolf, '58; Ed Kerr, '60; Bill Simpson, '60; Leonard DeFiore, '60; Tom DeFelice, '64; Mike Malloy, '68; and Brian Fluck, '88.

The Communion Breakfast Committee (co-chairs Bill Simpson, '60 and Fran Crowley, '77, Harry Mirra, '52, Charles Lamb, '53, Ed McMerty, '52, Bob Mullin, '84, Jay Sawyer, '59, Denis Brennan '71 and Charlie Donnelly, '65) would like to extend their thanks to the many persons who helped make the 89th Communion Breakfast a success!

See Communion Breakfast

Pictures on Pages 4-5

Alumni Association Announces Fourth Annual Communion Breakfast Scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of everyone who contributed to the Offertory Collection at this year's Communion Breakfast, the Alumni Association is pleased to announce the establishment of the Fourth Annual Communion Breakfast Scholarship Fund! The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarships for Catholic boys to attend West Catholic. The Communion Breakfast Scholarships are funded directly by the proceeds of the Offertory Collection received at the Communion Breakfast.

The amount of the scholarship(s) available as a result of each year's Communion Breakfast Offertory Collection will vary. This year's Offertory Collection realized \$2,260. The Association will be awarding one four-year scholarships (of approximately \$565 per year) to a member of the incoming Freshman class at West Catholic.

All 8th grade boys that are members of Catholic parishes and who will attend West Catholic High School beginning in September 2010 are eligible for consideration for the Communion Breakfast Scholarship. The students need not be attending a Catholic grade school, as long as they are a member of a parish. Potential recipients may be nominated by their parents, their school, their parish or by any member of the Alumni Association. **For an application form, please write to WCAA, PO Box 889, Ardmore, PA 19003,**

call 215-387-8560 or e-mail west_cath_alumni@juno.com.

The applications will be reviewed by the Communion Breakfast Scholarship Committee. In determining recipients of the Scholarships, the Committee will consider each student's academic performance, involvement in school/community/parish activities and family's financial need. Families are required to provide the Committee with a copy of the student's most recent report card and a copy of the financial aid form that they provided to school. The Committee also may request that applicants receive a letter of recommendation from their pastors. Recipients of Communion Breakfast Scholarships will be required to maintain an academic average of 80 and passing conduct grades at West to retain scholarship each year. The Scholarships may be used to pay tuition, fees and costs only at West Catholic.

Applicants must submit the application (along with a copy of the financial aid form they submitted to the school) by May 1, 2010 to the West Catholic Alumni Association, Communion Breakfast Committee, P.O. Box 889, Ardmore, PA 19003-0889. The Committee will make its decisions by and notify Scholarship recipients by June 15, 2010.

For more information or additional copies, please call the Alumni Association at 215-387-8560.

2010 Annual Fund Campaign

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

Co-Chairmen **Gus Hoban, '54** and **Joe McGinn, '55** have agreed to lead the 2010 Annual Fund Campaign for our West Catholic Alumni Association in its 90th year of service. We understand that times are very difficult for many Burrs who have supported the Alumni Association over the years. Because of your generosity and loyalty, the Association continues to publish the best Alumni paper (the *Emissary*) to keep graduates up-to-date on friends, classmates and the West Catholic of today. Our members have a special bond that, despite down times, enables us to continue looking up. We believe that our Fund for 2010 will be successful and that we will see the silver lining, not only to keep the *Emissary* coming your way, but to help keep West Catholic High School alive and well for years to come. Please look for your Annual Fund message and request for help sometime in March. We know that you will do what you can to help this Worthy Cause.

Pro Deo et Patria!

Calling all "Young Alumni"!

By: **Dave Joslin, Jr., '88**

Did you graduate West between 1985 and 2009? Well then maybe you can help us out.

The West Catholic Alumni Association Board of Governor's is interested in getting our younger alumni involved in helping build the future of West Catholic High School. Although the old building is gone, the students and faculty at 45th & Chestnut have continued to be a shining example of our West Catholic pride.

The Alumni are now in the process of forming a Young Alumni Committee to help in developing new ways to assist our beloved school and its traditions, as well as help it move forward into a new decade of

prosperity.

Here is the plan, it is our intention to take full advantage of today's technology and help us connect with other Alumni to promote and support the school. There are already numerous groups on Facebook that have connected hundreds of fellow Burrs Alumni helping rekindle the old days and friendships of the past. There are also business network groups set up to help support each other's businesses.

Our Young Alumni Committee is geared at using good old word-of-mouth networking with several social media vehicles to unite our younger alumni and help us develop vital growth opportunities through public relations, marketing, fund raising

and valuable input to the West Catholic Alumni Board of Governor's.

The Young Alumni Committee needs just a little bit of your time – we will only meet a few times throughout the year to review ways we can continue to keep West Best. Idea generators, task masters, road warriors and rain-makers, we need your help to move forward and continue to make West Best.

Anyone interested in assisting the Young Alumni Committee, please contact Dave Joslin Jr, '88 via cell phone 610-517-8249, e-mail david@davidjoslin.com, FaceBook, Twitter (WCBURRS), Linked In – believe me I'm accessible! Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

WC Basketball - A Proud Tradition

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

West Catholic High School Boys' Basketball has a proud tradition when you look back over the 90+ years that they have competed in the Philadelphia Catholic League.

The Burrs of 1931 in a 5 Team league went 7-1; in 1938 they led the 9 Team league with a 15-1 record, while in 1943 they compiled a record of 14-2 that went 16-0 in 1944. The Burrs of 1945 went 12-4, the 1947 team 9-5 and in 1948, 10-4. In 1949 the team record was 9-5, yet the Burrs came away with a City Championship. 1950 offered a hard-fought 9-5 and 1951 an 11-3. Fast forward to 1952, and West Catholic was 12-2 and City Champions, connecting again in 1953 with a 13-1 record and another City Championship against Wilt Chamberlain. 1954 brought a 12-2 record and 1955 a 9-5 that developed into yet another Catholic League Championship. In 1956, the Burr Hoopsters went 12-1 and in 1957 they were 10-3. The 1959 team went 12-2 and captured their last Catholic League Championship. Competitive teams would follow in 1962, 1968, 1971; 1973 and then in 1976 the Burrs went 14-0 only to lose in the playoffs. 1977 was a good year at 8-6, and the 1979 squad went 10-4 as did the teams of 1980, 81, 82 and 83. The 1987 team would go 9-5 as did the squad in 1988. 1992 brought a 9-5 record, in 1994 a 10-4 record, while the 1999 team would go 11-3, only to lose in their quest for the title with a defeat at the hands of Roman Catholic at Temple University.

Competitive Basketball has been a constant at West Catholic, and the records support this to be a fact.

The fire is still burning for hard-playing teams to make the connection to this proud

tradition. Players Jim DiFillipo, Jim Mullin, Charles "Obie" O'Brien, Jack McEnroe, Gabe Poletti, Anthony Skivo, Bill Thomas, Reds Bagnell, Dick Dougherty, Francis Brennan, Sam Glassmire, Ernie Beck, Jim Young, Bob Smith, Jack Devine, Dave Clune, Joe Sturgis, Walt Maxwell, Marty Milligan, Bill Lindsay, Joe Gardler, Drew Denmead, Bob Devine, Charlie Eltringham, Jim McNicholas, Pat Carey, Joe Spratt, Joe McGinn, John Driscoll. Jim Dunn, Jack O'Reilly, Bob Dickey, Ray Brown, Dan Bugey, Dan Higgins, Bob Gormley, Jim Lynam, Jim Boyle, Herb Magee, Jim Flavin, Marty Ford, Rich Berberian Pat Cassidy, Ron Billingslea, Herm Lockley, Steve Batory, Ed Wallin, Alfie Williams, Glenn Collier, Lyric Collier, Michael Brooks, Mike Davis, Bill McDevitt, Richard Furr, Jeffrey Hunter, Angelo Reynolds, Carl Thomas, Anthony Murphy, Jeff Jones, John Rousey, John Simko, Mark Kelly, Mark Johnson, Arthur Trippett, John Rankin, Derrick Floyd, Rick Moyer, Anthony Davis, Brian Duffy, Monroe Blakes, Michael Forrest, Dave Bertoline, Rob Wharton, Kevin Smith, David Reilly, Chris McShane, Calvin Blackmon, Scott Galloway, Sherman Overton, Jamal Palmer, Jim Reilly, Alan Bunch, John Ashmore, Jasmine Williams, Greg McCleary, Ronald Banks and Marlon Belfon all competed at a higher level and are proud of their accomplishments. We tip our hats to these men for the glory they bestowed upon their alma mater. This list of players stops at 1999; we will expand the next time we review the upcoming basketball season.

While West Catholic Basketball has a proud past, the young Burrs of today are doing their best to compete in each game they play and develop into a winning program.

Burrs' Basketball in Full Swing

By: Ed "Huck" Palmer, '87

West Catholic High School head basketball coach Bill Ludlow returns for his 17th season, and he'll bring with him a young, but promising squad for the 2009-2010 basketball season. Once again the Burrs will compete in the Philadelphia Catholic League Blue Division, which is comprised of schools with AAA and AA enrollments. The Burrs are one of three AA schools representing the Philadelphia Catholic League. Bill's Dad, William A. Ludlow, Sr. was a West man from the great Class of 1944, and each season, He attended every game until his passing a few years ago.

A season ago the Burrs finished (16-11) overall and advanced to the second round of PIAA state AA playoffs, where they eventually fell to Hughesville, 61-58. Prior to this West advanced to the District-12 2A final. They lost in overtime to eventual AA state champions Imhotep Charter of the Philadelphia Public League.

At the time of this article the Burrs find themselves at (6-6) overall, but (4-3) in league play. They appear primed to once again participate in the PCL playoffs. Six of nine Blue Division teams will make the PCL second-season. West is currently tied for fourth place in the Blue division.

The Burrs' headliner is catquick junior point guard Aquil Younger, a returning 3rd

Team All-League selection. Younger is already drawing Division-1 interest; He currently

paces the Burrs with 18 points and five assists per game as his average contribution.

Joining Younger as team leaders are the only three seniors in the program; 6'4" forward Tim Carroll, forward Kiwan Murray, and guard Vincent Ho. Murray currently leads the Burrs in rebounding at seven per game.

Junior Yuri Burton a 6'3" forward serves as the Burr sixthman, while sophomore guard Jaleel Reed rounds out the starting five. Sophomores Tristin Freeman (Guard), Kevin Malone (Guard), and 6'3" Anthony Fleet (Forward) have developed into valuable bench players. Freshman 6'4" guard Jalil Myers has shown promise and could have a bright future for West in time.

The Burrs stiffest competition will come from Neumann-Goretti (ranked top 10 in country) and Archbishop Carroll (defending 3A state champs). However, teams such as Conwell-Egan, Archbishop Wood, and Cardinal Dougherty should also provide a formidable challenge for this young group of Burrs.

Kennedy-Kenrick and Bishop McDevitt are the two other AA schools the Burrs will be vying against for that district/state playoff berth. West has already defeated both of these teams in the early portion of the season. They'll play each of them one more time in the coming weeks.

For up to date information and results for West Catholic High School basketball, visit www.Philly.com or www.TedSily.com.

Coach Brian Fluck Leads Football Team Through Successful Season

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

Sincere Congratulations go out to Head Football Coach Brian Fluck, '88, his staff and team for continuing to excel! Coach Fluck who also serves as

the Director of Admissions and as the Athletic Director for West Catholic High School is truly committed to the school and their student athletes. The Alumni Association recognizes his commitment to "Keeping the

Spirit Alive!" Brian's good friend and West man from the Class of 1987, Ed "Huck" Palmer will now enlighten us with a Review of the wonderful season of West Catholic football presented during the fall of 2009.

2009 Burrs Football: Season in Review

By: Ed "Huck" Palmer, '87

The 2009 West Catholic football team may not have accomplished their ultimate goal of another trip to Hershey and a PIAA-AA state championship, but falling a little short certainly doesn't take away from an otherwise successful campaign.

The team's season ended on a brisk Saturday afternoon in Coatesville, where they fell to eventual state champ Lancaster Catholic, 23-21, in a state semifinal heartbreaker that saw the Burrs fall in the game's final minute.

In 2008 Head Coach Brian Fluck's team reached the state finals. So, as one of the final four AA teams still playing in 2009, this was a tremendous feat when you consider the senior leadership the team lost from the prior season.

West's overall record was (12-3) and this was good enough for a Philadelphia Catholic League AA-championship, a District-12 championship, a District-12/1 Sub-Regional championship; two state playoff victories. The Burrs three losses came by a total of eleven points. Earlier in the year they narrowly lost a 16-14 nail biter to the eventual PIAA-AAA champions LaSalle College High School. Their other defeat came in the final minute of a game against Archbishop Wood (28-21), who went onto win the Philadelphia Catholic League AAA title and reach the PIAA-AAA-semifinals.

Highlights along the way were three wins in four weeks over league rival Bishop McDevitt; included in this was their fourth straight Philadelphia Catholic League title. Beyond the Catholic League title, West Catholic also defeated three straight opponents, (Bok, Dunmore, and North Schuylkill) that entered those games with unblemished records.

The Burrs featured seven players that made All-State at the AA level. Included in this list was two-way senior lineman Jake Zuzek, who has since committed to play his college ball at the Naval Academy; senior Dante Dickens, a 1st-Team selection on defense at linebacker. Others who were acknowledged were running back Brandon Hollomon (2nd-Team), senior defensive tackle John Ruppert (2nd-Team), defensive end Jim Lynch (3rd-Team), quarterback Jarred Evans, Honorable Mention and wide receiver Quran Kent also (HM). Hollomon, Lynch, and Kent, all are juniors and will return next season.

West had ten players selected by the coaches as 1st-Team All-Catholic; all total they had sixteen players make either 1st or 2nd-Team All-Catholic. Jim Lynch was a 1st-Team choice on both sides of the ball.

On a statistical front, West Catholic players had more than a few exceptional years, as well as a few record-breaking campaigns. QB Jarred Evans broke the single-season record for passing yards with 1,889. He threw for 16 touchdowns and ran for another seven scores. Kent eclipsed the single-season



Pictured, left to right, Offensive Coordinator Albie Crosby, Head Coach Brian Fluck and Defensive Coordinator Dennis Fluck.

record for receiving yards with 808 yards on 40 receptions. Senior kicker Tim Carroll belted 58 extra-points on the season and blasted the city record for most Point after Attempts, (PAT's) in a career with 170.

Other leaders on the Offensive side of the ball were Hollomon whose 1,428 rushing yards gave the Burrs a 1,000-yard rusher for the tenth consecutive year. Only one other city school can boast a streak as long as that one. Hollomon scored a total of 19 touchdowns. Junior running back Joshua Mathis was equally effective at times and rushed for 911 yards and 14 touchdowns. Aside from Kent's exploits at wide out, the Burrs had three other players have at least 330 yards receiving in Hollomon, Lynch, and junior Jaelen Strong-Rankin. As one unit the Burrs scored 477 points (31.8 ppg) and accumulated 5,107 yards (340.5 ypg) on the season.

Defensively, this team featured a stout front seven that allowed just 12.0 points and 73.1 rushing yards per game. The defensive tackle trio of Ruppert, Zuzek, and senior Erik Harper provided much of the grunt work. Leading tacklers were Dickens (73) and junior linebacker Anthony McDonnaugh (67, 7.5 sacks).

Lynch ended the season with 13.5 sacks and a total of 34 tackles-for-losses. Senior defensive back Ray Manuel and Dickens led the teams with four interceptions apiece. Senior linebacker Bill Tobin and senior defensive end Brian Mosby provided solid play all year long, while sophomore defensive back Kevin Malone displayed what should be a bright future in the secondary.

The Burrs fully expect to be contenders again in 2010. Aside from Evans at quarterback, the team returns every single skill player that saw significant time this season. They'll also return two offensive linemen to help in the trenches. Defensively, five starters will be coming back.

Once again the season will begin with the team's annual battle with Roman Catholic at the Wildwood NJ shore on Labor Day Weekend. The schedule will also have a host of new schools on it. The Burrs will play Bonner, Archbishop Ryan, and Haverford School in the non-league portion of the schedule. Our Christian Brothers rivalry with LaSalle will remain in tact. Finally, the new AA realignment will have the Burrs playing games versus McDevitt, Lansdale Catholic, Conwell-Egan, and Neumann-Goretti.

Burrs at the Beach Golf Outing

Saturday
July 17, 2010

for information
please call:

Bill Simpson

610-544-4480

Joe Manfre

610-662-2571

Dave Joslin

610-259-0753

Hole Sponsors Available: \$50

Missy Light Dougherty Story – “More than Basketball”



Missy Light Dougherty poses with her family.

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

Missy Light Dougherty, is the youngest daughter of George F. Light, '58, the Assistant Director of Development at West Catholic High School (a position he accepted after many years as a successful sales executive) and Barbara Fredd Light, '58 a grade school teacher at St. Francis Xavier School, a Philadelphia Archdiocesan Catholic Elementary school on North 24th Street. Missy has three sisters, Barbara, Jennifer and Julia and is married to Brendan Dougherty; they have two wonderful children, Brendan, Jr., age 4 and Molly Elizabeth, who will be 1 in July.

Now in her second year as Head Basketball Coach for the Lady Burrs at West Catholic High School, Missy is assisted by her husband and two former players from her previous basketball assignments at Hallahan High School and Merion Mercy Academy. One assistant, Maureen Devinney who teaches at West Catholic, played for

coach at Hallahan while the other, Claire Davis, played for coach at Merion Mercy.

With a recent victory at 45th & Chestnut against Little Flower High School, Missy Light Dougherty collected her 100th win collectively in a hard fought battle that featured the floor leadership of junior, Johannna Riddick who had 17 points.

Between being the young mother of two children, coaching a high school basketball team and recently returning to Neumann University to complete studies for her Master's degree in Sports Management this April, Missy has been very busy.

She also recovered from treatment for ovarian cancer that involved surgery and chemotherapy at Fox Chase Cancer Center. The birth of her daughter was less than two years after her diagnosis at age 31. As reported by Ruth Rovner in the September 29, 2009 edition of the *Delaware County Times*, “Missy felt miserable,

visiting one doctor after another without getting an accurate diagnosis. She knew something was wrong, but she wasn't getting the right answers. This is typical for ovarian cancer symptoms that are hard to detect; which is why it's the deadliest of gynecological cancers. It often goes undiagnosed for too long, yet it affects one out of every 58 American women”.

Faced with this, Missy sought support and found it when she met Robin Cohen the co-founder of Sandy Rollman Ovarian Cancer Foundation based in Havertown. This non-profit organization is named for a woman who fought valiantly but lost her battle with ovarian cancer at age 33, because her diagnosis was too late. The foundation is committed to educating women and doctors, advocating for early diagnostic testing, and raising funds to help advance research towards a cure. The Foundation was established by two Delco women – Adrianna Way of Broomall, who was Sandy Rollman's sister and Robin Cohen, who was Rollman's nurse and treated her throughout her battle. Robin became an angel for Missy, guiding, educating and helping her to prepare for her battle ahead.

Missy and Brendan are working together to help others and request that you visit www.sandyovarian.org or call 610-446-2272 for more information about ovarian cancer.

West Catholic Boys' Track and Field Team



Coach Lincoln Townsend, Jr. and his son, Todd.

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

West Catholic High School Boys' Track and Field team has a very proud history, their teams of the 30's traveled to Notre Dame in Indiana to compete on a National level; in the 50's Catholic, City and State Championships were not uncommon.

Fast forward to year 2010, and we get to meet Lincoln Townsend, Jr., the Head Coach for the boys' Track and Field Team at West Catholic High School. This program has set goals and has some accomplishments of which we all need to be aware.

Coach Townsend is a graduate of Overbrook High School, Class of 1986 and Lincoln University where he was a national champion as a member of their track team. He also ran in the Olympic development from 1992 to 1995.

His team at West Catholic captured the City Title for AA City schools in 2009 and finished in fourth place in the Philadelphia Catholic League where all schools in the Catholic League compete against each

other.

The Burrs have some talented young men including: Ozzie Bryan, a senior from Yeadon who is #1 in the long jump; Tyrek Edwards is #2; Dwayne Medley #3; and George Pendleton, #6. These ratings are for the competitive long jump events in the Catholic League. Ozzie Bryan is also ranked first in the Philadelphia Catholic League in the 60m, 200m and the 400m.

The hurdle crew includes Dwayne Medley, ranked #1 in the Catholic League in the 60m High Hurdles, George Pendleton, ranked #2, and Tito Townsend, ranked #4. The Triple Jump event is championed by Tyrek Edwards.

Now that you have their names, look for West Catholic when Track and Field events are reported in the Philadelphia Inquirer. This is yet another reason to give a gift subscription to the only paper to report Track and Field events for Philadelphia area high school teams. We wish Coach Townsend (who also is also the JV Football coach) continued success with his team this spring.

Coach Harwell Leaves Lasting Impression on West Students

By: Kyle McNally, '95

Franklin O. Harwell positively impacted the lives of many West Catholic students during his 12 years as head coach of the boys' and girls' cross country and track teams. Of course, as the coach, he trained his athletes to be competitive as harriers on Belmont Plateau, sprinters on Franklin Field at the Penn Relays, and in every distance in between. He also guided athletes in the more technically demanding hurdles, short sprints, and field events. He taught much about the sport and the hard work, sacrifice, perseverance, and competitive drive necessary for success in it. Like so many other fine men and women who coach young people, Mr. Harwell also taught the value of sportsmanship: Fairness, respect, and graciousness in winning and losing.

His real impact, however, was felt far removed from the field and track. Mr. Harwell was much more than a coach to many of the young men and women on his teams. He was also a teacher, mentor, counselor, and father figure, and his influence in these roles is much more relevant to many of his athletes than the niceties of perfecting blind baton exchanges or the correct number of steps to take in between hurdles.

As a teacher, Mr. Harwell firmly believed in the importance of education, especially college, and he did everything he could to help his students find their potential and reach their goals. All of his students knew that Mr. Harwell placed academics above athletics and not just because poor grades would impact eligibility. If a student was having trouble with a subject, Mr. Harwell would ask another team member to provide tutoring, even during practice time. His idea of teammates helping each other in the classroom was so important to Mr. Harwell that he continued to

serve as the supervisor of an after school tutoring program for 10 years after he left West Catholic to take an assistant coaching position at Temple University.

As a mentor, Mr. Harwell proved to be a role model to his students in how he lived his life. He treated everyone with a quiet respect and never spoke unkindly about a student, another coach, or an official. Anyone who has coached can truly appreciate this discipline!

As a counselor, Mr. Harwell was always available to listen and provide advice. Not content to just be available, Mr. Harwell also proactively shared ideas and information with his students. He would provide information on colleges and training courses, summer enrichment programs, SAT study materials, and similar information tailored to the particular needs of each student. He would also bring in friends, family, and former students to share their experiences and lessons learned with individual students or the entire team.

As a father figure, Mr. Harwell created a team atmosphere in which all of his students were welcome, respected, and encouraged to grow. We became teammates, friends, and in many ways an extended family. This nurturing environment helped many students through difficult times in their high school lives. The proof of the familial atmosphere can be seen in the many pictures of his former students that Mr. Harwell keeps in his home and in the close relationships that he has maintained with many of his former students. Fellow classmate and teammate Ben Kerr, '95 created a group on Facebook to help all of us to reconnect and stay connected. If you'd like to join, search for the group I Was On A Coach Harwell Cross Country/Track Team At West Catholic.

Mr. Harwell's holistic approach to coaching – as a guide-

line for success in sports and success and happiness in life – would be admired by Jesse Owens, 4 time gold medalist at the 1936 Berlin Olympics and multiple world record holder, who said: “In the end, it's extra effort that separates a winner from second place. But winning takes a lot more than that, too. It starts with complete command of the fundamentals. Then it takes desire, determination, discipline, and self-sacrifice. And finally, it takes a great deal of love, fairness and respect for your fellow man. Put all these together, and even if you don't win, how can you lose?”

As alumni, we can thank Mr. Harwell for our fond memories of track meets at Cardinal O'Hara or LaSalle, long bus rides to Lehigh University, and seemingly endless intervals of “four corners” in the 3rd floor hallways. (Maybe not all of the memories are as fond as the others.) We can thank him for all that he has taught us about sport and sportsmanship, and we can thank him for being much more than just a coach; for being a teacher, mentor, counselor, and father figure.

West Players Named to All-Decade Team

Ted Silary a writer for the *Philadelphia Daily News* and www.tedsilary.com reports that the following West Catholic student athletes have been named to the All-Decade, All-Catholic football first team: Michael Bazemore, '00, Curtis Brinkley, '03, Curtis Drake, '08, John Maddox, '05 and Marques Slocum, '04.

Other players included: Rob Hollomon, '08, Jake Zuzek, '09, Derrell Hand, '04, Jonathan Jackson, '02, Wayne Donaue, '05, Marc Holloway, '06, Raymond Maples, '08, Anthony Rhoades, '06 and Pre'Andre Watson, '07. The year following each name is the last season played.



Members of West Catholic Track Team.

WEST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

SPORTS HALL of FAME

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2010

Airport Ramada-Essington PA

COST-\$40.00 per Ticket

6:00 PM-Cash Bar, 7:00 PM Dinner

8:00 PM-Awards Ceremony

TICKETS: Call George Light

At: 215-386-2244

2010 Inductees

James J. Costigan, '54, Football

Vince Leonetti, '58, Football, Track

Bob Clark, '66 Football, Baseball

Joe Betzala, '70, Football

Cindy Romanelli, '76, Basketball

Rob Gentile, '88, Football, Basketball

Fran Crowley, '77 will also be inducted, for

His many years of service and dedication

As Coach of the

West Catholic Boys' Soccer Team

The 2009 West Catholic Football Team

Catholic League, City and District Champions

Will also be honored!

2009 Communion Breakfast



A Photo Anthology



SPRING FEST 2010

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

The West Catholic High School Development Office has an exciting event scheduled for Saturday, April 24, 2010. By attending this event you will be helping to support the West Catholic High School tuition assistance program.

Two of the Most Popular BANDS in the area are GOING WEST!

The Juliano Brothers and **LeCOMPT**, will perform for West Catholic Alumni, Alumnae, Friends of West Catholic and anyone interested in supporting this very important function for West Catholic High School! Again, the **Date** is Saturday, April 24, 2010, the **Time** is 4:00PM until 8:00 PM, The **Place** is **TIP O'LEARY'S RESTAURANT & BAR 300 WEST CHESTER PIKE, HAVERTOWN PA.** Make plans to **Support the BURRS** and get together with your friends for an afternoon and early evening of very good music from two great bands. The **Cost** to attend is \$25.00 in advance and \$30.00 at the door. The entrance to TIP O'LEARY'S will be the doors on West Chester Pike. Tickets can be purchased by Contacting **Nick Voight** at 215-386-2244 X 230 or **George Light** at 215-386-2244 X 260, a light buffet is included with the price of admission along with a cash bar. Prepare for a festive time with the BURRS and do your part to support the West Catholic High School tuition assistance program, Hope to see you on April 24th!

KEEPING IN TOUCH

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

Jeremiah Francis "Jerry" Kane, '46 of Yardley, PA a true Burr for sure passed away in early January at the age of 81. He is survived by his loving wife, Louise, three children and 10 grandchildren. Jerry was a past recipient of the distinguished Golden Burr Award presented at our annual Communion Breakfast.

John Joseph "Jack" Conran, '45 of Clifton Heights, PA a World War II Vet, who worked for PennDOT and was the owner of Conran's Tavern in Philadelphia also passed in January.

Dan Young, '45 a former teacher at West Catholic High School for Boys' who also taught at Cardinal O'Hara High School and was a hitting coach for the University of Pennsylvania baseball team is recovering at Broomall Rehab & Nursing Center; according to his dear wife, Patricia. Dan would be pleased to hear from former students and friends, consider sending a few lines to him at 50 N. Malin Road, Broomall, PA 19008, Room #276.

Ozzie Bryan, 2010 class is one of the bright spots for the West Catholic High School Boys' Track team; Ozzie is the Catholic League Division AA Champion for the 60 meters event. More on the West Track team in separate article.

Mark Alan Hughes teaches at Penn Design and Penn's TC Chan Center for Energy. He wrote recently for the *Philadelphia Daily News* about The Church of the Transfiguration. The article featured the deconstruction of The Church of the Transfiguration, 56th and Cedar Avenue, a West Philadelphia landmark and major feeder parish for West Catholic High School in the 30's 40's and 50's. The Archdiocese closed the church, school, convent and rectory in 2000. The school building is currently occupied by Boys' Latin School who purchased the complex in 2006. Parts of the church, a beautiful building, live on today as they were resold for their artistic or material qualities. Four 1928 stained glass windows from the transept now grace St. Raymond's in Fairfax County, Virginia, which also reused the main altar and altar table. And of course, Boys' Latin is an example of the ultimate in recycling, refitting a completely new school facility inside the envelope of the former parish school.

THE BURR was a school publication that printed short stories, poetry and articles written by West Catholic Boys' High School students during the 1920's and 1930's. This wonderful treasure of our early years had an editor-in-chief, 12 associate editors, all seniors, 6 business managers to include 1 underclassman, 2 sports editors, 3 advertising managers, 2 exchange managers, 3 circulation

managers, 2 art editors, 1 alumni correspondent and 1 faculty director as reported in the November 30, 1930 edition. The exchange managers made sure that other high schools all over the city had the opportunity to share the writings of the West Catholic students. One short story that I came across was written by **John W. Fitzmaurice, '36**, it was titled *A Happy Christmas to All*. This story is an example of the fine writings presented by BURR students. John, would go on to be Dr. John W. Fitzmaurice, M.D. who resided in Drexel Hill for many years. Today at age 91, Dr. Fitzmaurice is doing well at Residence at Glen Riddle, 262 Glen Riddle Road, Media, PA 19063-5810, Room 217. Drop him a line if you remember him or if you just want to say hello, *A Happy Christmas to All* will be available on the West Catholic Alumni Association Web site: www.westcatholic-alumni.org

Charles Hopkins, '70 and fellow Burr, **Joe Cassertano, '74** once again ran a very competitive Christmas Basketball Tournament for the Saint Kevin CYO in Springfield, PA. Several Boys' and Girls' teams competed, and the tournament was well attended including West Basketball greats **Ernie Beck, '49** and classmate **Jimmy Young, '49** who were kind enough to present shirts and trophies to the semi-final and championship teams as well as the All-Tournament teams. Also in attendance was **Dan Harrell, '61** former West Catholic coach and **Rick Pergolini, '71** a former Head coach for the Boys' basketball team at Academy Park High School in Sharon Hill PA.

Bill Strain, '41 is an amazing guy who is still very active with West Catholic athletics, in particular, football. Bill, together with his daughter, Patti and son Tom are at all practices and games assisting with the distribution of water and Gatorade for the players. Bill truly exemplifies the West Catholic Spirit!

In October, West Catholic lost another distinguished graduate, when **William "Bill" J. Henrich, Jr., '46** a lawyer, and business executive passed away at the age of 80 in Lafayette Hill, PA. Bill was a preeminent real estate and trust lawyer and an advisor to the publishing magnate, Walter H. Annenberg, who was a philanthropist and former U.S. ambassador to Britain, so admired Mr. Henrich's legal counsel that he interrupted Mr. Henrich's legal career in 1985 by hiring him as president of Triangle Publications, Inc., the Philadelphia based media firm that was the basis of his great fortune. Although he hobnobbed with billionaires and his name appeared sometimes in the society pages, Mr. Henrich was of modest background. Born in West Philadelphia, he graduated

from West Catholic High School for Boys' and LaSalle College, and earned a Law degree at Temple University. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Kolsun Henrich, three sons, William Michael and David, six grandchildren and a brother, as written by David O'Reilly a *Philadelphia Inquirer* Staff Writer.

Joe Manfre, '61 a member of the Board of Governors and a player for the 1959 Catholic League Basketball Championship team is the Director of Recreation for Upper Darby School District in Drexel Hill, PA, a position he has excelled at for over 30 years.

Would you believe that **Herb Magee** a loyal Burr from the great class of 1959 has served Philadelphia University, the former Philadelphia College of Textile & Science, either as a star basketball player or a record breaking Head Basketball Coach for the men's basketball team since 1959? Herb can relate to growing the number of students that West Catholic High School is working to achieve. Where there were once 350 students, there are now 2,700. Back then, there was no gym — practice was at Rec centers, waiting sometimes for Roman Catholic to finish. They would eat at a diner in Roxborough because the cafeteria would be closed. Today at the Gallagher Athletic Center, his team plays their home games on Herb Magee Court; that is commitment to a cause you believe in.

Joe Masino, '60 is enjoying his new position as an independent Marketing Manager after years planning the golf outings for Budweiser. If you live in Georgia or wish to plan a meeting in the state, contact Joe Masino at either 1-770-265-6307 or joemasino@windstream.net. He has facilities in Buford and Loganville, Georgia and would like to assist any Burrs coming his way.

Leo Ryan, '60 sends along his best to all of his classmates as they prepare for their 50th reunion.

Harry Mirra, '52 reports, that **Frank Lafferty, '47** says hello to his friends and classmates from MBS and West Catholic. He and his wife, Patricia are living in Dover, DE. After spending 20+ years with the Philadelphia Fire Department, they have 8 children, 4 boys and 4 girls.

Charles Moscony, '47 attended Burrs at the Beach this past summer and is looking good.

Ed Lilly, '54 is living outside of Niagara Falls, NY and is looking forward to seeing the Marco Island, FL, West Catholic crowd at Stan's during the month of February.

Joe Bartolomeo, '59 and his wife **Barbara Marchesani Bartolomeo, '59** are still dancing together after all these years. Holy Cross, St. Clement, St. Alice — they were there enjoying the music that they continue to dance to today.

The Alumni Office recently received a communication about replacing a Class Ring for the Class of 1961 from **Dolores Finney Saunders**. After advising Dolores regarding her options, I suggested that her husband and she consider attending *West Side Story*, this year's school show in early March, at the high school auditorium with its new sound system paid for by the Alumni Association through the generous donations of our membership.

BURR BRIEFS

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

Dan Brennan, '57 well known as the basketball manager for Coach Jimmy Usilton and the 1957 West Catholic Basketball Team, passed away suddenly on February 16. He held the position of Director of Enrollment Services at St. Joseph's Prep in Philadelphia, PA. Dan was an avid jogger for the years that he resided in Havertown before moving to Radnor PA. He is survived by his wife, Diana, two sons, Daniel and Matthew, five grandchildren and a brother, Rev. Joseph Brennan. Dan was age 71 when he passed.

Distinguished graduate Thomas M. Brinker from the class of 1951 passed away in Naples, Florida on February 11. A financial consultant for 40 years, Tom hosted a local radio show about investing for many years and was active with his classmates from the great Class of 1951. Tom and his wife, Doris had four children and thirteen grandchildren.

Jim Cratin, a Tommy More man and father of two sons, Mark and James, who graduated from West Catholic, who was actively involved with the boys' basketball team for over 25 years has retired as their time keeper. Sincere thanks go out to him from the West Catholic family and all involved with Catholic League

LOOKING BACK

By: Ed Kerr, '60

The 1956 West Catholic basketball team was very entertaining with Jimmy Dunn, John Driscoll, Jack O'Reilly, Bob Dickey and Ray Brown leading the Burrs who had a very good season, without bringing home a Catholic League Title.

One game, I recall, was played at Southeast Catholic, 7th & Christian Sts, with Bob Dickey and Jack O'Reilly both having excellent days, on the hardwood against the Pirates of Southeast Catholic. As an 8th grader with a keen eye for basketball talent, I was very impressed with the West team and believed that Bob Dickey was much more effective with the ball than with his back to the basket, as was Jack O'Reilly, who eventually would find himself playing for Division II Mount Saint Mary's College under Coach Jimmy Phelan, as well known in his day as Herb Magee is today.

The point to be made about Jack O'Reilly is that he became a two time All-American at The Mount and as an All-Tournament selection, he led his team to a National Title in 1962, as Mount Saint Mary's defeated Southern Illinois in the Semifinal 58-57 and then Sacramento State, for the Division II National Championship in overtime, by the same score 58-57. Jack's All-American efforts, made all of us proud to be part of the West Catholic Family!

Those same feelings carry over today, "Proud to be a BURR".

Basketball. His work is appreciated and recognized as is his support of Catholic League Athletics for over 50 years.

World War II Bronze Star recipient Martin Hackett, '42 of Newtown Square, PA died of pneumonia on February 9. Mr. Hackett achieved the rank of Master Sergeant in the U.S. Army and saw action in the battle of Zigzag Pass as his division met fierce resistance from Japanese soldiers in foxholes hidden by the jungle along a twisted road in the Bataan peninsula in the Philippines. He is survived by his second wife, Margaret O'Kane McCloskey, six children, 13 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. His first wife, Elizabeth Teodosio Hackett, who he married in 1951, died in 1994, and in 2004 he married Margaret O'Kane McCloskey. In addition to the Bronze Star, he also received the Philippines Liberation Medal along with other decorations over his many years of service to his country. May he rest in peace.

Herb Magee, '59 is Number One in victories for NCAA basketball with 903 attained on February 23, 2010. With a career record of 903-352, he passed Coach Bobby Knight. Great job Coach! We are very proud of your accomplishment as a fellow Burr.

Did you know that one of our very loyal and distinguished alum's, Rev. Monsignor James T. McDonough, MSW, L.L.D., '49 is the Director of the Society for the Propagation of Faith for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, a position he was appointed to in October, 2006.

The January 2010 edition of the Cardinal Dougherty Assembly Newsletter spoke about a deceased BURR James E. Noble, Jr., '57. Jim was well thought of and respected as a "doer" and not a "watcher". He was a man who was committed to charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism and was respected as a good, kind man who served as the Cardinal Dougherty Assembly's Faithful Navigator since July of 2006. We will miss Jim and express our deepest sympathy to his wife and best friend Janet. May he receive his just reward with our Lord.

West Catholic Alumni Religious in the News

Pope Benedict XVI has bestowed, on December 14, 2009, the title of Monsignor upon 18 priests of the Philadelphia Archdiocese.

The oldest priest, Rev. Monsignor Daniel J. Kehoe, is 97 years young and is from the West Catholic High School Class of '31. He currently is residing at the Holy Spirit Rectory in Sharon Hill, PA, in Delaware County. He was ordained in 1939.

Rev. Donald E. Leighton, pastor of St. John Baptist Parish, Gladwyne, Montgomery County, Class of '52, also became a Monsignor.

One other religious, Father Phil Barr, '38 who assisted at our Communion Breakfast in November, turned 90 years young on January 28, 2010. Happy Birthday Father!

WEST CATHOLIC ALUMNI EMISSARY

Issued three times yearly by

The Association's Communication Committee

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E-mail: communications@westcatholic-alumni.org

Phil Girard, Chairman

Denis Brennan, Jim Coyne, Jr., Jim Coyne, Sr., Tom Dorrian,

Ed Kerr, Jr., George Light, Joe Manfre, Bob McGovern.

**Class of 1945
65th Reunion Luncheon
Wednesday, May 5
Edgmont Country Club
Hour of Remembrance – 1:00 PM
Lunch – 2:00 PM
Contact
Jim Quigley, 610-520-1087 or
Don Skahan, 610-789-8894**

IN MEMORIAM

May They Rest In Peace

Ervin Fisher, '35	John J. Lafferty, '51
Herbert "Bud" Wolf, '35	James A. Boyce, '52
William J. Crawford, '38	James R. Devine, '52
Albert J. Cameron, '39	Thomas J. Gallagher, '52
Francis H. Eaves, '39	John "Jack" Lynch, '52
Edward "Ned" Donahue, '40*	Paul J. Lynch, '52
Carmen E. Lauletta, '40*	Charles A. Mellon, '52
Conrad Donahue, '41*	John J. Monahan, '53*
Martin Hackett, '42	Nicolas D. Parisi, '56*
Frank J. Tormey, '43*	Joseph J. Pierce, '55
Albert M. Dufour, '44	John J. Reilly, '55*
John L. Kelly, '44*	James J. Bradley, '57*
John J. Conran, '45*	Daniel A. Brennan, '57
John J. Lister, '45*	James E. Noble, '57
Thomas P. Murphy, '45*	John S. Jennings, '58*
William J. Henrich, Jr. '46*	Robert A. McKinney, '59
Jeremiah Francis Kane, '46	Nicholas A. Fabrizio, '60
John J. McHugh, '46*	John Machalowski, '60
William J. Algeo, '47*	John J. Zimmerman, '61
John E. Kelly, '47	James J. McCauley, '62
Daniel V. DiBacco, '48	James E. Fisher, '64
John C. Murnin, '48	Bernard J. McGuire, '65
Francis X. Hagan, '49	James J. McCauley, '66
Casimir J. Kowalewski, '49*	Michael D. O'Brien, '69
Joseph A. Breslin, '51	Edward M. Fox, '71
Thomas M. Brinker, '51*	John J. Simko, '82
Joseph H. Chappelle, '51	Jay Vance, '82
Robert T. Kelly, '51	John J. Davis, '88

* Veteran

Class of 1943 Meets for Christmas Luncheon

By: Cliff Edgumbe, '43

On Wednesday, December 9, 2009 the West Catholic Class of 1943 held their 20th Consecutive Christmas Luncheon. This year we enjoyed the Christmas ambiance of the Llanerch Country Club. Through the years we have alternated between Llanerch C.C. and Overbrook Golf Club. We had twenty-two in attendance, and our welcome guest was Brother Tim Ahern, President of West Catholic High School. Brother Tim told us of the enthusiastic spirit that prevails throughout the student body at the school. It was great to hear of the academic achievements taking place and of another fine football season at Alma Mater.

Upon graduating in June, 1943 practically the entire class entered the Armed Forces. World War II was at its zenith; many of these Burrs were in the European and Pacific theaters of war and came home with campaign ribbons, battle stars, and Purple Hearts. It was embarrassing however, as very few came home with Good Conduct Medals.

We concluded our Luncheon with a very robust vocal rendition of the School Song; it was loud and clear, full of spirit and pride. Long Live West Catholic!

CB Committee Thanks Sponsors

The Alumni Association and its Communion Breakfast Committee would like to thank all those who supported our Communion Breakfast Program by advertising in the 2009 booklet, especially the following:

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- Golden Burr Events Committee
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- DeFelice Family
- Malloy Family
- Fluck Family
- plus many patrons

The Great West Catholic Class of 1960 November Luncheon



Rich Linder (1st on the left) and Jim Hay (not pictured) attended the luncheon for the first time.

By: Jim Mulhern, '60

What is the best thing that can happen on a Wednesday afternoon in November...at the Llanerch Country Club? A Luncheon attended by at least 45 members of the GREAT West Catholic Class of 1960!

Several times over the years, the '60 BURRS took up Bob McGovern's invitation to meet, eat, greet and share stories of the past and present. The luncheon once again proved to be a festive occasion and several members of the Class — who had not attended in the past — brought their memories and commented sorely that they had not been able to attend some of the past luncheons.

The Class always has something to talk about and to share...and November 18th was no different! West Catholic Alumni had just honored three of the '60 Grads (Bill Simpson, Ed Kerr, and Lenny DeFiore) and all were still beaming from that.

The 50 Year Reunion Committee outlined their plans for April 9th, 2010 and the dining room went buzzing with anticipation. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our Reunion.



**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Francis X. Crowley, Esq. '77

President

West Catholic

Alumni Association

West Is Alive And Well, But...

Dear Fellow Alumni:

Since the Archdiocese announced the closing of Northeast Catholic and Cardinal Dougherty High Schools, there have been numerous questions about the future of West Catholic and how long it will stay open. Based on my many and frequent contacts with the school (as parent, coach, Alumni President and board member of the Friends of West Catholic), I can assure you that West Catholic is alive and well...BUT it is at a cross-roads! To keep West alive and well long into the future, its faithful ALUMNI and ALUMNAE must become much more active in supporting the School, its mission and the West Catholic Spirit and Tradition!

With the sad fate of North and Dougherty, the Archdiocese has made it clear that West must increase its student body. At approximately 500 students, West is one of the smallest schools in the Archdiocesan system. I have no doubt that West can increase its enrollment to the level necessary to keep it a vibrant, viable school. To accomplish this goal, however, two equally important tasks must be accomplished – attract more students (incoming freshmen and transfer students) and obtain the monetary resources to provide the financial aid and additional programs necessary to support those additional students.

Efforts to attract more students to West are well underway. The School has revitalized its recruiting program. Special out reaches are being made to the families of current and prospective North and Dougherty students, to let them know that their children are welcome at West and to invite them to become a part of our wonderful tradition. Increased emphasis has been placed on attracting 8th graders from Catholic and charter schools. These efforts ARE achieving results! For example, as of the date this article is being written, more than twice as many students have registered for the incoming class than at the same time last year!

However, West needs its Alumni and Alumnae to help spread the word that WEST STILL IS BEST and continues to remain that way! Encourage your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephew, friends and family to check out West! Elsewhere in this edition of The Emissary is a listing of some of the many, many recent accomplishments by West and its students – a list that should be impressive to any parent looking for a high school for their children!

Equally important, the financial resources must be obtained to enable those students and their families to afford the West Catholic education. Tuition and fees at West, as at all Archdiocesan high schools, is approximately \$6,000 or more (not counting the costs to join sports, etc.). In these difficult economic times, it truly is a sacrifice for many families to send their children to West. Indeed, currently about 80% of students receive financial aid, primarily through the generous support of YOU – the ALUMNI, ALUMNAE and FRIENDS of West Catholic who cherish and value what West has given to you. Now is the time to increase that support and to encourage other graduates and friends of West Catholic to do so as well. The School is running a special financial appeal (“Keep West The Best”). In addition to monetary donations, consider contributing your time – volunteer to start clubs (where are all the medical professionals, journalists, lawyers, accountants, military, engineers, police, investment advisors, etc. who could create clubs to introduce students to their professions?); work with existing programs that match your interests (drama, community service, cultural diversity, etc.); or mentor or tutor students.

Yes, West is alive and well but it faces many challenges in the near future – challenges that can and will be overcome with the help and support of the entire West Catholic Community! It is time for all of us to step up and do whatever we can for West. As proud Alumni of West Catholic, we owe that not only to our fellow graduates and to the Brothers and teachers who helped mold us in the past, but we also owe it to the current students and the future generations of West Catholic students who deserve to have the benefit of the same wonderful education that each of us had the privilege to receive!

St. John Baptist de La Salle, pray for us!
Live Jesus in our hearts, FOREVER!

Class Reunion Schedule

Your Alumni Association can provide your Reunion Committee with a current listing of your classmates – call 215-387-8560.

Class	Location/Date	Contact
1941 70th	5/5/10 Llanerch Country Club 950 West Chester Pike Havertown, PA	Jim Agnew 215-368-0955
1950 60th	9/24/10 Noon to 4 PM Drexelbrook Drexel Hill, PA	John Sherlock 610-446-7619 Patrick J. Quinn 610-353-3144
1955 55th	10/16/10 Anthony's Restaurant 4990 State Road Drexel Hill, PA	Bill Shea 610-251-9560 Sonny Jackson 610-353-3956
1960 50th	4/9/10 Airport Ramada 6 Industrial Hwy. Essington, PA	Jim Mulhern 610-353-3492 Reunion to incl. golf on 4/8/2010
1965 45th	11/26/10 Airport Ramada 6 Industrial Hwy. Essington, PA	James Keating 912-882-9585 jimk1057@tds.net Joseph Zerillo 856-986-2815 joezerillo@comcast.net

Any Class planning a reunion or that would like to plan one, please call the Alumni Office at 215-387-8560.

Class Luncheon

Class of '51 - 4/21/10

Casey's, Drexel Hill, PA

Men of the Alumni Association



(Pictured, left to right) Harry Mirra, '52, Ed McMerty, '52, Joe Ford, '60, Phil Girard, '46 and Jim Quigley, '45 work behind the scenes to keep the members of their individual graduating classes active in the support of West Catholic High School and their West Catholic Alumni Association.

Remembering Jack Lister, '45

Distinguished Member

Board of Governors

1927-2009

By: Jim Quigley, '45

when he became ill.

Jack Lister was born and raised in West Philadelphia, attended Transfiguration Church and graduated from Transfiguration School before entering West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys' in the fall of 1941. He was an active member in student affairs, a member of the basketball team and the Editor of the Class of 1945 yearbook. After graduating from West Catholic in 1945, Jack joined the Marine Corps and served in North China. On his return home he enrolled in St. Joseph's College where he was awarded a basketball scholarship and was Captain of the 1950-51 Team.

Jack was called back to Active duty with the Marine Corps in 1951; he served in Korea as a highly-decorated platoon leader. Remaining active in the Marine Corps for forty-two years, Jack retired as a Lt. Colonel. He was a member of the first graduating class at Villanova Law School and was an actuary for insurance companies, along with his own actuarial practice until 2006,

Jack Lister was very active in community affairs, serving as a basketball referee for high school and college games; for over 50 years he refereed wheelchair basketball and Special Olympic volleyball games.

While being very active, Jack found the time to be active with the West Catholic Alumni Association, and was so honored for his loyalty and accomplishments at one of the Association's Communion Breakfast events. Jack was also the point man for his class of 1945, a position he relished.

He was married to Mary Agnes Jackson for 35 years and they raised six children together until her untimely death in 1983. In 1988 he married Ellen Fitzgerald, whom he is survived along with two sons, four daughters, three step-children, twenty-three grandchildren, and fourteen great-grandchildren. Quite a legacy for a BURR who will always be remembered for his warm smile and for being a wonderful human being, and a true leader among men, Pro Deo et Patria.



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