

WEST CATHOLIC ALUMNI EMISSARY

The Official Publication of the West Catholic Alumni Association

Web site: www.westcatholicalumni.org

VOLUME LXVII

Winter 2012

NUMBER 1

WEST CATHOLIC ALUMNI ASSN.

PO Box 889
Ardmore, PA 19003-9647

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Philadelphia, PA
Permit No. 2493

THE SPIRIT LIVES ON! WEST CATHOLIC TO REMAIN OPEN!



On January 6, 2012, the sad announcement came that West, after 96 years, would close in 2012. But that was not the final word!

At 3:00 pm on February 24, 2012, a proverbial miracle happened! Archbishop Charles Chaput announced that West Catholic along with Bonner-Prendergast, St. Hubert and Conwell-Egan High Schools — would remain open!

Due to the dogged determination of Philadelphia area businessmen and political leaders as well as the grass roots out pouring of support by many members of the Catholic community, a plan was implemented to create a major educational foundation to support Catholic secondary education throughout the Philadelphia area. Led by prominent businessman Brian O'Neill and State Senator Anthony Hardy Williams, the campaign already has raised \$12,000,000, with an ultimate goal of \$100,000,000 by 2017. West Catholic's own chaplain, Rev. Michael Marrone, was instrumental in working with Mr.

O'Neill and Sen. Williams to make sure that West Catholic would continue its mission to bring Catholic education to West Philadelphia and surrounding areas.

According to *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, "West Catholic — the only high school whose president had not appealed the commission's recommendations — was the catalyst." *Philadelphia Inquirer*, "How 4 Catholic schools were saved", February 26, 2012. The article further reported:

"It actually started with two friends of mine from the Main Line, who wish to remain anonymous." [Mr. Brian] O'Neill said Saturday in an interview with *The Inquirer*. "And it was my friend's wife who called me on the phone and said she wanted to see that West stayed open."

On Feb. 11, as snow swirled outside, O'Neill met at a Main Line home with those two friends and State Sen. Anthony Hardy Williams (D-S. Phila.) who told him how important the 95 year-old West was for its students and the city.

See *Phila. Inquirer*, "How 4 Schools were saved," Feb. 26, 2012, p. 20.

Brother Tim Ahern, former president of West Catholic, was the only president of the high schools selected to close to not file an appeal. Despite Brother Tim's decision, the administration and the faculty — led by Father Marrone — unanimously requested that the Archdiocese reconsider West Catholic as a Mission School. Father Marrone and the Faculty continued to advocate for West; Brother Ahern had resigned as President on February 9th.

Originally, the effort being led by Mr. O'Neill focused on Bonner-Prendie and St. Hubert's, but was to broaden to include West and Conwell-Egan. Brother Tim's resignation, however, made it difficult for the campaign to include West. As a result of conversations on February 11th between the Alumni Association and the President of Bonner-Prendie, Mr. O'Neill had discussions with the West Catholic Alumni Association on Sunday, February 12. The Association assured Mr. O'Neill of the Association's support and advised Mr. O'Neill of the ongoing efforts by Father Marrone and the faculty. Father Marrone, together with members of the school's administrations and faculty, worked tirelessly with Mr. O'Neill for the next two weeks to formulate the plan to save West!

First opening its doors in 1916, West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys started a 96 year tradition of Christ-centered excellence in education and service to God and Country! In 1927, later, West Boys was joined by its sister school, West Philadelphia Girls High School. Together they educated thou-

sands of children, helping them develop into Catholic men and women, for many decades.

In 1989, the schools were merged, producing the current West Philadelphia Catholic High School, which has proudly carried on the traditions of excellence that distinguished West Boys and West Girls from other high schools.

In 1992, the Archdiocesan advisors, Coopers & Lybrand issued a report recommending that West Catholic be closed in 1993-1994. Since that time, it was the generosity and support of thousands of Alumni and Alumnae that combined to keep West Catholic open and keep the Spirit alive! That legacy of contribution to enable thousands of other students to obtain a West Catholic education is a legacy of which Alumni and Alumnae should be proud!

The efforts of so many people now have set the stage for West to continue its mission. The outpouring of support by so many to keep West open — many who are not even West grads — constitutes a challenge to all West Catholic grads and all members of the West Catholic Family to step forward and to support the School, its faculty and its students even far more strongly than in the past! Archbishop Chaput, Mr. O'Neill, Sen. Williams and Father Marrone have done a marvelous deed in keeping West from closing. IT IS NOW UP TO ALL OF US TO MAKE SURE THAT WEST THRIVES AND GROWS!

To help your Alumni Association continue its mission to serve our Alumni and provide much-needed support to the students of West Catholic, please use the accompanying coupon to make a donation to the Association's Annual Fund!

2012 ALUMNI FUND RESPONSE COUPON

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

\$2,500 (or more) \$1000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25
 Three Month Credit Card Plan — Amount \$ _____ (\$50 minimum)

Name _____ Class _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City/State/Zip _____ E-mail _____

MasterCard VISA AMEX Discover Card# _____

Signature _____ Exp. Date _____

Announcing the Principal Celebrant and Honorees for the 91st Annual Communion Breakfast

The West Catholic Alumni is proud to announce the Principal Celebrant for the Communion Breakfast and the Honorees to receive awards at the 91st Annual Communion Breakfast to be held on April 15, 2012. Detailed biographies of each honoree will be provided in the Program Book for the Communion Breakfast Awards Ceremony.

Principal Celebrant – Father Michael Marrone

Father Marrone has only been at West Catholic for a short time but, in that time, he

has made a tremendous impact on the School, the students and the West Catholic Family. A Catholic High School Teacher before entering the Seminary, Father Mike is a true proponent of Catholic Education and played a very major role in the effort to keep West Catholic open.

50th Anniversary Golden Burr Awards – Tim Clifford, '62 and John Heppler, '62

As a representatives of the true West Catholic Spirit and many accomplishments of the great 50 year Golden Anniver-

sary Class of 1962, Mr. Clifford is being honored for his many years of distinguished service to our County and his community and Mr. Heppler will be honored for his strong support of West catholic through the years.

Bishop John J. McCort Award – Sister Mary Bur, IHM and Father Michael Marrone

Sister Mary Bur is being honored in recognition of her many years of service to the students of West Catholic and for providing leadership throughout this past difficult

year. Sister Mary also is being asked to accept the award as a token of the Association's gratitude for the many years of service by Sisters of the various religious orders.

Father Marrone will be receiving the Bishop McCort Award in recognition of his tireless efforts to keep West Catholic open and to obtain support of the school's mission from many, many sources. Father Mike also has been asked to accept the award as a token of the Association's gratitude.

Brother Edwin Anselm Award – Brother Patrick Cassidy, FSC

Brother Patrick Cassidy will be receiving the Brother Edwin Anselm Award both in recognition of his dedication to the West Catholic students and as a token of the Association's gratitude to the many Christian Brothers that have served West Catholic since 1926.

A lay member of the Faculty also will be honored in recognition of the many years of ser-

vice and as a token of the Association's gratitude for the dedication of the many lay faculty members that have contributed to the excellence of West Catholic throughout its existence.

Golden Burr Award – Frank McNally, '56

Frank "Pop" McNally, '56. is being honored for his dedication to West Catholic and to many young football players that have benefitted from his coaching, guidance and care.

William H. McGarvey Award – James Coyne, '39

Mr. Coyne, a long-time member of the Board of Governors, will be receiving the William H. McGarvey Award in recognition of his many years of service to the West Catholic Alumni Association.

Brother John Owens Award – Robert Simpson, '52

Mr. Simpson is being honored for his many contributions to the Class of 1952 and fellow alumni over the years.

JOIN FRIENDS AND FAMILY AT THE 91ST ANNUAL COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Come and join your classmates and friends on April 15, 2013 at the West Catholic Alumni Association's 91st Annual Communion Breakfast. Once again it will be held at the Springfield Country Club on Route 320 in Springfield, PA. Mass will begin at 9:00 am and the Awards Breakfast will follow immediately.

This year's Mass and Communion Breakfast will be offered in thanksgiving for the wonderful gift of a West Catholic education that so many students were privileged to receive throughout the 96 years of West Catholic's existence and for the decision by the Archdiocese on February 24th that will allow West to continue to serve current and future generations of students. It will be

an occasion to celebrate the fact that THE WEST CATHOLIC SPIRIT LIVES ON!

The principal celebrant for the Mass will be Father Michael Marrone, West Catholic's Campus Minister, with a number of Priest-Alumni as concelebrants. Once again, the Mass will feature a highly inspirational music program. Members of the Golden Anniversary Class of 1962 will assist at Mass.

The Communion Breakfast Awards Ceremony once again will provide us with the opportunity to honor the accomplishments of fellow grads while also enjoying time with friends and fellow alums. The Golden Anniversary Class of 1962 will be honored as we approach the 50th Anniversary of their graduation. As always, other individ-

ual Alums will be honored for their contributions to the School, the Alumni or their communities. In addition, special recognition will be given to the many Christian Brothers, Religious Sisters, Lay Faculty and Priests who have served so faithfully at West Catholic through the last 96 years!

Cost for the Communion Breakfast will be \$25.00 again this year. Tickets (individual or tables) may be purchased by calling Jay Sawyer, '59 at the Alumni Office (215-387-8560) or by returning the coupon below. Also, ads and sponsorships for the program book may be purchased by using the attached coupon or by contacting Fran Crowley, '77 at 215-569-5627 or crowley@blankrome.com.

WEST CATHOLIC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 91st ANNUAL COMMUNION BREAKFAST PROGRAM BOOK ADS AND TICKET ORDER FORM

Be a part of the 91st Annual Communion Breakfast! Honor your class and award recipients! Promote your business or be a patron!

ADS:

Inside Front Cover.....	\$300
Page #1	\$275
Outside Back Cover.....	\$275
Inside Back Cover.....	\$250
Full Page.....	\$150
Half Page	\$80
Quarter Page.....	\$60
Business Card.....	\$30
Patron.....	\$10

Please return the coupon below with copy, photo and/or art work, along with check or money order payable to West Catholic Alumni Association. Credit Card payments are accepted for orders of \$100.00 or more.

TICKETS:

Tickets for the Communion Breakfast are \$25.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door. Tables may be purchased in groups of 8 or 10 tickets.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number of Ads: _____ Ad Sizes: _____

Payment Amount for Ads: _____

Number of Tickets: _____ Payment Amount for Tickets: _____

Total Amount of Check or Money Order: _____

(Optional) For orders of \$100 or more: Credit Card Type: _____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date: _____

RETURN BY MARCH 24, 2012 TO WEST CATHOLIC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, c/o Fran Crowley, 612 Harper Ave., Drexel Hill, PA 19026. For tickets, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. If no envelope is enclosed, then the tickets will be held at the door under your name on the day of the Breakfast.

• TICKET COUPON •

91st ANNUAL COMMUNION BREAKFAST
Sunday, April 15, 2012

• Sponsored by West Catholic
Alumni Association •

Name: _____

Class: _____

Address : _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Check No: _____ No. of Tickets @\$25.00 _____

Please enclose with pre-stamped, self-addressed envelope and send to:

West Catholic Alumni Association
P.O. Box 889 Ardmore, PA 19003

• Return No Later Than March 30th •

BURRS AT THE BEACH Sunday, July 8, 2012

1:00 pm to 7:00 pm

WESTY'S IRISH PUB

North Wildwood, New Jersey

Enclosed is _____ for _____ tickets at \$20 each.

Please send tickets to:

Name _____ Class _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(_____) _____

Please make checks payable to:

“Friends of West Catholic”

SEND THIS COUPON, ALONG WITH A STAMPED
SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE TO:

John McMurrough
1151 Villanova Ave.
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Join us to celebrate the Silver Anniversary of Burrs at the Beach on July 8th, 2012 at Westy's Irish Pub



By: Tom Dorrian, '61

Christmas came on February 24, 2012 for the West Catholic Community as the Archdiocese of Philadelphia answered our prayers and announced that West Catholic will continue to operate as a Catholic Education Institution in the heart of West Philadelphia. Somehow, I think Brother John Owens, F.S.C., asked God in heaven to bless someone like Brian O'Neill to intercede on West Catholic's behalf. God Bless all the men and women who worked so hard and contributed in any way to keep West Catholic open. God Bless all Burrs.

This brings us to the main reason for this column, the CELEBRATION of the 25th ANNIVERSARY of our West Catholic Burrs at the Beach. THIS YEAR'S BURRS AT THE BEACH MIGHT BE THE MOST IMPORTANT ONE EVER TO BE HELD. This is

the time for all West Catholic Alumni, Alumnae and friends of West Catholic to attend our 25th anniversary celebration to show the Archdiocese and all the other schools that TRADITION doesn't graduate. It's time that our West Catholic grads stand up and be accounted for. It's time the West Catholic family shows that we will always be proud of being West Catholic grads, proud of our tradition and proud of our fighting, never say die spirit. It's time that we once again become the largest all class reunion of them all. Please support and attend our 25th Anniversary celebration on July 8, 2012 at Westy's Irish in North Wildwood, N.J. (see coupon on page 2).

I must emphasize that our date has changed back to its original date due to fact that the Blues Festival, Best Ribs Cook Off Contest and all those Booth's that clogged the streets around Westy's moved their

weekend up one week to July 13 thru 15th. As you all know they wreaked havoc for parking and accessibility to Westy's as we ran our event.. Please pass the word to everyone with interest in attending Burrs at the Beach about the date change to July 8, 2012.

The money raised will continue to be used for Catholic student tuition assistance; I emphasize the word Catholic for those students who wish to continue to receive a Catholic Education.

There will a big change in Westy's Irish Pub. They are going to deck the entire parking lot and will no longer have a tent. Basically what is going to happen is they will extend the existing deck all the way to the end of their parking lot in all directions. They will have a roof over most of the deck and plastic flaps on the sides in case of inclement weather. The new deck will also be air conditioned.

Mass will be celebrated at 11:15 AM on the upstairs deck at Westy's Irish Pub. All are welcome.

This year West Catholic Burrs at the Beach will be held Sunday July 8, 2012 from 12 noon to 7:00 PM. Ticket prices remain the same, \$20.00 prepaid and \$25.00 at the door.

Once again we will provide a Bus that will leave from Delaware County from two locations. The 1st location is Tip O'Leary's Saloon 300 West Chester Pike in Havertown, Pa at 10:30 AM sharp. Call Cathy Murphy at 610-789-1414 for bus and event tickets. The second location is Jimmy D's 1512 Chester Pike, Folcroft, Pa.. Call Mike Dolan at 610-586-3300 for bus and event tickets

Two Trolley Buses will ride on Surf Ave from 26th St to Westy's from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM for those who find free parking on side streets..

We will continue our popular 50/50 drawing that included one \$1,000.00 winner and three \$500.00 winners in 2011. 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 you may buy tickets.

Our gracious hosts Peg and

Art West will welcome the West Catholic family to their lovely establishment. They will provide numerous food courts on the extended deck and the down stairs main bar area with their usual culinary delights. There will be numerous bars strategically placed throughout the venue providing your favorite beverage. Art and Peg will continue to charge the same price for all drinks which are the same as we paid at

Moore's in 2000.

I hope you are planning to attend this year's Burrs at the Beach and help us celebrate the 25th Anniversary of this great event. We hope that many of you come back to reminisce about your days at West with your old neighbors and classmates. Please make every effort to attend and show everyone the West Catholic Family is united and strong. GO BURRS FOREVER!!!

B@B Golf Outing 2011, In Memory of Bill Burns, '60

The weather was great, as was the Wildwood Golf and Country Club course which blended into a wonderful day of golf. Again, the outing was a success and over \$5,000 was raised to help support Catholic students achieve their academic goals.

Thanks to all who played and to those who supported this effort by sponsoring holes. Also, we would like to thank the Wildwood Golf and Country Club staff for their cooperation.

In addition, a special thank

you to Bill Kerns, '64, a member of the staff at Wildwood for all of his help to make everything run as smoothly as possible.

This year's event will be held on Saturday, July 7th (one day prior to B@B). For information to golf or sponsor a hole, call Bill Simpson at 610-544-4480 or 610-733-3580.

Golf Committee
Bill Simpson, '60
Joe Manfre, '61
Dave Joslin, '67

2011 Hole Sponsors Business

Blank Rome LLP
Fran Crowley '77, President
West Catholic Alumni
Press Publishing Co.
Drexel Hill, PA
Phil Girard '46
Vista Mailing & Packaging Corp.
Official Mailer of the Emissary
Greater Wildwood Elks
North Wildwood, NJ
Fitzpatrick's - Crest
Wildwood Crest, NJ
Tim Fitzpatrick
South Station Market
Wildwood Crest, NJ
Joe Monzo '74
Monaghan's Pub
Essington, PA
Joe Monaghan '68
US Food Service
Bridgeport, NJ
Tom MacDonald, Mgr.
B & E Sportswear
Broomall, PA
Bill McDevitt '76
Ken Murphy '52
Funeral Director
29th & Reed Sts., Phila. PA

B & D Steel
Bensalem, PA
Tom Smith '55
Westy's Irish Pub
North Wildwood, NJ
McGrory Glass Inc.
In Memory of John '52
Brinker-Simpson & Co. CPAs
Springfield, PA
Mike Simpson O'Hara '91
All Boy Basketball Camp
All-Ball Basketball.com
Safety Broadcast.com
Ed Kerr '60
Safer Floors.com
Ed Kerr '60
Thomas J. Feerick '67
Attorney at Law
Philadelphia, PA
Allstate Insurance Company
Aston, PA
Tom Eagen, Agent
Support Juvenile Diabetes
Brianspride.com
Brian Joslin '89

Personal

Devine Family '45, '47, '48, '51, and '54
Joe Burns '62
Connie Newman '53
Fitzpatrick's - Mary Ann '54, Ed '56, Kathleen '58, and John '60
McMurroughs - John '60, Teresa (Walsh) '63
Tom Dorrian '61
Chris Martin '60
Fran Crowley '77
Bill '64 and Marge (Vain) Kerns '69
Jim Mulhern '60
George '58 and Barbara '58 Light
Aherns - Dan '54, Lorraine (Hopely) '59, Danny '82,

Michael '84, Paul '86 and John '92
Joe Gajewski '60
Neil McCrossan, Roman Catholic HS
The Burns Family
Bob and Katie (Burns) DiLossi
Robert J. Connors '36
When Irish Eyes Are Smiling
John '60 and Tom '61 McCool
Simpsons - Tom '47, Bob '52, and Bill '60
Dave '67 and Dawn Joslin
Joe Manfre '61
Class of 1960
Class of 1961
Brian Joslin '89

Burrs at the Beach Golf Outing

**Saturday
July 7, 2012**

**for information
please call:
Bill Simpson
610-544-4480
Joe Manfre
610-662-2571
Dave Joslin
610-259-0753**

Hole Sponsors Available

Ernest (Ernie) Joseph Beck, '49, Dared to Dream



By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

Ernie Beck, '49 is one terrific guy who always remembers his friends and is always available to be part of a grade school Basketball tournament to assist in judging and presenting MVP and Championship awards. He along with longtime friend, Paul Arizin, now deceased, supported the St. Kevin Grade school (Springfield, PA) Basketball tournament with their time as well known celebrities for several years.

Those who promote the annual tournament for grade school boys and girls basketball teams from parishes across Delaware County decided that this year they would honor Ernie Beck for his service to the community and for his significant accomplishments as a Basketball player at West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys' and The University of Pennsylvania. The Award, the 2011 "Dare to Dream" Award, was presented both at St. Kevin Grade school Basketball Tournament and again at center court of the University of Pennsylvania's famed Palestra before a recent Penn-St. Joe Basketball game in January.

Ernie was thrilled and honored to be remembered. His history is legendary in Philadelphia Basketball circles. He played for Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Elementary school in Southwest Philadelphia where he developed as a player and team leader. He then entered West Philadelphia Catholic High School at 49th and Chestnut Streets where he

became a basketball star and graduated in 1949. While at West, in addition to being a three year letter winner, in 1948 and 1949 he was the leading scorer in the Catholic League and named to the first team all Catholic, all City and all State for both seasons. Ernie's 1949 Burr team won both the Philadelphia Catholic and City Championships.

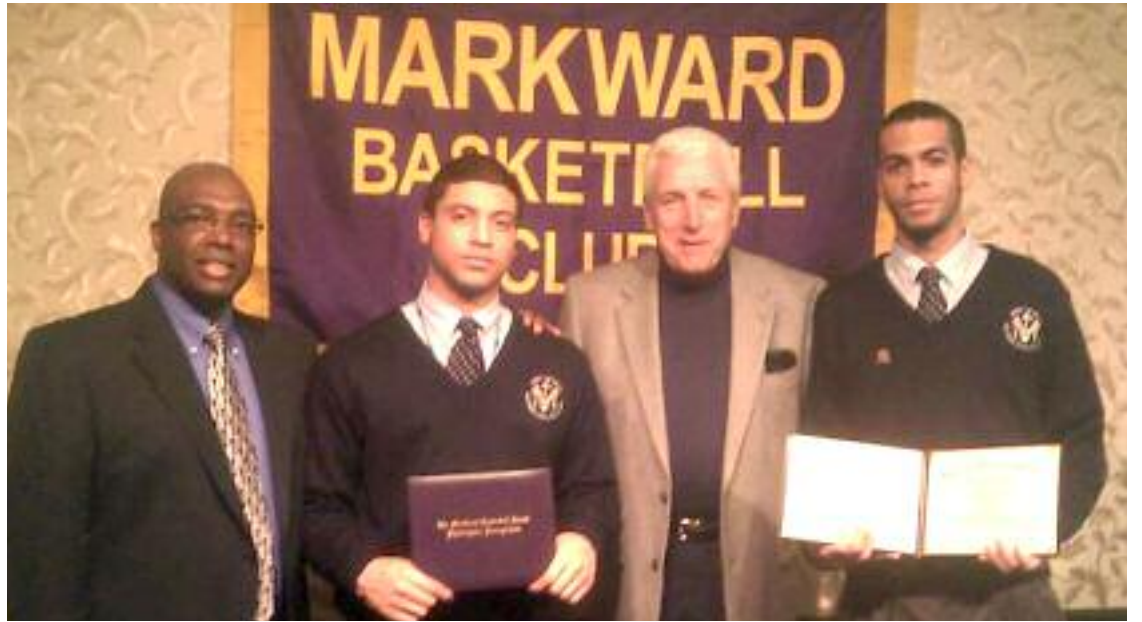
After four years at Burrland, Ernie enrolled at The University of Pennsylvania in 1949 where he quickly excelled and became one of the greatest basketball players in Philadelphia Collegiate history. He was awarded three varsity letters at Penn and in his senior year, led the team to a berth in the NCAA tournament as a first team consensus All American in 1953. He was also an All-American selection in 1952 and named first team All-Ivy League in both 1952 and 1953. Among the many records he still holds at Penn are most points in a career (1,827), most points in a season (673) and most points in a game (47) that occurred in the team's match up with Duke University in his senior year.

Ernie was a first round Territorial draft pick of the Philadelphia Warriors in the 1953 National Basketball Association (NBA) draft. He was a player to be reckoned with in the NBA where he starred for 7 seasons with the Philadelphia Warriors, the St. Louis Hawks and Syracuse Nationals. A highlight of his professional career was playing a part as a member of the 1956 Philadelphia Warrior NBA Championship team.

Always a legend and always a gentleman, Ernie is the epitome of the "Dare to Dream" Award and continues to be a star shining brightly in the Greater Delaware Valley. As Ernie Beck told children: "Be all that you can be. Your destiny is in your hands, your mind, your heart and your soul."

The "Dare to Dream" Award was established by Charles Hopkins, '70 and Joseph Casertano, '74. Research for Ernie Beck story provided by John Tomosky, '63.

West Basketball Players Honored



Pictured are West Catholic Boys' Head Basketball Coach, Guy Moore and Burr Great, Ernie Beck, '49, together with Mark Perez and Anthony

Fleet, co-captains of the 2012 West Catholic Basketball team, as the young men received MARKWARD Awards earlier this year.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Pursuant to Article 3, Section C of the Bylaws of the West Catholic Alumni Association, the annual general meeting of the Association will be held on May 16, beginning at 7:00 pm at the AmVets, Post 118, 270 North Morton Ave., Morton, PA 19070. The meeting is open to all members of the Association, which includes (a) all graduates of West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys; (b) all male graduates of West Philadelphia Catholic High School; and (former male students of either school who completed at least one year at either school and whose original class has graduated. For more information concerning the General Meeting, contact Fran Crowley, '77, President, at crowley@blankrome.com or 610-246-1020.


**BOYS & GIRLS MINI-CAMP
"BASKETBALL"**
For 6th, 7th and 8th Grade CYO Teams

**Saturday, 3/31 and Sunday, April 1, 2012
9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M**

\$10.00 per Camper
Camp held at
**WEST CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
46th and Chestnut Sts.**

T-Shirts,
Individual Skill Workouts from
Philadelphia Catholic League
Coaches, Team Drills plus
Guest Speakers!
Contact: Coach Guy Moore
267-259-9761 or
Coachguy6@gmail.com

**To Uniformed West Grads
We've been successful in getting the names of
many of you that have served your country!
If you haven't let us know your current whereabouts, please
fill out the coupon below and get it off to the committee soon!**



**West Catholic
Alumni Association
Needs All Veterans
or Active Military**

Are you a veteran or active military that has graduated from a school who's motto is "For God and Country?"

The Alumni Association newly-formed Veterans/Military Committee would like to hear from you concerning your service to these United States!

Please supply the requested information below and mail to:
Mr. Jim Mulhern, '60, Chairman
244 Baltimore Pike, Unit 433, Glen Mills, PA 19342
or e-mail to veterans@westcatholicalumni.org

Any questions may be directed to any committee member listed below:
Jim Mulhern (USMC) '60 - jrmulhern@aol.com
Rich McCann (US Army) '68 - webmaster@westcatholicalumni.org
Harry Mirra (US Air Force) '52 - harrymirra@RCN.com

Name.....Branch of Service.....
Street.....City.....State.....Zip.....
Phone.....e-mail.....

Naval- Academy Bound

1999-2010 — 30 to Remember



T-J Waters



Jake Zuzek

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

Todd-Jamal (T-J) Waters, Class of 2012, a senior captain for the 2011 West Catholic High School football team was selected to the *Daily News* All-City First Team, as a Line Backer.

T-J also received the Mini Max High School Award, as announced by Maxwell Football Club President, Ron Jaworski on December 6, 2011. This was one of only 60 such awards presented to players from the eastern part of Pennsylvania on January 19 at the Drexelbrook Catering Ballroom in Drexel Hill, PA. Players were nominated by their coaches throughout the 2011 season and were evaluated based on a criteria including: academics; football performance; and community service.

T-J, who currently holds a 3.4 GPA and a rank of 44th in his class, is a member of student council and serves as their treasurer. His college interests include engineering and business. While he received interest from VMI, Army, Fordham, New Hampshire, Villanova and Delaware, He recently decided on the Naval Academy. We wish him success.

T-J will join former Burr Jake Zuzek at Navy. Jake also

was a *Daily News* All-City selection during the 2008 and 2009 seasons.

T-J and Jake joined Raymond Maples, who also was selected All-City at defensive back in his senior season, as West Catholic High School football players who have gone on to attend a U.S. Military Academy. Raymond is a starting running back for the West Point Cadets.

All three of these outstanding student athletes are a credit to West Catholic High School and their proud families.



Raymond Maples

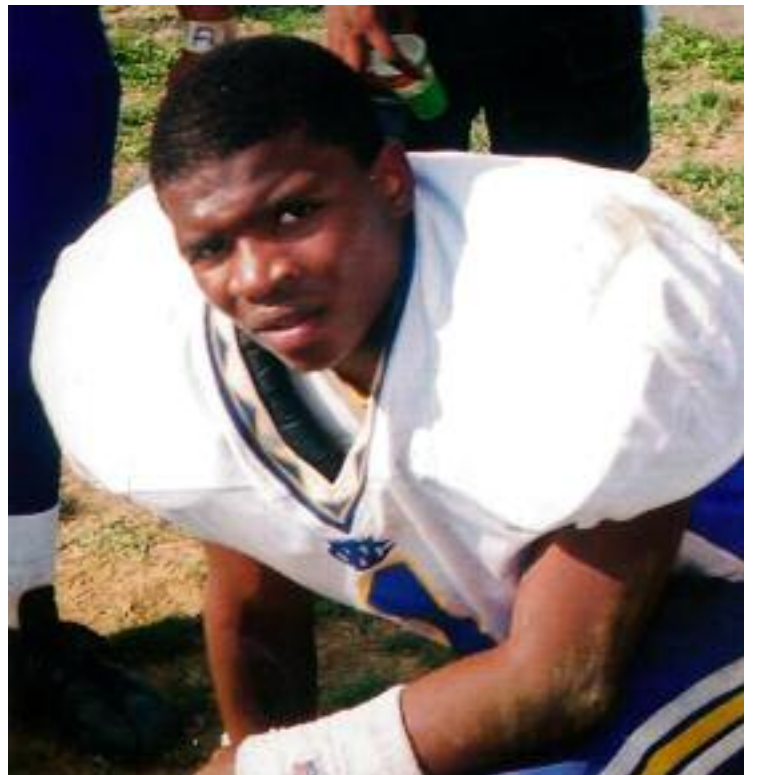
By: Ed Kerr, Jr.

1999 was the first season that Coach Brian Fluck, '88 would lead the BURRS of West Catholic High School as their Head Football coach. Over the next 11 seasons, not including the just-completed 2011 season, Coach Fluck led his teams to an impressive 109 victories against 49 defeats. Centered between Catholic and City Championships his Burr teams also captured one State Championship (AA) in 2010. Coach Fluck has coached many players who performed admirably during those years.

Ed Palmer, '87, works closely with Ted Silary from the Philadelphia *Daily News* and www.TedSilary.com. He, together with Matt McCauley, '89, provided Web site coverage for both West Catholic football at www.BurrsFootball.com and West Catholic Boys' Basketball at www.BurrsBasketball.com. Ed has gathered significant data and interviewed Coach Fluck about many of the players who contributed to the history of West Catholic High School football during the period 1999-2010.

Ed Palmer has compiled a list of his top 30 players:

- 30) Jarred Evans (QB-2009)
- 29) Rodney Blango (WR-2007)
- 28) John Ruppert (DT-2009)
- 27) Chris Diaferio (RB/DB-2004)
- 26) Marquese Sanders (LB-2007)
- 25) Isiah Edmond (DE/OL-2006)
- 24) Rob Ramsey (MP/DB-2002)
- 23) Anthony McDonnaugh (LB-2010)
- 22) Mike D'Elia (WR/QB/DB-2000)
- 21) Marc Holloway (LB-2006)
- 20) Will Grant (OL/DT-2002)
- 19) Jaelen-Strong-Rankin (WR-2010)
- 18) Abdul Seasay (RB-2000)
- 17) Marques Slocum (OL/DT-2004)
- 16) Victor McNair (OL-2008)
- 15) Dennis Shaw (RB-2006)
- 14) Quran Kent (WR-2010)
- 13) Wayne Donahue (FB/LB-2005)
- 12) Jake Zuzek (C-2009)
- 11) Anthony Rhoades (DE-2006)
- 10) Derrell Hand (TE/DL-2004)
- 9) Jonathan Jackson (WR/DB-2002)



Curtis Brinkley, rated as the #1 West Catholic football player during the Brian Fluck era at West Catholic High School. Curtis would go on to excel at Syracuse University and played last season with the San Diego Chargers. He also returned to West Catholic for their final Basketball game earlier in February and was welcomed by all.

- 8) Jim Lynch (TE/DE-2010)
- 7) Brandon Hollomon (RB/DB-2010)
- 6) Raymond Maples (RB/DB-2008)
- 5) John Maddiox (WR/DB-2005)
- 4) Mike Bazemore (TE/LB-2000)
- 3) Rob Hollomon (RB/DB-2008)
- 2) Curtis Drake (QB-2008)
- 1) Curtis Brinkley (RB-2003).

Visit www.BurrsFootball.com to read the details on the Web site; we think you will enjoy it.

WEST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACHING RECORDS - 20 WINS or MORE

By: Ed Kerr, Jr. '60

Listed below are West Catholic Football Coaches with the most Wins over 91 Years of Competition in the Philadelphia Catholic League and beyond, also listed is the approximate percentage of wins versus the number of games played.

1) BRIAN FLUCK 1999-2011	<u>119 Wins</u> - 53 Defeats-0 Ties	Approx. 69% of Games Played
2) VINCE McANENEY 1957-1964	52 Wins-23 Defeats-5 Ties	Approx. 68% of Games Played
3) JOHN McANENEY 1965, 1970-1976	45 Wins-34 Defeats	Approx. 57% of Games Played
4) BOB DOUGHERTY 1940-1945	41 Wins-5 Defeats-5 Ties	<u>Approx. 85% of Games Played*</u>
5) John "Jocko" McGarry 1928-1935	41 Wins-11 Defeats-11 Ties	Approx. 66% of Games Played
6) BILL MCCOY 1945-1948	31 Wins-7 Defeats	Approx. 81% of Games Played
7) NICK CIRONE 1977-1983	31 Wins-39 Defeats	Approx. 44.5% of Games Played
8) Ed "Bubby" Di Camillo 1984-1989	28 Wins-28 Defeats-2 Ties	Approx. 50% of Games Played
9) TOM TRACEY 1922-1925	26 Wins-6 Defeats-1 Tie	Approx. 79.5% of Games Played
10) BOB McQuillan 1966-1969	24 Wins-16 Defeats-1 Tie	Approx. 60% of Games Played
11) JACK SHIELDS 1951-1954	23 Wins-13 Defeats	Approx. 64% of Games Played

WEST CATHOLIC FOOTBALL had 18 Head Football Coaches over 91 Years, Listed above are The Top 11 with 20 or more total Wins. COACH BRIAN FLUCK had the most Wins (119) while *COACH BOB DOUGHERTY had the highest Winning Percentage with an (85%)

Research provided by: www.BURRSFOOTBALL.COM & TED SILARY: www.TedSilary.com

West Catholic High School Sports Hall of Fame 2012 Inductees:

- John McKernan, '52 Football (Posthumously)
- James Dunn, '56 Basketball
- Robert Gormly, '58 Basketball
- Sr. Carol Doring, '63 Basketball
- Emile Henwood, '64 Crew
- Joseph McHale, '67 Football

The 1962 Football team will be honored. Come and Celebrate!

Saturday, March 24, 2012
Airport Ramada
Essington, PA

6 pm Cash bar
7 pm Dinner
8 pm Awards Presentation

Cost: \$40.00 per person

For more information contact
George Light
(215) 386-2244

The Donahues from Kingsessing Avenue



By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

Jim Donahue, '36, and his wife, Anna C. (Logan) Donahue, '37 West Girls', began their married life in the Kingsessing section of West Philadelphia when they purchased their first house at 5623 Kingsessing Avenue in the MBS Parish. Both had grown up in the MBS Parish and decided that it was a good place to raise their family.

They had four children, all boys, and who attended and graduated from West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys:

Jim, '63, is teaching at both La Salle University and St. Joseph's University. At La Salle, Jim teaches courses in Quantitative Methods and Business Decisions and Business Strategy Formulation and Implementation. At St. Joe's, he teaches Global Business Management in the MBA Program. His wife, Linda (Taraborrelli), '63 West Girls', teaches World Languages (Italian, French, and Spanish) at La Salle High School. Jim and Linda have two sons, James A. III and Robert, and two daughters, Lisa and Carolyn. They have eleven grandchildren, the oldest of whom, James A. IV, (aka, Jake), will be a freshman at La Salle High School in September.

Tom, '65, is a member of the Mummerys Hall of Fame, begin-

ning that experience with the Woodland String Band (this year's top band) while a sophomore at West in 1963. He would have been marching in his 50th Mummerys Parade in 2012 had it not been for his recent hip replacement surgery. Tom is now recovered and has returned to work as Transportation Manager for a logistics company. His wife, Jacqueline (Corcoran) Donahue, '69 West Girls', is employed by Wells Fargo Bank, Broomall Branch and is a customer favorite. They have one son, Tom, Jr. who recently graduated from St. John's College in Annapolis MD.

John, '71, is employed by a company that does ESPN broadcasts. He is Engineer-in-Charge of the mobile high definition production units for ESPN's feature NCAA football on Saturday nights. He also works on the ESPN Major League Baseball Game of the Week and more. His daughter, Lieutenant Katherine Donahue, US Navy Medical Corps, is a Navy doctor who recently returned from deployment in Afghanistan. John's wife, Mary Murray, is a Cardinal Dougherty and La Salle University grad, which is where she met John. They also have two other children, John Jr. and Anne Marie (named after her grandmother). Both graduated from Bishop Shanahan HS. John went on to Penn State University, while Annie gradu-

ated from La Salle University.

The youngest of the Donahue brothers, Gerry, '76, recently received recognition for his 20 years of service as the Registrar at St. Joseph's University. His wife, Sharon (Gallagher) Donahue graduated from Archbishop Wood High School and then La Salle University, where she met Gerry when he was the Assistant Registrar there. Sharon's Dad, a West Catholic man, Bernard Gallagher was a WC '41 grad. Gerry and Sharon have four children: Joe a freshman at Saint Joseph's University; Brianna, a sophomore at Council Rock South High School; Krista and Matt, both of whom are budding musicians at Council Rock schools. Last April, Gerry accompanied Joe and Brianna, as members of the Council Rock South High School Orchestra, on a concert tour to Europe where they performed in France (Paris and Nice) and Monaco.

Jim and Anna Donahue eventually moved from Kingsessing Avenue in Philadelphia to Manoa Road in Havertown, PA, in 1982. Jim Donahue, '36, passed away in 1985, shortly before his 67th birthday. Anna Donahue just celebrated her 92nd birthday on February 1st. She presently resides at Luther Park Apartments in Hatboro, PA, and is going through rehab and physical therapy. We wish Anna Donahue a belated Happy 92nd Birthday and salute our fellow Burrs on their accomplishments!

**WEST CATHOLIC
ALUMNI
EMISSARY**

*Issued two times yearly by
The Association's
Communication Committee
P.O. Box 889, Ardmore, PA 19003
Phone: (215) 387-8560
Fax: (215) 387-9443
communications@westcatholicalumni.org*

**Phil Girard, Chairman
Joseph Bartolomeo, Denis
Brennan, Tom Dorrian,
Ed Kerr, Jr., George Light, Joe
Manfre, Bob McGovern**

Looking for a Few Good Burrs

Help us locate or provide information about the BURRS listed below, communicate by mail, voice mail, or e-mail. We appreciate any information you can provide. Mail to MB/WCAA, P.O. Box 889, Ardmore Pa 19003; call 1-800-750-8560; or e-mail westcath alumni@aol.com.

John J. Wilson, '31
Robert T. DeFosse, '61
John A. Kane, '75
Mark Maxwell, '92
Victor Anderson, '34
Paul T. McCann, '65
David McFarland, '75
Bruce L. Heuser, '93
James Curtis, '35
George Abbott, '67
John Fanelli, '76
Robert J. Fox, '95
Gary Gibson, '76
Harry J. Fini, '68
Gary Gibson, '76
Stephen T. Johnson, '96
Louis P. Hilf Sr., '38
Michael P. Naylor, '68
John M. Marsden, '77
William O. Basemre, '01
James P. Traynor, '39
James V. Woltanski, '68
Thomas Verbitski, '77
M. B. Makadji, '01
Edward J. Dillon, '40
Michael J. Gunning, '69
Ray Glenn, '79
Matt T. Giannone, '02

John R. Mc Crohan, Jr., '44
John J. Cariola, '70
Michael E. Mathis, '82
Ray J. Dougherty, '06
William J. Brophy, '45
Denis F. Coram, '70
John Mumbower, '83
Kadeem Gordon, '09
Michael D. Glackin, '48
Stephen J. Hamm, '70
Paul Christie, '84
Robert J. Geibler, '48
Robert F. Miksit, '70
Julian W. Smith, '84
Francis X. McLaughlin, '48
John J. Mossman, '72
Michael J. Gariffo, '85
Joseph B. McGarrity, '49
Neil F. Buckley, '73
David A. Mignogna, '86
Paul A. Creamer, '50
Thomas H. Gaynor, '73
Daniel McFarland, '87
Joseph R. Di Prosperos, '52
John H. Sims, '73
Stephen D. Armandi, '88
John J. Patrick, '52
James J. Stadler, '73
Joseph A. Tamberella, '88
James J. Kildea, '53
Joseph J. McFadden, '74
Hollis P. Monroe, '89
Joseph P. Cummings, '55
John Rosati, '74
Vincent A. Ghionni, '90
Thomas R. McDevitt, '59
Vincent T. Early, '75
Stephen Cepregi, '90

McCauley & Palmer A Winning Combination



Pictured, left to right, are: Ed Palmer, '87 who is married to Shannon with their son, Jack (9 months); Matty McCauley, '89 who will be married in July to Katie Meekes, a Prendie grad and teacher, together with Matty they teach at Beverly Hills Middle School in Upper Darby; and John McCauley, Matty's Dad and a familiar face at West Catholic where he coached soccer and baseball from the late 80's to the mid 90's. John, after retiring from the Navy Yard, now teaches 8th grade at St. Dorothy parish in Drexel Hill.

The Bill Strain Family — “A Special Spirit”



Bill Strain, '41 kneeling alongside his daughter Patty (standing) and son Tom at a West Catholic Football contest.

By: Ed Kerr, Jr., '60

Bill Strain, '41 is a World War II veteran and a very proud father. He and his wife Helen (dec.) had four wonderful children, William (Evelyn), Patricia (dec.), Thomas Francis-Patrick and James. Bill, a retired accountant is approaching 90 years of age yet he is ageless as witnessed by West Catholic High School football players and coaches over the past 20+ years.

Together with his children Patty and Tom, they provided a missing link to the West Catholic athletic programs — mostly football but also basketball. Tirelessly, the Strain Family brought their special spirit

to every athletic event they attended. Bill, leading by example, inspired both Patty and Tom to be significant contributors to West Catholic teams, and they both loved every minute they spent making new friends and helping others.

With the sudden passing of Patty, Bill and Tom were not able to continue their time with West Catholic. However, Bill still has time for the Class of '41 and their luncheons, and to share the successes of William, an Assistant V.P. for Cognizant Technology Solutions and Jim, a Registered Nurse. Bill also feels blessed to have a terrific daughter-in-law, Evelyn as she too has that Special Spirit!

John Monsul, '47 in the News



This past summer John Monsul, '47 the creator and producer of the television show — “Communicating Today” in Fairfax Virginia, accepted an award on behalf of his program and his loyal, hard-working crew, to celebrate the 600th program over a 22-year period on Channel 10, Fairfax Public Access cable tele-

vision. This special award was presented by the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County to celebrate this and for “providing this most worthwhile ‘community Service’ for the citizens of Fairfax County during this time”. We are very proud of John Monsul a very loyal Burr.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE

Items Make **GREAT GIFTS** Place your order today!

Item #101 **ALUMNI GOLF SHIRTS** (M) Thru (XXXL) \$37.00
(Outer Banks 100% Cotton-Washable)

"BURRLAND" SHIRTS - LIMITED EDITION

(Cotton Blend) White Imprint on **BLUE or BLACK**
With Authentic Lamp Post, Stop & Go Light and
49th & Chestnut Street Sign

Item #102-A **Short Sleeve**-(S) Thru (XL) \$25.43
Item #102-B (XXL) Thru (XXXL) \$27.95

Item #103-A **Long Sleeve**-(S) Thru (XL) \$29.51
Item #103-B (XXL) Thru (XXXL) \$32.63

Regular BURRS TURTLENECK SHIRTS

Item #104-A (M) Thru (XL) \$38.59
Item #104-B (XXL) Thru (XXXL) \$40.52

Mock BURRS TURTLENECK SHIRTS

Item#105-A (M) Thru (XL) \$36.53
Item#105-B (XXL) Thru (XXXL) \$38.49

ALUMNI TEE SHIRTS (S)-(XL)

Item #106-A \$13.45
Item #106-B Navy Blue with White Imprint (Or) (XXL-XXXL) \$14.55
White with Blue Imprint

ALUMNI SWEATSHIRTS

Navy Blue with White Imprint/ 93 % Cotton-7% Polyester

Item #106-A (S)-(XL) \$36.46
Item #106-B (XXL)-(XXXL) \$38.38

ALUMNI JACKETS White with Blue Imprint 75% Poly/25% Cotton
Blue with Tan Imprint 65% Poly/35% Cotton
Both with 100% Nylon Lining

Item#108-A MEDIUM thru EXTRA LARGE \$74.49
Item#108-B TWO XL thru THREE XL \$77.45

ALUMNI SWEAT PANTS BLUE, 9 ounce Open-bottom

"NEW ITEM" 50/50 blends (Cotton/ Poly)
With white imprint on left
Leg-West Catholic

Item# 109 MEDIUM thru EXTRA LARGE \$27.24

WEST CATHOLIC FLAG Royal Blue & White 36" L 24" W

Item# 110 (Riverside CN8 Nylon) \$66.49

WEST CATHOLIC BANNER Royal Blue & White 36" L & 30" W

Item # 111 \$62.45

WEST CATHOLIC PENNANTS 1916-1989 & 1989- \$10.16
WEST CATHOLIC PRINT 49th & Chestnut (Suitable for framing): \$16.89
WEST CATHOLIC HATS Five Choices...Three Adjustable
Item #112 Navy Ski Cap with BURRS Imprint \$13.89, #113 Navy Blue with white
WC on crown (Brushed Cotton) \$17.41, #114 White with Navy WC on crown
(Brushed Cotton) \$17.41, #115 Brushed Twill Navy Blue with White WC (S-M)
\$16.57, #116 Brushed Twill-Navy Blue with White WC (LG-XL) \$17.16, #117
Khaki Crown with Navy Blue BURRS & Navy Visor \$17.89.

**WEST CATHOLIC
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE
ORDER FORM INFORMATION**

Please refer to Alumni Association Merchandise listing of Items available to make your selections. This listing offers Description of item, Item#, color, sizes available and the price of each item. All prices include shipping; however there is a \$3.00 charge for each Credit Card Transaction when purchasing Alumni Merchandise.

We accept the following Credit Cards: American Express, Discover, Master Card and Visa; the minimum purchase required for the use of any of the above Credit Cards is \$25.00. Please complete the Order Form below and send by mail to: WCAA Merchandise PO Box 889 Ardmore PA 19003, E-Mail as an Attachment to: westcathalumni@aol.com or Call: 215-387-8560/ 1-800-750-8560 between 3:00 P.M. & 9:00 A.M. and select Mailbox #3 to either place your Order or request a call to discuss the Items available.

NAME & CLASS: _____

Ship to Address & Phone #: _____

*If using Credit Card: Please supply Name on Card, Type of Card, Address for Card if different than Ship To Address, Card Number, Expiration date and either 3 or 4 digit Security code # in case it is required.

NAME on Card: _____ **Card Type:** _____

Billing Address is different than Ship To: _____

Credit Card#: _____

Expiration Date: _____ **Security Code:** _____

1) Item # _____ **Size:** _____ **Color** _____ **Price per:** _____ **Items** _____ **Total:** _____

2) Item # _____ **Size:** _____ **Color** _____ **Price per:** _____ **Items** _____ **Total:** _____

Total \$ Amt. of Items purchased: _____ ; + () \$3.00 S.C. *

Check # of Check or Money Order Enclosed: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____



**Class of 1959
Luncheon
Schedule**

The Class of 1959 will host luncheons on March 21, June 20, September 19 and December 19, 2012 at Lehman's Restaurant.

All members of the Class of 1959 are invited to these luncheons. It is a great time to catch up with old friends and classmates.

For additional information, contact George Bennett at 610-485-7926.

Look forward to seeing you on March 21st.

**1952 Class of Champions
Luncheon & Reunion Schedule**

Harry Mirra, '52 and a member of the Alumni Association Board of Governors reports that the great class of 1952 will meet for Lunch on April 17, 2012 at: Lehman's Restaurant, Essington PA.

Contact: Bob Simpson at 610-872-8814 or Ed McMerty at 610-745-0208.

They also have scheduled their 60th Reunion for Saturday October 20th, 2012 at the Springfield Country Club.

Class of 1962 50 Year Reunion

Fifty years have come and gone so on Saturday June 16th, 2012 at the beautiful Renaissance Philadelphia Airport Hotel it is time to celebrate a great school, wonderful memories and good friends. The Reunion starts at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. Details have been mailed, so please respond as soon as you can. Any questions or additional information

please contact a Committee member listed below:

Tim Clifford
H: (724) 742-0180
C: (609) 471-4923
tjcliff@consolidated.net
Matt Bowen
H: (610) 544-5439
C: (302) 420-0507
Matthew.Bowen@abcsupply.com
Marty Dowdell
H: (610) 277-7454
m.dowdell.d@comcast.net

Great West Catholic Class of 1960 Luncheon



By: Bill Lavery, Class of 1960

Just wanted to say that the Great West Catholic Class of 1960 Luncheon was very enjoyable. Glad you reminded me. Had not been to one before but will try to attend again in the future. Was fun running into some old classmates both at West and from St. Carthages (Barr and Falcone). Even ran into a couple of guys from Springfield. Also

German John, as I worked with him as a football statistician for a year or 2 and had him for German. It was good to see how welcoming everyone was to the "newcomer".

The next Great West Catholic Class of 1960 Luncheon will take place on May 23, 2012. For more information, please contact Bob McGovern at 610.583.4469 or e-mail bob1mac1@gmail.com



Classmates who also attended from left to right: Rod McGhee and Stan Dubiel.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Francis X. Crowley, Esq. '77

President

West Catholic

Alumni Association

MIRACLES DO HAPPEN!

Dear Fellow Alums:

What an incredible emotional roller coaster the last 2 months have been — from the deep sadness following the announcement on January 6 to the whole range of emotions experienced trying to figure out the next steps to the euphoria of February 24th!

Miracles do happen! The value of West Catholic has been recognized, not just by those of us who were fortunate to have graduated from West or to have worked at West, but by prominent businessmen, political leaders, the Archdiocese and Archbishop Chaput! In reflecting all that has happened, I have drawn three main lessons:

1. The decision to keep West Catholic open is a testament first and foremost to the wonderful efforts undertaken every day by Sister Mary Bur, IHM and the dedicated religious and lay faculty of West Catholic! They are to be applauded and thanked for the hard work and great deeds they do continuously for the students in their care! They truly bring Jesus Christ every-day to the 360 students in their charge.

2. God continues to work in mysterious and marvelous ways! With everything that happened over the past years, the closing of West was a foregone conclusion to many and the Archbishop's decision on January 6 was no surprise. But the faith of many people combined to overcome all obstacles to keep West Catholic open. Very few people could have foreseen the faith and dedication that led so many individuals from so many different backgrounds and segments of the Philadelphia community to come together to save West Catholic, along with Bonner-Prendie, Conwell-Egan and St. Hubert's, and indeed to strengthen Catholic secondary education throughout the Archdiocese.

3. The Alumni and Alumnae owe a deep debt of gratitude to Brian O'Neill, State Senator Anthony Hardy Williams, Father Michael Marrone and Archbishop Chaput for giving West a new lease on life! **HOWEVER, THAT IS NOT THE END OF THE STORY!!!! IF WEST IS TO THRIVE AND GROW, IT NEEDS THE SUPPORT OF ALL WEST GRADS — WHETHER YOU GRADUATED FROM WEST BOYS, WEST GIRLS OR THE CURRENT WEST CATHOLIC!!** The decision by the Archdiocese first to close West and now to keep it open must be a challenge to all of us to remember that West can only survive if its loyal sons and daughters rally to support it.

The announcement on February 24, 2012 gave us many reasons to be thankful. However, it was a challenge, loud and clear, to all of us. **IT IS TIME FOR EACH OF US TO DO OUR PART!**

Setbacks Pave the Road for Comebacks

Letter from Dan Harrell, '61

In the last couple days, I have had numerous conversations with the most loyal "Burr" I know, Tom Dorrian! We have talked a lot of our beloved West Catholic and the potential end of its glorious days. However, as we talked, a lot of things come to my mind on how to humbly to express my thoughts on what really is going on here.

The Archdiocese in its announcement to close many schools including West, in reality, presented an opportunity to show how strong the West Catholic family is. My big concern when the boys and girls school were merged in 1989 was this identity of the merger as "The New West Catholic." In reality the strength of the "New West Catholic" was the support and dedication of the proud Burrs who graduated from both the boys and girls schools from 1916 for the boys and 1927 for the ladies. I think we need to send a message to not only the so called "Old West" and "New West" in particular that **TRADITION NEVER GRADUATES!!!**

The archdiocese's announcement that West is not going to close presents a great opportunity for the members of ALL the classes, "Old and New" to join in to keep West open. We need a unified front to address the main requirements of stay-

ing open "...securing sustainability, accessibility, affordability, and continued excellence."

As far as "sustainability," there is a group of donors prepared to offer \$12 million to save all four high schools including West Catholic. This is great! However, ALL Burrs need to step up and help. It is important that these donors get the message we asking for "A hand UP not a hand OUT." Once on our feet again we can make it. It goes without saying recent graduation classes have their own challenges and bills to pay, but, money aside, it would be great to see some young faces at functions like "Burrs at the Beach" and Alumni/Alumnae meetings.

The last time I checked the folks who run the Alumni and Alumnae don't charge admission to their meetings and these meetings are not closed to anyone. The ideas and camaraderie that the younger folks bring to these meetings are worth more than money.

As far as "accessibility, affordability, and continued excellence" these are areas that can be enhanced and improved once we address the immediate hurdle of "securing sustainability." Because of the urgency of the situation and the FACT we don't have much time let me get to a big problem...RUMORS ...as Will Rogers said "Rumor travels faster, but it don't stay

put as long as truth." THESE ARE NOT RUMORS...THESE ARE TRUTHS...

TRUTH 1, We have a reprieve and we, all classes, need to work together. We need to drop this "Old West", "New West," identity.

TRUTH 2, There is a group of donors out there offering immediate help. We must show these good-hearted folks that we will work with them and meet them half way. We are asking for "A hand UP not a hand OUT."

TRUTH 3, We are not done yet. The truth is Archbishop Charles J. Chaput has approved the continued operation of West Catholic. Somebody downtown must be listening. We need to keep an open mind and positive communication with the Archdiocese.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST!!! TRUTH 4, Burrs at the Beach, The Alumni and Alumnae will continue to exist and even GROW in the future. The West Catholic family will always exist to help Catholic Education wherever we can.

There is an appropriate quote for our great opportunity here and that is, "It Takes a Whole Village to Raise a Child..." between ALL of us Burrs, Lady Burrs, past present and future (and our Scotty Dog named Pete), all donors and friends, and the Archdiocese, we can do this.

CLASS REUNIONS

Only your Alumni Association office can provide your Reunion Committee with a current listing of your classmates. Call 215-387-8560.

Class	Location/Date	Contact
1952 60th	10/20/2012 Springfield Country Club Springfield, PA	Bob Simpson 610-872-8814 Ed McMerty 610-745-0208
1958	5/10/12 Airport Ramada Airport Hotel Drexel Hill, PA	Frank Adolf 610-344-0716 - H 710-761-4925 - C Matt Bowen
1962 50th	6/16/12 Renaissance Phila. Airport Hotel Drexel Hill, PA	Tim Clifford 724-472-0180 - H 609-471-4923 - C Matt Bowen 610-544-5439 - H 302-420-0507 - C Marty Dowdell 610-277-7454 - H
1967	Combined Reunion 10/2012 Planning Stage	Dave Joslin 610-517-4856 610-259-0753 Kathy Kelly McGarvey 610-329-5308

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

Class Luncheons

See page 7.

IN MEMORIAM

May They Rest In Peace

Charles Gaulin, '28	Bro. William Murray, FMS, '50
Robert M. Butler, '34	Michael Tucker, '50
George J. Di Ilenno, '34	Myron J. Blankley, '51
Frank A. White, '34	Edward H. Browne, '51
Jerome S. Carson, '36	Martin J. Farrell, '51
Raymond J. Lotka, '36*	Thomas A. Hasson, '51
William J. Lumpkin, '37	Donald Hudome, '51
John J. Mc Elroy, '37	Bernard L. Kelly, '51
Alexander Kane, '38*	Francis H. Manning, '51
Joseph P. Kenny, '38*	John J. McCarthy, '51
Joseph A. Manning, '38	Joseph McFadden, '51
Leonard H. Waltman, '38*	Joseph P. Mortimer, '51
Robert J. Buckley, '39	Robert G. Petrella, '51
George P. Dougherty, '39*	Lawrence Scott, '51
James A. Love, '39*	John Blisard, '52
Edward J. Brook, '41	John J. Durkin, '52
James A. Curlett, '41	Edwin G. Fleck, Jr., '52
Richard D. O' Brien, '41	Hugh P. Flood, '52
John T. Crine, '42	Charles J. Kirkpatrick, '52
Frank H. Devlin, '43	Walter J. Maxwell, '52
William A. Mitchell, '43	William F. Smith, '52
Joseph B. O'Donnell, '43	James C. Garoh, Jr., '53
Daniel A. Gallagher Sr., '44*	William T. Walters, '53
Rev. George Hagenbach, '44	Frederick C. Jansen, '54
Eugene J. King, '44*	Robert A. Riches, '54
Gerald P. Powell, '44	Joseph R. Devlin, '55
John J. Barbera, '45	Donald J. Henry, '55
Richard H. Becker, '45	Thomas J. McCarthy, '55
Emil A. Garritano, '45	Anthony L. Scully, '55
David F. Houlihan, III, '45*	Edward J. Dougherty, '56*
William J. McCloskey, '45*	John F. Kirlin, '56
Thomas F. Quigley, '45	Frank J. Daniels, '57
William J. Redmond, '45	Thomas R. Hackett, '57
Michael J. Stack, Esq., '45	Joseph L. Hopkins, '57
Harry A. Sweeney, '45*	Robert J. Wolf, '57
Donald N. Dougherty, '46	Anthony P. Gargiule, '58
William T. Hurley, '46	Dominic G. Poppa, '58
Charles F. Kiley, '46	John J. Robinson, '58
Howard J. McCaffrey, '46	John E. English, '59
William V. Lawler, '46	Thomas R. MacDonald, '59
Charles J. Wells, '46	Edwin J. Robertson, '59
George C. Hare, '47	John R. Doyle, '61
Joseph F. McHugh, '47	Andrew J. Carney, '61
Daniel D. Dougherty, '48	Robert M. Chandlee, '61
James F. Muldoon, '48	Joseph A. Janasik, '61
John F. Quinn, '48*	Richard E. Burns, '62
Richard F. Rhoad, Sr, '48	Stephen G. Massey, '62
John P. Cleary, '49*	Raymond J. Ma Gee, '62
Francis A. Dolan, '49	Edward J. Staats, '62
Eugene J. King, '49	John J. Daly, '63
Leo H. Lochner, '49	Robert J. Seery, '65
William H. Sheehan, '49	William J. Sobota, 3rd, '65*
Joseph A. Dennin, Sr., '50	Daniel R. Tinney, '65
Stephen J. Farrell, '50*	Gerard J. McGee, '68
John J. Hoy, '50	William A. Downey, '69
Joseph P. Kelly, '50	John J. McClafferty, '69
Frank C. Krause, '50	Robert B. Goodyear, '70
Victor G. Lozinak, '50	Daniel M. Dorrian, '72
Francis D. McWilliams, Sr, '50	

* veteran

Remember Our Deceased Alumni In Your Prayers