



# TIGER TALES

## 2013 NEWSLETTER



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Dear Alumni

Greeting from White River and your White River School District. To steal a phrase from a past newsletter, “Change is coming”. Out is the old, stifling “No Child Left Behind” handed down by the Fed’s and in is the new State led Common Core Standards and Accountability Model. As it became clear that most States would not meet the expectation of the NCLB, a collaboration of 45 states worked together to create this new way to guide and assess our primary and secondary schools. Our staff has been doing training during Friday in-service to get up-to-date and offer their input on these new models.

Speaking of staff, I’m proud to say the school is in very good hands. Our staff, Norris and WR, has lots of experience and a great passion for education. Our K-12 enrollment has been increasing the past three years from 370 to 404 and 425 currently. We are at a plus 22 in open enrollment students and I look for that trend to continue.

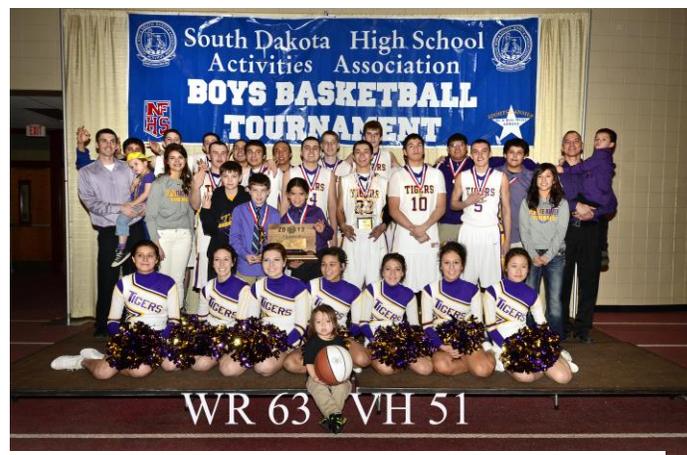
Our students are very active throughout the year. Many students are excelling in our art, music, 7Teen, and FCCLA programs. The One Act Play team placed third at regions. Volleyball, football, cross-county, track and basketball all had respectable finishes to their seasons. The Lakota Nation Invitational held in Dec. was once again a memorable feature of the year. Our students represented WRHS in an exemplary fashion. They brought home “peoples choice” in art, “top honors” in the business plan activities, dominated the “knowledge bowl” and were cheerleading ‘team stunting’ and basketball champs. Once again in March, the 8<sup>th</sup> annual “WR trek to the tundra” led many TIGER faithful to Aberdeen to witness a group of 6 senior boys fulfill their basketball dream. They accomplished back-to-back state titles. Proof that if you set goals, keep focused and put in the work, good things can happen. Looking forward to next year, Onwards Tigers!

Another highlight this past year was winning the first annual KELO Cup. Keloland TV sponsors an award recognizing the top sports program, boys/girls combined, for the school year. With two state championship teams, golf and basketball, WRHS earned enough points to win the trophy for class “B” schools. This recent success by WRHS students has created a nice problem, how to proudly display all of this hardware. A task the board of education will gladly address. The current Board is made up of seven members, four of which have served faithfully for 9+ years (Bill Hutchinson, Steve Krogman, Jim Lolley and Kenn Risseuw). Dennis Lolley and Myles Fairbanks are completing their second year. As for myself, Blake Lehman, I am finishing my fourth year as a member and first year as chairman. A big “thank you” goes out to Bill for his service as chairman the past eight years and to Steve and Jim as they leave the board in June. Best wishes to Charlotte Piper as she will be retiring in May and thank you for 29 years of service. Another thank you goes out to your PT Boosters and their tireless efforts to make improvements to our school. They just completed the replacement of our outdated gym scoreboards and now have their sites set on replacing the large curtain on the north side of the gym plus many other minor improvements. There are many opportunities throughout the year to show your TIGER pride and support. Attend our youth activities and support the boosters. Support the Mellette Co. News for their great coverage of all school activities. And finally, support your school staff and administrators. Come and visit if you have any questions, but also don’t forget to tell them “thank you” for educating our youth, Future Tiger Greats!

### MEMORIAL ROLL CALL

(names reported to us since last newsletter)

Rita Keller Crake ‘49  
Hobert Hutchinson ‘36  
Scott Arrow ‘88  
David Sherwood ‘72  
James Paleck ‘38  
George Bouman ‘48  
James Carr ‘68  
Don Hight ‘39  
Michael Caple ‘60  
Bert Banek ‘38  
Charles Dorton Kell ‘40  
Lawerence Niemann ‘40  
Howard Wheeler - teacher  
Sister Mary Aurea Kimball – teacher



**BACK TO BACK TITLES #1**  
Tigers defeat Viborg-Hurley for 2013 State B Championship  
Photo courtesy of Blake Lehman

White River Middle School is developing a leadership academy and would **invite WRHS alumni** to speak about what it takes to be a successful high school, college student and citizen. Contact Principal Kendra.becker @k12.sd.us

**Parent Teacher Boosters** work tirelessly to make school improvements. Their goal is to replace the badly damaged large curtains on the north side of the Barnhart Gym. They are working with a matching funds grant and would appreciate any and all donations to reach their goal. To donate call 605-441-0229

### CLASS OF 1963 – 50 YEAR GRADUATES

Class of '63 will be honored at graduation on  
Saturday, May 18, 2013 @ 3 p.m. CST

Quinten “Kenny” Leetch	Tami Johnson Brown
Darlene “Dee” Langass Militello	Larry Harrison
Kathryn “Katie” Mickel Jensen	Loren Hiatt
Jeanette “Mary” Zimmerman Reyner	Wayne Bryan
Sandra “Sandy McKee Green	Barry Jensen
Charles “Pete” Shouldis	
Elvin “Sonny” Larsen	
Sharon Astleford Bryan	
Irene Brown Borden	
Judy Keever Knispel	
Donny O’Brien	
Glenn Harris	
Tom Endes	
John Jordan	



**Deceased**  
John Toft  
Marn Bartlett  
Marilyn Samuelson-Summers

# ALUMNI CORNER

The Alumni Association recently received the following correspondence from former students at WRHS. It is a pleasure to feature Charles Chamberlain, '44; Lois Worcester Jaide and Jan Berry Rasmussen, both from the class of '45; and Betty Berry Tesar, class of 1942.

*Lois* - Initiation of the freshman class was a big deal in the forties, and our class was no exception. We girls had to have our hair in multiple braids with a wooden clothespin attached to each one. By the end of the school day it was a little painful. Boys had to wear high-heeled women's shoes, and it proved to be difficult for some of the larger boys to find shoes they could get on their feet. In the evening we were led one by one into the dark gym which had been converted to a "spook house" with all sorts of scary things. We all survived unscathed.

*Charles* - One year I rode to town to attend school with Roy and Erna Fuerst. The heater of the Model A did not work and on subzero mornings we were extremely cold by the time we got there. Usually we were late. My first class of the day was typing and the class was usually taking the speed test when I walked in. Have you ever tried to type fast with stiff fingers? The results of my speed test were like the weather--subzero. I was able to use my typing later when I was in the service. I resolved early on not to smoke. Derrill Glynn, Gene Patterson and I were walking home to Mrs. Spear's house for lunch. Derrill and I were out for basketball. Fr. Kelly was our coach. Gene was smoking a pipe and Derrill and I wanted to try it. It happened that we were walking where Fr. Kelly could see us. That night at basketball practice Derrill and I had to run around the gym fifty times. I played football, basketball and baseball in high school. Later I played baseball in the TMT (Tripp, Mellette and Todd) League.

*Betty and Jan* - My sister Betty and I boarded at Mrs. Laura Patroe Kirsch's house just down the alley from the school. The faculty in the 40's numbered five, with the superintendent teaching various classes. One year Father Kelly, the local priest, taught classes and coached basketball. We had excellent teachers whose dedication and hard work resulted in successful classes. We were expected to be responsible, respectful, to participate, and to study. Basketball games were of course tops with everyone, as were our proms, a great carnival for fund raising, dances in the new-old gym, our class plays, and we mustn't forget those versatile, indomitable Model A's that did daring wheelies down main street. One time the Winner high school had an invitational dance, with prizes awarded for best dancers, etc. Some of us attended, feeling that was pretty uptown. I think the dancing award was awarded to Junior Bare and Mable Scull. We sang in cars in those days, a great way to pass the miles, and we could keep up with the times musically through radio. Paper Doll, You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To, Sunny Side of the Street and the WWII songs like I'll Be Seeing You. . . . What great tunes. We learned them all.

*Logan*



Winners of the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Alumni Scholarship are: Logan Tucker son of Lance Tucker, class of 1979  
Patrick Lehman son of Amy Rasmussen  
Lehman class of 1981



*Patrick*

Dear WR Alumni,

As I begin this letter, WR boys' basketball is in the running for yet another state B championship. What a run the Tigers have had, 8 years in a row at state and 4 championships! You will note in another article in this newsletter that WR School and students have had a very successful year receiving recognition in many areas of academics, sports, and other extra-curricular activities. Our school superintendent was also recently honored at the State tournament with a 25 year coaching award. His most recent endeavor was coaching the Tigers to a 2012 state golf championship. Congratulations Mr. Thomas Cameron.

I would like to inform you hopefully motivate you to attend our next school reunion. I would just remind each of you that it is a wonderful time to see not only classmates and friends, but also former teachers and family in this area. Many of you have not missed a reunion since we officially started the Alumni Association back in 2000. Looking ahead, mark the weekend of **July 4, 2015** for our next all -school reunion. At every reunion we have honored several of our alums, and it has provided great memories and made a very nice program. If you have not attended before, make the next reunion your first and it won't be your last.

Up-dating addresses is a huge job for the association. Alumni officers and other volunteers keep working diligently to keep the records current. If you would help with your own family updates it would be greatly appreciated. Please email those updates to [tigers5508@goldenwest.net](mailto:tigers5508@goldenwest.net). Much of the ground work for the initial data base was prepared by the late Fern Strong Iwan, class of '30, and Devota Bechtold Hutchinson, class of '47. Kendra Kingsbury Earll,, '91, is now helping with the alumni scholarship program. Cleone Rada Rasmusson, '72, is helping with the 50 yr. graduate reception. Ed and Josh Krogman, classes of '69 & '97 and their families are heading up the football tailgate fundraiser. The time and cooperation from these and all alumni is greatly appreciated. Thanks guys. To our advantage, the administration, Board of Education and entire school provide a lot of support to the Association, and as a result, we enjoy many perks.

Sympathy is extended to the families of those whose names are listed in the memorial roll call. If a name was inadvertently not listed please contact the Association. They will be missed.

Calls, letters and emails this past year have been great. Thanks for staying in touch. The "Alumni Corner" is a popular item in the newsletter. Feel free to send us stories about your high school memories.

Until next year  
Barry Jensen, Pres.

2012  
State B Champs  
WRHS Tigers

WRHS Alumni Association  
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