



# Tiger Tales 1999 Newsletter

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Welcome to Tiger Tales, the first Alumni Association Newsletter!

I hope you enjoy it and find it informative. At this time, we plan to publish at least one newsletter a year. If you have ideas or requests for the newsletter, please let us know. We welcome all suggestions. In addition, if you know of alumni who did not receive a letter with regards to Reunion 2000, please notify us with names and addresses. Also any changes of address in your family. This request includes teachers as well.

I want to thank all of you that responded to our letter about the formation of the WRHS Alumni Association and "Reunion 2000". We have received some great letters from grads in reference to both events. I especially want to thank those of you who also sent in contributions. We have received donations ranging from \$500 to \$5. All are greatly appreciated. It is still not too late to give in case you have forgotten or lost the first letter.

Reunion 2000 is progressing nicely. A reunion committee has been established and the various subcommittee chairmen have been appointed and are working diligently towards a fun filled weekend. WE have received very positive feedback about plans to attend "Reunion 2000". I hope you have plans to attend and have marked it on your Y2K calendar.

It's hard to believe that the 98-99 school year is quickly coming to a close. Your alumni association is now in charge of honoring the 50-year graduates at commencement exercises. This year the class of 1949 will be our honored guests at graduation on May 23. If you are present, please stop by and say hello.

The next newsletter will be coming to you in the spring of 2000.

Barry Jensen, Pres. Alumni Assoc.

More funds are sought for the White River High School Scholarships:

additional funds are being sought for the Laura Patnoe Kirsch, Lenore Matthews, Nina Ozanne, and Fred Littau scholarship funds.

Since the principal is not spent, the scholarship depends on the current interest rate. Alumni are encouraged to contribute to these scholarship funds to help build the principal and thus provide for larger scholarships.

The classes of 1955 and 1956 will again be prowling the halls of WRHS when they gather for their 45th / 44th reunions during the all-school reunion July 1-2, 2000. Larry Ingalls requests Bios and questionnaires be sent as soon as possible.

## Alumni Greetings:

As everyone all over the world is planning and patiently waiting for the new Millennium, the White River School District is also excited about upcoming activities for the new year.

For those of you who may not know me, I would like to briefly introduce myself. My name is Mike Stroup, and I currently serve the district as its CEO. The role of CEO is much like the role of the Superintendent, with all the responsibility that ranges from driving a bus to preparing an annual budget, and everything in-between. This is my second year as the district's CEO. I severed the White River School District for a period of ten years, (1983 - 1993) as high school principal. I then took a position as high school principal in Pierre, SD for a period of four years, and have now returned to White River.

In the span of sixteen years, I have seen the white River School District go through considerable change. The changes consist of a new Community Events Center, new elementary school, new high school, and the closing of several rural schools.

The district has been pretty stable with current enrollment at around 450 students K-12 and employing approximately 100 individuals. If there has been any change of composition, this has been in the number of Native American graduates over the past 15-20 years. The percentages have grown from a very small percentage in prior years to 33% of the 1999 graduates. Since 1930 , approximately 1400 students have graduated from WRHS.

Sports have always been a part of the White River School District. We have had the privilege of capturing State Titles in cross-country (1994 & 95) Boy's Basketball (1955), and Track (1976). there have also been runner-ups in Girls Track (1978) , Boys Track (1947), and Girls State A Basketball in 1992.

The real focus of the White River School system is to promote learning and academic achievement. White River can be proud of the citizens it has helped produce for the past 88 years. With the construction of the new high school, focus has been placed on teaching and mastering the use of computer technology. With the help of the Governor's emphasis on preparing for the new millennium internet access is now available throughout the school as well as the computer labs and library. Of course the basics still receive plenty of attention. We feel this combination will insure the continued success of WRHS graduates in our changing world.

With that, I would like to personally invite all the alumni of the White River School District to the "Reunion 2000" currently being planned. I would also like to remind the 50 year graduates (class of 1949) that we will be honoring you during our graduation exercises on May 23rd, 1999, in the White River Community Event Center. I am looking forward to meeting all of you.

Mike Stroup, CEO, White River School District 47-1