

Tiger Tales 2003 Newsletter

Alumni Assoc. President - Barry Jensen
 Vice President - Katie Jensen
 Treasurer - Jerry Krogman

Recording Secretary - Andrea Wade
 Corresponding Secretary - Devota Hutchinson
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A Note from the President

Greetings from your White River High School Alumni Association. Last year I commented on the historic significance of the events that had taken place over the span of that year. Well guess what? The United States is now in the midst of a declared war on Iraq as a result of some of those historic events from last year and yes, we do have White River alumni in harms way. We certainly want to pray for their safety and speedy return back to their homes and families and for a safe and free America.

Even though we are in the midst of some unsettling times, life does go on. The White River School System is on the down-hill side of yet another year. The year has progressed pretty much as usual only the school is now under the direction of a new CEO, Tom Cameron, who replaced Mike Stroup. Mike and his family moved to Martin where he is now the CEO of the Bennett Co. School system. The Board of education is in the process of following through on some long range remodeling plans for old main. The old building does not comply with many of the new requirements for public access and the education of children. But we all know how sturdy the old school was built; after all it stood up under our years of schooling!

I certainly want to encourage you as alumni to stay in touch with this organization and keep us informed of any change of address, etc. We are making plans now for the recognition of our fifty - year graduates at this year's graduation ceremonies and reception on Sunday, May 25 2003.

It is not too early to begin making plans to attend the next All School Reunion to be held during the summer of 2005. Remember the Community Events Center is now air-conditioned. We will begin forming a reunion committee over the next year, so don't be shy, volunteer, and join the fun. I would remind you that we rely on your generosity and support to mail these letters and also award a yearly \$250.00 scholarship on

Class of 1953

The class of '53 will be honored at commencement on Sunday, May 25, 2003

Keith Berry
 Willard Bryan
 Cleota Stromer Bryan
 Frank Gunner
 Joyce Goff Bailey
 Mary Ellen Gregg Roth
 Mildred Waack Mechaley
 Edna Larson Bartlett
 Ila Mae Gudath Gerst
 Darrell Brunson
 Lonnie Valburg
 Olessa Tkachenko Repichowsky
 Harold Deiss - deceased
 William Bachelor - deceased
 Deloris Krogman Huber - deceased
 Norma Jean Volquardsen Fuller - deceased
 Peggy Hermsen Gregg - deceased

Memorial Roll Call

We request that family be responsible to notify the alumni association when an individual should be listed on the memorial roll call.

GreNell Witherspoon Johnson '37
 Mildred Hutchinson Tucker '31
 Clifford Olson '34
 Phyliss Berry Howie '34
 Sidney Anders '37
 Elsie Volquardsen '38
 Marvin Voss '38
 William Bachelor '53
 Harold Deiss '53
 Elaine Huber Viles '54
 Norma Swanson Bennett '55
 David O'Brien '64
 Larry Shouldis '66

the association's behalf. We appreciate your gifts in any amount. Have a great summer.

Barry Jensen, Association President.

Herbert Rattling Leaf '70
Dustin Wymore '87

Lauritz E Pederson, Supt 1938-39

Winner of the 2nd annual White River High School Alumni Association Scholarship was Richelle Krogman, daughter of alumni Dan and Phoebe (Vos) Krogman; Class of '71 and '78 respectively.

WRHS Alumni enjoyed a float in the 2002 Homecoming Parade with the theme: America the Beautiful using the slogan "WRHS Alumni Make America Beautiful"

Class composite pictures are on the school website now at www.whiteriver.k12.sd.us/alumni/wrhcsclasses.htm

School webmistress is Johnny J Powell, '92

Dear Alumni,

Hello! For those of you that I have not met, I am Tom Cameron, the superintendent/CEO of your school. This is my first year as the CEO but second year at White River. Last year I was the high school principal. As some of you know, my family wasn't here last year but have now settled into their new surroundings. My wife, Alice, is teaching math in the high school. We have seven children; Adam 19, Amy 16, Alex 14, Emily 13, Thomas 11, Joseph 8, and Elizabeth 4. The boys and I sure enjoy the open frontier of the area for hunting and fishing. The girls anxiously await trips to a wal-mark, K-Mart, or any mall that comes across our path. And usually on those occasions it's tough to pass by the nearest fast food or pizza restaurant.

Enough funny business. The 2002-03 school year has almost come and gone already. I think it has been a unique year for the staff and definitely for me. In January, 2002, a new education law was passed called No Child Left Behind. There are many aspects of the law but I just want to touch on a few of them. For South dakota, it brings about a new standardization in testing in the areas of math, reading and science. The NCLB requires schools to keep parents informed. I think this will help our district to improve parent involvement in the education of their children. NCLB gives parents opportunities to make sure their children receive the very best education possible.

For the benefit of those that may not have been back to White River recently, we have had some physical changes to our school recently. In the summer of 2001 the Community Events Center was air=conditioned and the Norris Elementary underwent a renovation, which included the addition of new classrooms and a lunchroom. This past fall we started a renovation project on the middle school, white river elementary, and prairie view elementary. The district received some grant money that has to be spent on elementary construction so it was combined with the middle school project. Prairie View will be updated to be ADA and fire code compliant by remodeling the bathrooms and installing a fire sprinkler system. The plan also includes a new flooring and lighting system. A new heating and air conditioning system was put in when the Norris school was being remodeled. The south wing of the White River elementary will have an air conditioning system installed this summer. The north wing will have a fire alarm system installed to bring us into compliance with fire code regulations. The middle school will have the most work done as it is our oldest building and was in need of the most work in order to meet regulations. Most of the rooms will be remodeled with new wall coverings, lighting and dropped ceilings. The main entrance from the west side will be torn out and replaced as well as new stairways and bathrooms installed. There will also be new ramps built to connect with the elementary and high school buildings as well as a new fire alarm and sprinkler system installed.

And with all that there is still teachign and learning going on! I'm excited to be in such a progressive school district. We have a board of education and staff that is committed to doing what is best for the students and

patrons of the district. I strongly encourage any of you to stop in for a visit whenever you can, especially if you come from out of town and would like to see the changes that have taken place. I look forward to meeting those of you that I have not met yet. If you have any concerns, questions, fishing stories or anything else, don't hesitate to call.

If you see me on the golf course (as if I have time for that) LOOK OUT! If you see me fishing somewhere, you better not cross my line! If you see me in a mall or wal-mart, please take me fishing!!! GO Tigers!

Tom Cameron, CEO
White River School District