



Tiger Tales 2007 Newsletter

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

Recording Secretary - Barbetta Krogman
 Corresponding Secretary - Devota Hutchinson
[Back to Alumni Page](#)

Winner of the 6th annual WRHS Alumni Assoc. scholarship was Jerod Schwarting, son of alumni Helen "Boots" Didier Schwarting class of '74

Greetings from your White River High Alumni Association.

I always thought my parents were strange, because they often said, "I can't believe how fast the year is passing." Well, guess what? I can't believe how fast the year is going. I guess, on the bright side, it will soon be time to start planning another great school reunion. Remember that we are planning to combine the next school reunion with the centennial celebration of the city of White River . That will be in 2011. Get Ready!

Your Alumni Association continues to support worthy causes associated with WRHS. We have donated to the Sweetheart Ball, senior all-star basketball games, student exchange program, basketball memory paper and the annual alumni scholarship. We are only able to support these programs through your donations and our yearly tailgate supper. So, if you have a few extra dollars, pass them on to the association.

In other alumni news, Barbetta Krogman and Devota Hutchinson have worked tirelessly on our membership database to bring it up to date. Remember to keep us informed if you have a change of address. And for those living around Mellette Co., we need your new 911 address.

The school sports programs continue to provide great entertainment for our community. The boys basketball season brought a lot of attention to White River and they topped off the season by a 3rd place finish in the state tourney in Aberdeen . Go Tigers!

I hope you will enjoy the new addition to our newsletter the "Alumni Corner". Thanks to Evelyn and Bernard for submitting their stories.

Barry Jensen, President

Memorial Roll Call

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

Michael Glynn '06
 Earl Hollinger '37
 Delbert Mueller '30
 Norma Perry Samuelson '32
 Metha Fuerst Schamber '38
 June King Gingery '43
 Karen Schmidt Burnette '69

CLASS OF 1957

Class of '57 will be honored at Commencement on Sunday, May 13, 2007.

Carolyn Bryan McKee
 Clifford Tenny Hight
 Elaine Skalla Ashlock
 John Endes
 Larry Gunner
 Merle O'Bryan
 Nancy Jones Walker

Glenyce McCumber Brumbaugh '39
Genevieve Didier Strubel '40

White River High School Scholarships:

Laura Patnoe Krisch
Lenore Matthews
Nina Ozanne
Fred Littau
Deanne Witte

Richard Kingsbury
Robert Till
Ronald Quartiere
Wayne Shouldis
*Bonnie Johnson Lund
*Patsy High Sumners
*Robert Deiss
*Veldon Brown
*Deceased

Email, Call or Send address changes to:

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PO Box 11

White River , SD 57579

During recent interviews, Evelyn Kingsbury Astleford and Bernard Wacek related some of their memories from their years at White River High School . They referred to the earliest time frame of WRHS, 1928-1932. Bernard and Evelyn both reflected that throughout the years WRHS has been a strong influence on this community, both educationally and economically

Bernard reflected on what the school was like in 1928-1932. He doesn't remember how many total students were attending in 1928, but there were 30 graduates in 1932.

The old school (long gone) was 2 stories high with 4 large rooms- 2 up and 2 down. The space in the central downstairs was entrance and stairway. The space upstairs was a small office for teachers and the other the library. One large room upstairs was assembly room (all high school students) the other large room was a single class room and housed what lab equipment there was. The large room downstairs was for 5-6 grade, while the other was for 7-8 grade. There were two additional buildings a fair distance from the main school. He believes that these buildings were old country school buildings moved into town and put on basements. These two additional classroom buildings were called "the cottages". Bernard remembered that it was often a cold trip in winter between these two buildings and being kids they didn't take the time to put on their coats or overshoes they just made a run for it.

There were no modern facilities available, so we had a large water barrel by the stairs with a wash basin, paper cups and towels. He stated that there were 4 teachers in high school, plus one teacher for 7 and 8th grade and another for 5th and 6th grade. The other lower grades were located in the old lodge hall building down town. What is now the middle school building was built in about 1937 and was a great thing for White River .

Bernard concluded with this personal story:

The school had no bus service so most transportation was older cars. Many trips were made over bad roads. When the car stalled

Remembrances by Evelyn

I graduated from White River High School with the Class of 1932, along with 29 other classmates. The two story building was situated on ground where the present High School building is located. Then, later in 1936, the "new" high school building was built (which is now the Middle School) by the city of White River and the WPA. Our Commencement Ceremony was held in the Methodist Church , as our school building was too small. Several of my classmates stayed and made their lives in and around White River , i.e., Norma Perry Samuelson, Bea Anderson Hutchinson, Garhart Becker, Bernard Wacek and myself.

The following years saw my three children, Leo – (Class of '56), Gary – (Class '58) and Sharon – (Class of '63) graduating from WRHS, as well as most of my grandchildren (4) and 2 great-grandchildren. In 1982, my grandson, Shane (Class of 1982) escorted me to be honored as a 50-year graduate. My great-grandson, Clayton (Class of 2001) might have escorted me to a 69th –year mentioning (but believe that would have been a bit – too much!)

in the mud everybody got out to push. "The one 'bus' I remember in particular was driven by Agnes Stromer Jensen. She was an upperclassman and picked up students from the Stromer ranch to White River . She had the old Murdo – White River hiway route and was always on time. I was lucky to have a school seat by a window so I could see where the 'buses' were parked . I always knew who was absent from school."

Bernard is now 91 years old. He attended four years at White River High School and graduated in 1932. Bernard is proud to have earned a high school diploma. His wife Maryetta ('42) and son John ('69) are also alumni of our honored institution. White River High School !

White River School remains the vital, vibrant hub that provides education, activity and excitement for residents of our town. Education continues to be the path for our future generations –whether it be 1932 or 2007. Keep striving !