The Future of West Catholic is in Our Hands!

Rumors have been swirling for many years about the future of West Catholic. Everyone should be aware that Catholic education in general, and particularly in the City, has been subjected to drastic cuts in the past decade, with the closing of iconic high schools, grade schools and parishes. However, we — the ENTIRE WEST CATHOLIC COMMUNITY — MUST REALIZE THAT, AT THIS TIME, THE FUTURE OF WEST CATHOLIC IS IN OUR HANDS AND THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW!

In the fall of 2010, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia announced the formation of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Catholic Education to study the feasibility of each school and to make recommendations, among other things, as to closures, consolidations and the re-shaping of our Catholic high school system. Five of the members and consultants on that commission are West Catholic alumni/alumnae! The Commission is expected to make its recommendations in October - November 2011.

Archdiocesan officials, teachers and persons throughout the area recognize the academic excellence of West Catholic. However, that will not insure its future. While there will be much discussion and serious consideration of Catholic mission, educational performance and the need for religious educational institutions, there can be no doubt that two factors will play the leading roles in the deliberations and recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission — finances and enrollment.

Finances and enrollment are linked hand in hand for West. While tuition and fees... (continued on page 2)

2011 Annual Fund Campaign Update Report

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

The Co-Chairmen for our 2011 Annual Fund Campaign, Tom McGinn, '65 and Dan Ruppert, '70 report that our Alumni Association Annual Fund Campaign for 2011 is running behind our conservative goal of $55,000. We respectfully request that all loyal members get involved and do what you can, if you can, to support our very worthy cause. We are presently at $36,000 and need your help!

If you have not responded to our initial request in January, we believe that you will recognize the importance of your involvement by sending your check, money order or credit card information to West Catholic Alumni Association, Post Office Box 889, Ardmore, PA 19003. For those who have made a donation, if you can make another, please do so...

Your Alumni Association continues now as it has for over 90 years to be a constant supporter of West Catholic High School; while we are very proud of our history we can also see the value of promoting the West Catholic of today and tomorrow. We also value all members of our Alumni Association and are here to service you with updated mailing lists, assistance with your reunions, our updated Web site www.westcatholicalumni.org and the printing of The Emissary to help keep you in touch with stories about the past, present and future.

We are confident that you care as we do! A coupon is provided on page 2 for your convenience to help us with this Annual Fund Campaign. Thank you for reading this report and thank you in advance for responding! All donations are appreciated!

Long Live West Catholic! And Long Live The Burrs!
The Future of West Catholic High School

(Continued from page 1)

The Archdiocese has made it very clear that it will not support schools that run deficits — resulting in the recent closures of Cardinal Dougherty and North Catholic High Schools. West Catholic has been very fortunate throughout the generosity of you, the Alumni, Alumnae, Friends of West Catholic and all members of the West Catholic Family — the deficits incurred by the School have always been paid in full. In a meeting with the Office of Catholic Education in February 2011, THE ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICIALS FRANKLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT, IN LARGE PART, WEST CATHOLIC HAS REMAINED OPEN BECAUSE OF THE DEVOTION, COMMITMENT AND GENEROSITY OF ITS GRADUATES!

However, because of the substantial needs (and the tumultuous economy) over the past few years, West’s endowment has been reduced from $5,000,000 to under $1,000,000. In recognition of the unique history of West Catholic, its tradition of excellent Catholic education and the support and application of its Alumni and Alumnae, the Archdiocese has taken the highly unusual step of asking that the Archdiocese absorb any deficit that the School incurs this year in order to allow West Catholic the opportunity to once again build up the financial resources that it would need to be financially stable in the future!

Many of you already have received letters explaining much of this message and requesting your support. Many more solicitations will come in the future. Personal contact is being made to many of the wealthier graduates and their families. Creative fund raising events — such as the concert by original cast members of the play Jersey Boys — are under way. Outreach is being made to the business community.

Announcing the 91st Annual Communion Breakfast

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 6, 2011! Join your classmates and friends that day for the West Catholic Alumni Association’s 91st Annual Communion Breakfast. Once again it will be held at the Springfield Country Club, with Mass at 9:00 am and Awards Breakfast following immediately.

Alumni Association Scholarship Funds

Many West Catholic alumni have worked together to establish scholarships for deserving West Catholic students and, at the same time, honor their own class or departed classmates. Each year, these funds provide financial assistance to deserving students who might not otherwise have the opportunity to experience the West Catholic Spirit and take advantage of the many wonderful opportunities provided by a West Catholic education. The funds listed here have been established through the Alumni Association. In addition, new scholarship funds can be created. Please support the existing funds by sending your donation to the scholarship fund of your choice, c/o West Catholic Alumni Association, P.O. Box 889, Ardmore, PA 19003.

Commemorative Breakfast Committee Thanks Sponsors

The Alumni Association Wells Fargo Advisors, S. Tulli, ’84
Camp’s Eatery, Mike and Denise, ’71
Philadelphia FOP Lodge #5, Survivor’s Fund, Blank Rome LLP.
Fran Crowley, Esq., ’77
B & E Sportswear, ’76
George’s Check Cashing, Lee Downs, ’55 and Mary
Conlin Downs, ’57
Lamp Tavern — Casey’s

CLAIRON K. McGarvey, West Catholic Memorial

All donations are appreciated and help support worthy students. In these tough economic times, your help is needed even more than ever!

CLIP ME AND RETURN WITH YOUR DONATION

2011 ALUMNI FUND RESPONSE COUPON

P.O. Box 889, Ardmore, PA 19003-0889, (800) 750-8560, (215) 387-8560

$2,500 (or more) $1,000 $500 $250 $100 $50 $25

Three Month Credit Card Plan — Amount $ (50 minimum)

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City/State/Zip E-mail

MasterCard VISA AMEX Discover Card

Signature Exp. Date

19003. If you are interested in starting a new schol- arship fund, please contact the Alumni Office at 215-387-8560.

Basil A. Woodfield Class of 1951
Edward F. Schehl Class of 1953
Bill Burns Class of 1960
Richardson Family
Kelly Family
Conway Family Class of 1946
Class of 1942
William H. McGarvey West Catholic Memorial

All donations are appreciated and help support worthy students. In these tough economic times, your help is needed even more than ever!

The Community Breakfast Committee wishes to thank the following for their help in making last year’s Communion Breakfast a success:

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Lamp Tavern — Casey’s

CLAIRON K. McGarvey, West Catholic Memorial

All donations are appreciated and help support worthy students. In these tough economic times, your help is needed even more than ever!
24th Annual Burrs at the Beach Celebration
Sunday, July 17, 2011 at Westy’s Irish Pub

By: Tom Dorrian ’61

Once again it is time to make plans to attend the 24th annual Burrs at the Beach all class reunion at Westy’s Irish Pub on Sunday July 17, 2011 in North Wildwood N.J.

Last year we lost 300+ people due to the humidity and heat. It wasn’t only hot and humid on that day but pretty much the entire summer. We hope this year will be much milder and hope that all of our West Catholic family returns to Burrs at the Beach in large numbers. West Catholic like all other catholic grade schools and high schools rely on fund raisers to stay open. I want to make sure that you know all money raised by Burrs at the Beach goes to CATHOLIC student tuition assistance only. Please plan to attend so that we may keep the doors of West Catholic open for a long time. It’s very important that you know that West Catholic is NOT closing. Raising funds is paramount to keeping West Catholic open. Please make plans to attend Burrs at the Beach this year or at least buy a ticket.

Mass will be celebrated at 11:15 AM in the tent at Westy’s Pub. All are welcome!

This year the West Catholic Burrs at the Beach celebration will once again be at Westy’s Irish Pub in North Wildwood N.J. on Sunday July 17, 2011 from noon to 7:00 PM. Ticket prices remain the same, $20.00 prepaid and $25.00 at the door.

Our gracious hosts Peg and Art West will welcome the West Catholic family to their lovely establishment. They will provide numerous food courts inside and out, upstairs and down with their usual culinary delights. There will also be many bars strategically placed throughout the venue providing your favorite beverage. Art and Peg West will continue to charge the same price for all drinks which are the same as we paid at Moore’s since 2000.

Westy’s Pub provides multi-dimensional party areas that include a huge outdoor tent, an upstairs outdoor deck overlooking the ground level patios and view of the Inlet. There is also an air conditioned bar just inside the deck and of course the huge main air conditioned bar area down stairs. DJ Jerry Smith will once again spin records that cover the 40’s to present to satisfy all musical tastes. We will also continue our popular 50/50 drawing that included one $1,000.00 and three $500.00 winners in 2010.

To make sure that everyone has a chance to win one of these prizes we will have many committee members filtering through all areas so that you may buy tickets. A new pickup location for the people that take our bus from Delaware County will be added in addition to Tip O’Leary’s Saloon at 300 North Wildwood Drive, Springfield, Pa., 610-789-1414 ask for Cathy Murphy. Pick up time is 10:30 AM sharp. Pick-up time will be 11:00 AM sharp from Jimmy D’s Bar, 1512 Chester Pike, Folcroft, Pa., 610-586-3300, ask for Mike Dolan. Reserve your seat early as we only have 55 seats available. Food and drink are not permitted on the bus.

I hope you are planning to attend the best all-class reunion of them all. Please come out and help us celebrate the 24th Burrs at the Beach and reminisce about your days at West with your old neighbors and classmates. We need to get the newer grads, both boys and girls, to support this great event. The money we raise will help keep West Catholic thriving and open.

See you all on Sunday July 17, 2011.

Join the B@B Golf Outing

A $25.00 deposit per golfer is required. Checks should be payable to Bill Simpson, 9 Netherwood Drive, Springfield, PA 19064.

For more information please call:
Bill Simpson at 610-544-4480 609-729-4457 (after 6/17/11)
Joe Manfre - 610-662-2571
Dave Joslin - 610-259-0753

Cash Bar available at the Club after Golf
**Broadway West Sparkles at West**

The first weekend in April saw a very talented group of 18 alums of the girls’ and boys’ high schools return to the West Catholic stage where they had performed so well when they were students in the 1950’s and 1960’s.

It was aptly titled Broadway West, a revue of over 30 songs from the 18 musicals that were presented at West Catholic from 1950’s Red Mill to West’s 1967 production of Guys and Dolls.Produced by Edward Carey, ’52, co-directed by Frank Lamont, ’61 and Frank Livoy, ’64, and with Frank Jackson, ’61 as the superb musical director, an enthralled audience totally enjoyed this “blast from the past” of the golden age of the Broadway musical theater. And it was obvious that the alum performers, enjoyed it just as much or more.

Ed Carey, who as Brother E. William, had been the moderator for the West Catholic Drama Club for many of these shows and had maintained contact with many of his high school stars. Over the years, at various get-togethers of the group, talk of an alumni show always got high interest. In fact, this is the second one produced; the first one being in October 2008. It was the success of that first one, along with the fun had by all the singers and dancers, that led Ed and the directors, with the cooperation of Bro. Tim Ahern, West’s President, to return to the footlights this year.

The cast opened the show with their “theme song,” capturing their feelings for the shows they were in at West, the fun they had, the challenges they had met as teenage singers and dancers, and their fond memories of their director, WCAU’s Margaret Mary Kearney: “What We Did For Love.”

While each number, whether solo, duet, or group, was special in its own way, the cast really thrilled the audience with their ensemble numbers “Just In Time,” “If I Were A Bell,” “Guys and Dolls,” “Charleston With Me?,” “This Isn’t Love,” “Won’t You Be My Sweetheart,” “Some Enchanted Evening,” “It’s a Lovely Day For A扬尘,” “Marry Me, Mae,” “He’s Not Worth While,” “I Could Have Danced All Night,” “If I Were a Bell,” “This Isn’t Love,” “Won’t You Be My Sweetheart,” “Some Enchanted Evening,” “It’s a Lovely Day For A扬尘,” “Marry Me, Mae,” “He’s Not Worth While.”

The entire cast then did an encore of both West Catholic Boys’ and West Catholic Girls’ school songs with many in the auditorium joining in. Congratulations and well done to all who made Broadway West a grand night for singing!!

**Name These Burrs**

Identify as many Burrs as you can and mail your answer to: Name these Burrs, Post Office Box 889, Ardmore PA 19003. You could qualify to win a Burrrland Limited Edition shirt, blue or black, long sleeve or short sleeve. When you respond, tell us your color preference, size and either long or short sleeve, along with your mailing address and Class year.

**Remembering a True Believer**

Conrad J. Schwoerer, ’26, came to West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys’ in the early 20’s from St. Barbara Parish, residing at 2280 N. 52nd Street. He was active in the Chemistry Club and baseball (serving as the assistant manager in ’25 and Manager in ’26). He was also a member of the Swimming Team. Following his years at West Catholic, Conrad was successful in the investment field.

Over the years, there was always clear communication with the West Catholic Alumni Association. This connection continued until his passing a few years ago. Following this the Alumni Association learned that this believer did not forget them. The Alumni Association was included in his will for a generous amount. His thoughtfulness enabled the Alumni to totally update the sound system for the auditorium at West Catholic High School. Each time you enjoy a performance at this beautiful facility, think of Conrad J. Schwoerer, ’26, a true believer!

**We’re Looking for a Few Good Burrs**

If you can provide up-to-date contact information for these members of the Alumni Association, please do so by writing to us at Missing Burrs, Post Office Box 889, Ardmore PA 19003 or by sending an e-mail to westcathalumni@aol.com. Thank you in advance for helping us to update our Alumni Association mailing list:

- Conrad J. Schwoerer, ’26
- Kemper W. Bickford, ’31
- Robert V. Angott, ’26
- Edmund J. Brogan, MD ’28
- Thomas A. Loftus MD ’31
- William P. Caplis ’36
- John P. Dean, Jr. ’37
- John J. Diskin ’38
- John J. Corcoran ’38
- Joseph D. McDonough ’39
- Joseph A. McNellis ’41
- James P. McErroe ’44
- Gerald P. Powell ’47
- Edward F. Yost ’49
- George J. O’Donnell ’49
- Roger J. Craig ’51
- John E. Keffer ’53
- Thomas M. White ’53
- James P. Angelucci ’54
- Edward Chobert ’54
- Carmen Gentile ’54
- John P. Kennedy, Jr. ’54
- Charles J. Santangelo ’55
- Michael A. Conte ’56
- Salvatore G. Del Ciotto ’59
- James F. Tallon ’60
- William J. Dahn ’60
- Vincent J. Garr ’60
- Edward F. Muller ’60
- Robert J. Vain ’60
- Joseph A. Howdershell ’61
- Carmen M. Palmiero ’61
- Dennis H. Whitman ’62
- Francis J. Fitzsimmons ’62
- Timothy Loddy ’63
- Martin J. Carey ’66
- Dr. Alfred R. Zikowitz ’66
- John J. Paylor ’68
- Anthony P. Cevoli ’69
- Thoem Culp ’70
- John W. Duffy ’70
- Robert P. Rogers, Jr. ’74
- Daniel N. Alessandine ’74
- Anthony Dragan ’74
- Keith Jones ’74
- Joseph J. McFadden ’74
- William Reilly ’75
- James Dougherty ’76
- Gregory Southard ’76
- William P. Chambers ’76
- William J. Johnstone ’79
- Giorgio Agostini ’79
- Timothy Doughtrey ’79
- Burree Gaeta ’79
- Bruce McLaughlin ’79
- John M. D’Alessandro ’80
- Anthony Joyner ’80
- Marc J. Jones ’81
- William O’Mara ’81
- Rodney P. Webb ’83
- Lloyd Redd ’85
- Hoang M. Nguyen ’88
- Steven A. Cronin ’90
- Donald Dennis ’92
- Gene Volpe ’93
- Darren T. Dupree ’94
- Joseph P. Hannan ’95
- Joseph C. Meghian ’95
- Gregory T. Thomas ’2001
- John F. Palmiero ’2002
- David L. Torres ’2003
- Raymond P. Hill ’2005
- Marques Slocum ’2005
- John L. Maddox ’2006

**Herb Magee to be Inducted Into Basketball Hall of Fame**

Herb Magee, ’59, will travel to Springfield Massachusetts soon to be inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame as part of Class of 2011. Quite an Honor and one that we can celebrate as fellow Burrs!

Congratulations go out to...”Determined Herb Magee”, Class of 1959, West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys.
Lincoln Townsend is a Track Coach Without a Track

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., ’60

The West Catholic track team has a friend in Lincoln Townsend, Jr. He is presently the head coach for the West Catholic High School Track & Field program (boys & girls), ably assisted by his father, Lincoln Townsend, Sr. The program does not have a track, but does have a friend who serves as their caring and talented head track coach. The West Catholic Track program has not had a track to call their own since the closing of West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys in 1989. Since taking over his current position as head coach for the program, Townsend has set the bar high for the West Catholic students who choose to participate. This was recently evident when the Lady Burrs Track team finished third out of 11 teams competing in the Catholic League Track and Field Championships, while the Boys’ team placed 5th out of 12 teams competing at Upper Darby High School on Saturday, May 14.

Helping the Lady Burrs Score 86 points were Michelle Davis, first in the 200 meter with a time of 25.01, who was followed by teammate Jada Steward at 25.56 in this event. Michelle Davis also won the 400 meter with a time of 56.49 followed by her teammate Mia Hicks who finished third with a time of 59.56. Kira Bright was second in the Triple Jump at 34-6. The 4 x 400 relay team of Careta Williams, Jada Steward, Mia Hicks and Michelle Davis came in first with a time of 3:59.73. Pretty good for a team without a facility to work on hurdles and key field events such as high jump, pole vault, javelin, discuss and shot put. The Boys’ team scored 41 points to go with their 5th place finish, led by Todd Townsend’s first place in the 300 hurdles. This talented sophomore is also the son of the head coach. Todd’s first place time was 39.12. He also placed second in the 110 hurdles with time of 15.30. The West Catholic 4 x 100 relay team finished in third place with time of 43.89 and Tristan Freestone placed second in the javelin with a throw of 163-3.

Dateline May 20, 2011: West Catholic High School swept the team titles in both boys’ and girls’ track at the District 12 AA Championship meet at Northeast High. West boys scored 113 and West girls scored 142 points. Another good day for West Catholic Track! Keep the Spirit...Support West Catholic and the Alumni Association.

Bill Charlton ’53

All-American Soccer Team

Recently, Bob Smith ’53 was asked to inquire about his Classmate, Bill Charlton. Bill lived in Visitacion BVM Parish. After graduating West Catholic, Bill attended Temple University where he earned a unique distinction among West Catholic graduates; Bill is the only known Alumnus to have been selected as First Team All American in Soccer while playing for Temple! If you have any information on Bill, please contact Crowley@blankrome.com and we will pass the information on to Bob Smith!

West Catholic High School Sports Hall of Fame — 2011

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., ’60

Over 300 of the West Catholic faithful attended the Annual West Catholic High School Sports Hall of Fame Dinner & Awards Ceremony on Saturday, March 26, 2011 at the Ramada Inn in Essington, PA. The following athletes were honored this year: Leo Dillon, ’43, Football (Posthumously) Charles Albertus, ’47, Football (Posthumously) William "Bill" Rahi, ’55, Track (Posthumously) Raymond "Ray" Brown, ’57, Basketball Ralph Morris, ’74, Cross Country & Track

Calling All Soccer Alumni!

On October 2, 2011, the Alumni Association will host the Annual Soccer Alumni Game at Penrose Park, located at 74th Street and Lindbergh Blvd. in Southwest Phila. Registration will be at 12 noon; the game will start at 1:00 pm.

Hopefully many former players will return for camaraderie and fun (as well as some music!) In addition to providing the opportunity for former players to see if they can still kick a ball, a closing ceremony will be planned in light of the School’s termination of the Soccer Team. Further information will be posted on the Alumni Web site, www.westcatholicalumni.org. For more information, contact Fran Crowley at Crowley@blankrome.com or 610-246-1020.

Rashana Barnes Returns to West

Rashana E. Barnes, ’98

Rashana E. Barnes, ’98, a former star player for the Lady Burrs Catholic League Basketball Champions in 1998 who went on to excel as a player at Penn State University, is now the head coach for the West Catholic Girls’ Basketball team. She is very confident that she and her staff will develop a very competitive team over the next few seasons. Just another example of a successful West student returning to their Alma Mater to teach, lead and prepare her players for basketball and life. The Emissary staff met Coach Barnes at Lansdale Catholic High School following one of her away games earlier this year. Welcome home Rashana Barnes, Class of 1998!

The End of Over 50 Years of Soccer Tradition

Rashana E. Barnes

Members of the 2010 Pennsylvania AA Football Champions

Burr’s Join All-Star Football Classic

The West Catholic High School 2010 State of PA PIAA AA State Champion Football team is sending 12 of their senior players to the Philadelphia Eagles All-Star Football Classic to be played at Lincoln Financial Field on Saturday, May 21st. Head Coach Brian Fluck and his staff are very proud to have 12 Burr’s on a team of 46 representing the non-public team. Quite an honor.

The senior players include: Jaelen Strong-Rankin, Quaran Kent, Anthony Reid, Anthony McDonough, Brandon Hollemon, Dion Givens, David Sherman, Joshua Mathis, Jim Lynch, Kevin Burns, Rodney Linder and Kris Padgett. This information was supplied by Ted Sily of the Philadelphia Daily News.

After 55 seasons, West Catholic’s Men’s Soccer team has reluctantly hung up its spikes! Due to the need to make budget cuts, West Catholic announced in March that it will not field a Men’s Soccer Team in the 2011-2012 school year due to budget cuts required by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Starting in the 1956-1957 School year, West continuedously has fielded soccer teams in the Philadelphia Catholic League, affording thousands of students the opportunity to play the World’s most popular sport, also known as the “Beautiful Game”. Over the years, West Soccer has fielded many competitive and play-off teams. This past season, for the first time, the Burr’s played in the PIAA District 12 Class A Championship. Throughout the last half century, many West Catholic soccer players went on to play — and coach — at the collegiate level! One Alum, Bill Charlton, was selected to the 1963 Division I NCC All-Star Team for his accomplishments playing at Temple University. More recently, West Catholic have gone on to play at Philadelphila Textile (now Philadelphia University), Cabrini College, Holy Cross and Williamson School. Currently, former Burr’s are playing at Penn State University and Rosemont College.

Many former West Catholic soccer players can be found coaching school, youth and club teams throughout the area. Soccer will be missed by many students, players and alumni! West Catholic’s administration turned down an offer by Soccer Alumni to fund the team for the 2011-2012 season and other volunteers to include Bill Strain,’41, Tom Strain and Patrick Strain, a very special part of the West Catholic football program, who died suddenly last year. Chairman George Light, ’58 kept the evening moving along and all of the Honorees, their families, friends and classmates enjoyed a great night of celebration.
By: Ed Kerr, Jr., ’60

Tom Gaughan, ’64 of Roseland, NJ, recently contacted us as did Frank X. Quinn, ’72 of Honolulu, HI. We heard from Richard Manning, ’60 of Allentown, PA, along with James and Rita Wright, ’68 from Phoenix Park, PA. Horvat, ’63 from Cherry Hill, NJ, checked in and so did Charles Kelly, ’46 from beautiful San Diego. Tom Cullen, ’50 reported from St. Petersburg, FL. Richard J. Gallagher, ’52 “Class of Champions” made contact from Drexel Hill, PA, with Frank, ’38 and Regina, ’41 Goodridge also of Drexel Hill, Pat Del Collo of Springfield, PA did the same to our communication pertaining to the 2011 Annual Fund Campaign.

Charles Lamb, ’53 and Board of Governor member was pleased with the Alumni merchandise he recently purchased and also supported the cause.

Coach Tom DeFelice, ’64, who followed his Championship playing days at West Catholic High at Temple University and eventually became a City of Philadelphia School District teacher at BOK Vocational in South Philadelphia where he coached football and baseball for many years, is retiring at the end of the school year after 43 years of service. His retirement celebration will take place on June 8th at the beautiful Waterfall Room Snyder Avenue and Water Street from 6 PM until 11:00 PM. Tickets are $40.00. Contact Chris DeFelice at 215-858-5362 or Roscoe Natale at 267-240-0487 for more information.

Francis J. Keough, ’50 of Chandler, Arizona, along with classmates Paul F. Nestel of Upper Darby, PA, and John P. Cassells of Richmond, VA, also checked in recently.

Joe McGowan, ’71 who is the proud proprietor of Coaches Bar and Grill in downtown Essington, PA, also checked in and is interested in Coach Guy Moore’s plan for the Boys basketball program. He will be happy to know that Coach Herb Magee, ’59 of Philadelphia University (who will be inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, MA, this year) accepted an invitation from Coach Moore to speak to this year’s team and their parents at the West Catholic High School Boys Basketball banquet held at West Catholic in early May. This writer, along with classmate Jack Lawler, ’60 and Joe Looby, ’52 were also happy to attend and meet some of the players and coaches and, of course, to wish Coach Moore the best and congratulate our Hall of Fame friend Herb Magee. Also in attendance with Coach Magee was one of his Assistant coaches at Philadelphia University, Jim Reilly, and West Catholic Class of 1994.

Ed and Dolores Boyle, ’52 of Havertown, PA, send their best to classmates as does Gerard Lynch, ’52 of Lakewood Ranch, FL.


John F. Laumakis, ’54, Mullica Hill, NJ, and John D. Heppler, ’62 are awaiting the next issue of The Emissary.


Joseph B. Keenan, IL, ’61 is awaiting information about their 50 year Reunion for his class of 1961.

Joe Ford, ’60 is still in Drexel Hill, PA, but plans to move to center city Philadelphia.

Tom Brennan, ’66 is enjoying Lehigh Acres, FL, and sends his best to all of his 1966 classmates.

William H. Hansell, ’55 of Macungie, PA, along with Dan Callahan, ’75 of Princeton Junction, NJ, send their best to all Burrs!


John F. Rubio, ’66 Placentia, CA, is Proud to be a Burr.

Joe, ’52 and Joan, ’51 Dollymore celebrated 55 years of marriage on May 19, 2011 in Ocean City, NJ. Our sincere Congratulations!

James, ’40 and Peg, ’44 Newell of Bethel, CT, join Thomas Jones, ’77 of Philadelphia and Tom Quigley, ’45 of Cherry Hill, NJ, with best wishes for a wonderful Burrs at the Beach celebration in July.

Kareem Thomas, ’93 and William Liney, ’49 join Mike Ferrara, ’60 and Joseph T. Mahoney, ’76 in wishing the very best for West Catholic High School.

Kevin Burns, ’11 is looking forward to attending Widener University Chester, PA, to study engineering; Jim Lynch, ’11 will be attending Norfolk State in the fall.

Jim Coyne, ’39, a member of the Board of Governors, recently celebrated a very happy 90th Happy Birthday. Join All the best to Peg and you for a wonderful summer!

Richard Gross, ’61 of Ocean City NJ, and Wayne Sutkus, ’61, Brigantine, NJ, are also looking for information about their 50 year reunion. Just in…Nick Cirone, ’61 and Jim Mayo, ’61 hope that Dan F. Harrell, ’61 will also attend.

Looking Back...To Look Ahead

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., ’60

Over some 90 years we can look back to see those who helped to build the West Catholic Alumni Association. Jim Mundy, ’40, Bill “Whiley” McGarvey, ’27 and J. Howard McCaffrey, ’43, (all deceased) who joined with Coach Moore to organize the early 1900’s at the then new West Catholic High School at 4501 Chestnut Street, are wonderful examples of true believers. These three men having worked through the Great Depression and World War II, held a very special spirit and love in their hearts for West Catholic High School and their Alumni Association. They supported both, because they believed in Catholic education. Help us to continue what these good men worked to build…Look back to our foundation so we can look ahead.

Remembering Pat Carey, ’55

Pat Carey, ’55, inducted to the West Catholic Sports Hall of Fame in 2009 for Basketball has passed away in Las Vegas Nevada. Pat was an important part of the 1955 West Catholic High School Catholic League Basketball Championship team coached by Jim Ullston. His game high 47 points during the 1955 season, moved him ahead of Joe Ryan of St. Joe Prep, who had previously held the single scoring record of 45 points in a single game.

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West Catholic Class of 1960 Luncheon

First timers who attended the lunch from left to right: Jim Hay, John Theodosiades, John Norton, George Bradin, Matt Schatzman, Joe Batory and Jack Schmidt.

By: Joseph P. Batory ’60

I have never been that much of a “social butterfly” so it was with some reluctance that I attended the Class of ’60’s 50th reunion last spring. To my surprise, I had a wonderful evening and was surprised at how many attendees I knew. More importantly, each of the many classmates with whom I conversed was very friendly. This event renewed many old friendships and provided many great memories for me. All of us may have been “just a bit older,” but it really was like taking a time machine back to 1960.

At the 50th reunion, Bob McGovern invited me to join the next semi-annual Class of 1960 luncheon at the Llanerch Country Club on November 17th; to my surprise this event brought more than 44 of my classmates together again. This time — since the ice was broken — I was much more comfortable and had a terrific time. This event was inexpensive with great food and camaraderie and held in a great venue. The interactions with many classmates were nostalgic, often filled with humorous anecdotes, and generated memories about our neighborhoods, our school, famous (and some infamous) Christian Brothers and our parishes. If you would like information on the next Great West Catholic Class of 1960 Luncheon contact Bob McGovern at 610-583-4469.

News from the Class of 1964

After a long hiatus, the Class of ’64 resurrected their “Best Ball” Golf Outings with play in October and November, 2010, and again in March, April and May, 2011. The above picture is from the November outing. In fact, the class now expects to play monthly throughout November, typically on the second Thursday of the month, a “Whoever Shoes, Goes” approach.

Play will rotate between several local courses. All players and former players should understand that while they may have lost their “A” game or perhaps never had an “A” game, these WC64 outings are the perfect venue for the most talented and the least experienced players, and everyone in-between. “Best Ball Play” is perhaps the perfect format to bring all skill levels together.

Sign up as a twosome, threesome or foursome, or we’ll place you with one. These outings offer a great opportunity to catch-up with lifelong friends and/or to reconnect with many others before “Teeing off” on the course and at lunch afterwards.

Not a golfer? Then join us for lunch on the 19th hole. Please contact Joe (Mick) Kelly at j.mickkelly@gmail.com or at 484-949-4733 for more information or to sign-up.

Class of 1947 Hosts Luncheon

On October 18, 2010 the Class of 1947 held a luncheon at Casey’s in Newtown Square, PA. Pictured, sitting (left to right): Don McGroey, Tom Simpsons, H. Jerry Donohie, Joe McCauley and Bob Gregg.


For additional information, call John J. Donoghue at 610-738-4121.

Class of ’46 Cancels 65th Reunion

Plans to commemorate the 65th year of graduation of the Class of 1946 have been cancelled. The local members of the class who usually plan these parties felt it would be impossible, due to age and distance, to obtain a significant turnout. Jack Quinn will continue to host quarterly luncheons which have been very successful for many years. These are held at Casey’s in Newtown Square.

50 Year Reunion – Class of 1961

Before the New Year 2011 the Great Class of 1955 gathered at Anthony’s Restaurant in Drexel Hill PA to celebrate their 55 year reunion in style when they made a major donation of $10,000 to West Catholic High School. Brother Tim Ahern accepted this substantial gift from Frank Jackson.

Frank Jackson (left) and Bill Shea were honored by their classmates when Jack Follman (right) presented both men with plaques for their many years of service to the Class of 1955 who always have a great reunion celebration. The Alumni also received a very nice gift of $1,200.00.
FROM THE PRESIDENT

Francis X. Crowley, Esq. '77
President
West Catholic
Alumni Association

Celebrating 95 Years of Service...Working Toward 100 Years!

West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys opened its doors in September 1916 and, for the last 95 years, has served the greater West Philadelphia and Southwest Philadelphia communities — and beyond. The dedicated religious and lay members of the faculty over those years have provided a Christ-centered, Catholic education — and a strong foundation on which to build their lives — to thousands of young men (and more recently, young women) from throughout the City and Delaware County!

Every alumnus and alumna has the right to be proud of the accomplishments of the West Catholic Communities. Graduates have served in the highest level of government and religious life! Many West alums recent and longer past have made great contributions in the fields of education, medicine, business, law, public safety, public service and the military!

Each of us has been fortunate, too, to have benefitted from a West Catholic education — providing us with the scholastic tools and the religious and moral foundation to strive for our goals.

Celebrate the many accomplishments of West Catholic and her of our alma mater and of that wonderful, intangible but very real West Catholic Spirit!

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Now that we have reached this milestone, let us also do whatever each of us can to make sure that West moves forward to its centennial year! As discussed elsewhere in this edition of The Emissary, the future of West Catholic is in our hands! It is up to us to make sure West reaches the 100 year mark — and many more years after that. We owe it to the many alums that have gone before us — and to the many students of the future — to do our utmost best to keep West Best and preserve that West Catholic Spirit!

Class Reunion Schedule
Your Alumni Association can provide your Reunion Committee with a current list of your classmates — call 215-387-8560

IN MEMORIAM

Remember Our Deceased Alumni In Your Prayers