



Tiger Tales

2017 Newsletter



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Dear Alumni:

From the desk of the High School Principal:

Greetings Alumni of White River High School.

This is my first "Alumni Letter" and as such would like to formally introduce myself. My name is Peri Strain and I have lived in the WR community for approximately 35 years. I have had the privilege of serving The White River School District in various capacities; the first was as an elected school board member; later as the Alternative School Director; Title I and Curriculum and Instruction Director; classroom teacher; and, now am in my second year as WRHS Principal. Each of the opportunities that I have had to work with and/or within the school district has been profoundly rewarding, individually and professionally.

In this letter, it is my opportunity to note the achievements of WRHS, which is a daunting task because they are so numerous. Our students and staff continue to perform remarkably in a wide range of both academic and extra-curricular activities. School year 2016-17 WRHS achievements-include, but are not limited to the following:

- >State Qualifiers - One Act Play
- >State Qualifiers - Boys Cross Country Team
- >Regional Competition - Oral Interpretation Team
- >Regional Competition - FCCLA - all 22 students advance to State in April
- >SDHSAA Academic Recognition (teams achieving or exceeding a GPA of 3.0)
 - Boys Cross Country Team
 - Girls Volleyball Team
 - Oral Interpretation Team
- >Lakota Nation Invitational Competition
 - Girls Volleyball Team
 - Girls Basketball Team
 - Boys Basketball Team
 - Golf Team
 - Business Competition- 3 students received 1st place rankings (Scholarships)
 - Knowledge Bowl - 6 students received 1st place rankings
 - Quiz Bowl Team - placed 4th in overall competition
- >State Qualifiers - Boys Basketball - 12th consecutive appearance at State B Championship

At this time, there are also several academic and extra curricular activities that are in progress, along with those that will take place later in the year (golf, track, music and scholastic competitions). I fully expect that our students will continue to excel.

I believe in creating a school culture that allows all of our students at WRHS to embrace our school motto - "Ikopesni Ihanblapo - Dream Without Fear". This is only realized with the dedication and hard work of an amazing staff. Our WRHS staff offers a combined 324 years of educational experience to our students.

In summary, I want to extend a very special "thank you" to those alumni who have and who continue to support our students through various donations and scholarships. Your continued support is appreciated and provides additional opportunities for our students.

I look forward to meeting and visiting with the 50 year graduates - Class of 1967 - and would like to invite everyone to attend WRHS Graduation on May 20, 2017.

Peri Strain, Principal and Title I Director
White River High School

"Truly wonderful the mind of a child is." Yoda, Star Wars

Alumni Corner

It was good to read the last Tiger Tales Newsletter/ especially the articles by Annie Hackworth Navin, Dorothy Waack Piper, and Betsey and Roger Hutchinson. I went to grade school with Dorothy at the Prarie View School near Norris and to high school with Dorothy, Annie, Betsey, and Roger at White River. Their stories brought back lots of fond memories.

In those days Norris was like a third world country and kids from the area had limited exposure to many things. There were several one room grade schools in that area and when kids got through the eighth grade they either quit school or went to a high school somewhere - Kadoka, Mission, White River, or even Winner. I started high school in White River in the fall of 1948 and boarded at Laura Patnoe's along with four other boys - Stanton Anderson, Vernon Totten, Ed Piper, and Lyle O Bryan. White River was the "big time" for me back then. I had never seen a football or basketball game and the few times I had been to White River was for the rural school "declam" days or in the summer to see the the Frontier Day's Rodeo.

Speaking of football, I still remember our football team of 1948. The Tucker twins, Alan and Alvin were the ends. Roger Hutchinson and Harry Dano were guards. Buck Keller played center. The tackles may have been Eddie Curry and Ed Piper. We had the best T formation backfield in the country - Cliff Jensen was quarterback, half backs were Dave Strain and Buzz Bectold. Ray Bartlett carried the ball as fullback. Mr. Littau coached White River in some real head knockers against teams from Murdo, Mission, Igloo, and Winner.

A little classroom incident comes to mind. Lenora Smith was high school commercial teacher

who also taught an occasional history class. Classes were often composed of two grades so that year the freshman [class of 52] and the sophomores [class of 51] were put together for World History. For some reason Miss Smith was gone for several days and because there was no substitute teacher we were sequestered on our "best" behavior to an unsupervised study hall. The "best" behavior didn't last long and the room soon turned into pandemonium. About that time Mr. Neilis, our Superintendent, happened down the hall and hearing the commotion stepped in to investigate. He looked around for a minute and then announced, "It doesn't look like you have enough to keep you busy, so day after tomorrow I will give you a 100 question test. Anyone who fails the test will also flunk the course for the semester." Needless to say the next day one could hear a pin drop in the study hall and true to his word the following day he administered the test. Dorothy Waack wrote a perfect paper - 100%. Roger Hutchinson and I were next with 97%. I don't remember anyone failing. It was amazing what a little fear could do to change the attitude of a bunch of rowdy teenagers.

I moved to Wyoming permanently from South Dakota in 1963 where I served as a teacher and administrator in various school districts. In 1977 I left education to become owner of a petroleum marketing business. Currently I am semi-retired and live here in Riverton, Wyoming.

However, I'm still a South Dakota boy at heart and often wonder about my White River classmates.

Allen Sammons - Class of '52



Donations to the alumni scholarship are always welcome!

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Winner of the 16th annual alumni scholarship was Kaileb Valburg son of Clifford Valburg class of 1982



White River School to have new Shop/Vocational Building

The White River School District will be expanding their campus buildings with a new state-of-the-art Shop/Vocational/Bus Barn facility. Ground breaking and construction are to begin early April, depending on weather conditions, and is expected to be completed by August 1, for use beginning with the 2017-18 school year.

The 60' X 120' structure will be located on the southeast portion of the current school parking lot area, with the longest width facing west. The walk-in door on the north side, will lead into an entry-way and two classrooms, which will comprise about one-third of the building. One classroom will primarily be used as a computer lab, for CAD (Computer Aided Drafting) and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) classes. Two bathrooms and a mechanical room make up the balance of this area.



The middle portion of the building will be a large hands-on shop room, where welding and building classes can be held. The south one-third of the building will house two school buses full-time, complete with water and drainage systems capable of washing the vehicles and working on them while being inside and protected from the weather.

Jans Corp. in Sioux Falls, owned by Dale Jans, who is also a graduate of White River High School and built the new high school in the early 1990's, will serve as General Contractor.

Funds for the entire new Career, Technical Education (CET) building project will be spent from the school district's Impact Aid fund. No additional tax levy or bond issue will be required of taxpayers.

Parent Teacher Organization

The industrious and forward- looking PTO (Parent- Teacher organization) has been at it again! The mission statement of this organization is: To work with the school to provide enriching experiences for our youth, and assist with the updating of various school areas and facilities. Through an overwhelming response of sponsorships, they recently added 50 new team side line chairs to the Community Event Center. (Refer to picture) The vinyl covered chairs, which feature the school colors and logo, may be used for future events, games and graduation. They replace the badly worn and soiled cloth covered chairs that have been used by the various sports teams for the past many seasons. The Alumni Association applauds the PTO for spear heading the replacement of the scoreboard, gym curtains, stage curtains, state banners, decorative tiger eyes art piece (painted by a former student of White River), and water filling stations. Over the next several months they hope to purchase new wall mats to complete the updated look in the Don Barnhart Gymnasium. If you have questions regarding the organization or their projects please contact Katie Sayler at 605-441-0229 or mail to WRPTO, Box 251, White River, South Dakota 57579.



Keep in touch with your alma mater through Facebook. Search **WRHS Alumni Association** or visit the school website at www.whiteriverschools.com.



White River High School
 Alumni Association
 PO Box 261
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WR *Tiger Tales*
 2017 Newsletter

Memorial Roll Call

(names reported to us since last newsletter)



*In
 Loving
 Memory*

- Joe Krogman - 1973
- Earl Pigg - 1965
- Sharley Hight Zoschke - 1950
- Mick Harrison - 1956
- Don Strain - 1951
- Katie LaPointe - 2016
- Lawrence Gillen - 1944
- Maryetta Crume Wacek - 1942
- Richard McKee - 1958
- Dorothy Hight - 1949
- Albert Bartlett - 1980
- Robert Reichardt - 1956
- Sophia Viola Endes Kranenberg - 1955
- James Wayne Goff - 1962
- John Jordon - 1963
- Justin (JR) Bachelor - 2012
- Anita Huber Swedlund - 1983
- Carolyn Bryan McKee - 1957
- Ted E. Schmidt - 1973
- Bill Haukaas - 2002
- Erna Ring Totton - 1949
- Dennis Black Wolf - 1992

CLASS OF 1967

50 YEAR GRADUATES

- Rebecca Bechtold*
- Elizabeth McEachran Becker*
- Raymond Best*
- Terry Brandis*
- Sharon Bucholz Brooks*
- Cathy Hollinger Chapman*
- Lyle Christensen*
- James Deutsch*
- Arnie Hill*
- Ben Knife*
- Ronald Knispel*
- Elaine LaHaye Krogman*
- Harold Krogman*
- Stanley Krogman*
- Deanna Krogman Murra*
- Patricia Bordeaux Nelson*
- Karen Harris O'Brien*
- Glenda Hutchinson Ofstehage*
- Ruby Poorman*
- Patti Harrison Stromer*
- Sherry Doelzal Stuffergen*
- Karen Lowry Week*
- Pamela Carr Winkler*

Deceased
Irvin Marshall

*Class of '67 will be honored at graduation on
 Saturday, May 20, 2017@ 3 p.m. CST*