

# WEST END SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

# WEST WIND

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

1 APRIL 2014

## WEST HIGH HOMECOMING JULY 26TH

Planning is nearly finished for the West High Homecoming July 26th and it is going to be a great one!

We are going to gather at Hillwood Country starting at 5:30 p.m. with socializing until dinner service begins at 6:30 p.m. There will be a room adjacent to the ballroom set up with chairs and tables for all those who don't wish to gather on the patio. The patio will be set up with two cash bars for those who would like an adult beverage and great views overlooking the golf course. Wonderful place to mingle, greet old friends and make some wonderful new memories. Valet parking is available at the front door.

The cost will be about \$50.00 per person (we are still working out the details) and will include coffee, tea, water, salad, bread and butter, your choice of four



entries (including a kosher option that we will detail next month) and cheesecake for dessert. You can choose for your entrée either:

**Chicken Francaise** with rosemary mushroom demi-glace and cabernet syrup.

**Brandy Marinated Pork Loin** with grilled mango salsa and blackberry reduction.

**Arborio-Crusted Atlantic Salmon** with arugula

ratatouille and olive-caper pesto

Adult beverages at the cash bar will include:

**Wine**—\$7.00

**Cocktails**—\$6.00

**Premium cocktails** \$7.00

**Sodas**—\$2.00

**Beer**

**Domestic**—\$3.50

**Imported**—\$4.00

You will be getting registrations forms via the USPS and e-mail during the month of April and we ask that you return by June 1st, so we can give a firm number of reservations to Hillwood.

This will be a fabulous dinner with full table service and we just know you are going to have a *wonderful* time! See you there!

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *New Calendar Page*
- *New Page for Updates on Bluejays*
- *New Treasurer's Report*
- *Spring is here!*



*"I'm looking over a four leaf clover..."*

## PLANNING A DINNER AROUND HOMECOMING?

I know that several classes and groups are planning a dinner/and or party in conjunction with the Homecoming event this summer and if you are, please let us know, so we can highlight your activities here in the West Wind..

I know the Class of 1964 is planning a gathering the Friday night before, contact Dolly Prenzel [dollyprenzel@gmail.com](mailto:dollyprenzel@gmail.com) for more information and to get on the list.

All Bluejays who ever played in the band can

expect an evening of fun and reminiscing of their own. Still working on plans, but if you played in the band at West at any-time, contact Burton Dietz [Burton@BKphoto.com](mailto:Burton@BKphoto.com) for more information and to get on our list. Great times a coming for everyone!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WEST HISTORY	2
TREASURER NEWS	3
CALENDAR	4
BLUEJAY PAGE	5
CLOTHING SALES	3
MISSION	6
WANT TO HELP?	6

## WHICH CAME FIRST, THE PARK OR THE SCHOOL?

WHIT STOKES,  
CLASS OF 1954,  
WILL OFFER US A  
MONTHLY LOOK  
INTO THE  
HISTORY OF  
WEST

The short answer is the park, but it's a little more complicated than that. When West End High School opened in the Fall of 1936 it sat at the southern border of Elmington Park between Bowling Avenue (called Golf Club Lane at that time) and Elmington Avenue. The City of Nashville had purchased the 13.34 acres for the park on November 1, 1927 for \$65,000 while unidentified citizens donated an additional \$45,000 toward the purchase price of \$110,000. The land and the adjacent Richland Country Club were part of the "Elmington" estate of Edwin Warner. The golf club was formed in 1920 after a dispute between members of the Nashville Golf and Country Club led to the formation of two golf courses: Belle Meade Country Club and Richland. Edwin Warner was the first President of the new club on West End Avenue.

Because of flooding and drainage problems the club did not use all of the land they owned so selling some to the City in 1927 posed no great hardship to the operation of the golf course. However, when the plans for a



**Whit and Friends**

new school were developed a decade later, it meant the clubhouse and part of the course would be eliminated. The original clubhouse was razed and a large house at the end of Elmington Avenue served as the new clubhouse. West End High School was erected on the site of what had been the ninth hole and a wooded area remained to the east of the school. That area would become the site of the W. H. Yarbrough Gymnasium which opened in 1964.

In the 1950's Richland added a swimming pool, tennis courts, and a new larger club-

house. However, that was not the most economical use of that much land so close to downtown and the interstate-highway system. In 1988 Richland moved to a new location on Granny White Pike near Old Hickory Boulevard. The tees and greens gave way to town houses and expensive residences. Before that move students who attended West often walked to school across the golf course crossing the rarely used Tennessee Central railroad tracks. That is hard to envision today with the construction of I-440 and

(See Next Page)

## WHICH CAME FIRST, THE PARK OR THE SCHOOL?

the residential development behind the school

Today Elmington Park is a multi-use facility with a baseball diamond, tennis courts, and playground. The large open area is available for team sports like soccer and rugby, or for individual activities tossing Frisbees, or flying kites. In the warmer months

there are free movies in the park and often food trucks throughout the year. When I was in school it was hardly used at all and often too muddy to walk across.

*(Next issue- Famous alumni, Admiral William Lawrence)*



*Admiral William Lawrence  
Class of 1947*

**All-Class Reunion coming up July 26th, if you have moved in the last two years, please let us know your new address and e-mail!**

## T-SHIRTS AND GOLF SHIRTS RIGHT HERE!

T-Shirts! We've got your T-shirts AND Golf Shirts as well.

Show off your Blue Jay spirit with these high quality shirts that are perfect for this beautiful, spring weather. The T-shirts have a drawing of the school and West End Alumni across the front. The golf shirts have West End above a Blue Jay and High School written underneath. With a

rendering of the clock tower on the right sleeve, with alumni written below that. (Early illustration with clock tower on left sleeve)



Order Here:

<http://westhighbluejays.com/news/>

## NEW MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT

Dolly Prenzel, Treasurer for WESA, will be providing a treasurer's report each month so you can be aware of our association's finances.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dolly directly via email at [dolly-prenzel@gmail.com](mailto:dolly-prenzel@gmail.com) or any of

the WESA officers.

**Treasurer's Report 31  
March 2014**

**Beginning Balance March 1—\$580.25**

**Deposit March 19—\$266.00**

**Ending Balance March 31—\$846.26**

The deposit of \$266 resulted from T-Shirt and Golf Shirt sales at the February 13th Lunch

Donations are always appreciated as we incur expenses in the setup and activities of the new association, We will have substantial expenses as we mail out forms for our Homecoming in July!



*Historical Marker on West End at Bowling Avenue*

# APRIL 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Thursday April 3rd—Class of 1960 lunch at Carrabba’s in Green Hills at 11:30.
- Monday April 7th—WESA Officer’s Meeting
- Thursday April 10th—Lunch Bunch, Hillwood Country Club, 11:15.
- Let’s FILL this calendar in May with LOTS of activities of the Blue Jays!



## FUN TIMES AT MARCH LUNCH BUNCH!

Great Lunch Bunch on March 13th as we heard from Jeff Hem, broadcast voice of the Nashville Sounds, who gave us a wonderfully fun and informative talk about the Sounds, the new stadium and some Nashville history with the old Sulphur Dell stadium (Larry Taylor - husband of Bettye-Jane Maples Taylor also played for the Nashville Vols there) and had some great pictures to share with us as well.

We had a wonderful turnout with people from 1940 through 1968 and virtually every class in between.

Celebrating the 300th gathering of the West High Lunch Bunch was an exceptional experience as well. Hard to believe this group has been going for more than 25 years! If you have not yet experienced a Lunch Bunch, please come out and mingle with your

fellow Blue Jays and share stories from our days at the best high school in Nashville. We gather the second Thursday of every month, 11:30 a.m. in the ballroom at Hillwood Country Club.

Program for April is a tribute to Coach Emmett Strickland from people on his teams as well as his son. A piece of West history your surely won’t want to miss out on hearing about!

## BAND REUNION DURING HOMECOMING

West was known not only for academics and athletics, but music as well.

If you were a member of the band from any year, then this message is for you!

This summer during the West Homecoming, former band members will have their own gathering (probably on the Friday



**Last Marching Band  
Fall of 1966**

night before the Saturday dinner).

Keep your calendar open for the night of July 25th as we finalize the plans to celebrate the wonderful years we had with Mr. D. F. Bain as our teacher. By the way, did you know Mr. Bain was the only band teacher the school ever had?

Many of you have already expressed interest, if you have not heard, now is the time to join this festive occasion.

### Catching Up



### With Bluejays!

## CLASS OF 1964 REUNION PLANNING!

The West End High School Class of 1964 will hold its 50-year reunion on Friday, July 25 at the Nashville home of our classmate, Judy Murray Foster. Preparations are underway and most of our classmates have been located. Classmates will



soon receive specific in-

formation from the planning group which is organizing this event. Please send your mailing address, telephone number and email address to [dollyprenzel@gmail.com](mailto:dollyprenzel@gmail.com) if you have not already done so.



**Peggy Lane  
Signal Major  
1966**

## CLASS OF 1960 MONTHLY LUNCH

The closing of Nero's in January has impacted many classes and their plans for monthly meetings and reunions.

The Class of 1960 had been regular Nero's visitors on the first Thursday of every month for a regular class gathering that

is well attended.

They still meet the first Thursday of every month at 11:30, just at Carrabbas in Green Hills for now. If you were Class of 1960 and have not attended, make your plans now, this is a great group!

The West End High All-Class Reunion Dinner will be held on Saturday evening at the Hillwood Country Club. Information on that event will also be forthcoming. We hope all of the Class of 1964 Bluejays will attend this dinner too! The menu looks great!



**Color Guard  
Fall of 1966**



## WEST END SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

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IT'S HERE!

[WESTHIGHBLUEJAYS.COM](http://WESTHIGHBLUEJAYS.COM)

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BLUEJAYS CARRYING FORWARD A  
GREAT TRADITION!

## OUR PURPOSE

WESA is organized to be a non-profit organization whose primary purpose is to conduct alumni activities typically associated with graduates from a particular institution of learning.

### Other Specific Purposes

To foster mutual support among the Alumni of West End High School and West End Middle School, Nashville, Tennessee including alumni gatherings, support for those in ill health and passing of WESA participants.

To continue the preservation of the West End physical facility and grounds.

To support the ongoing educational program at West End School by working with the Parent Teacher Student Organization, faculty, students or other interested parties in school activities, fund raising, and mentoring students.

To set an example to all as to why "West is Best".

## HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE NEWSLETTER

Well, this is the fourth installment of our month West Wind. We are adding more and more things as we grow, including a new e-mail address for information about our great alumni group. The address is:

[Info@WestHighBluejays.com](mailto:Info@WestHighBluejays.com)

Please feel free to contact us about anything.

In case you couldn't tell we are in the midst of planning a truly exceptional Homecoming for West High Bluejays. Several classes and organizations are building events around the all class dinner Saturday night, July 26th and if we haven't listed

your activities, please let us know, so we can add you to the merriment.

The website for our group is fully functional and there is a TON of information there as well, including an order form for T-shirts and Golf Shirts. Our T-shirts are a mere \$10 each and the Golf Shirt at \$40 may *sound* expensive, but it truly is a bargain, the quality is quite exceptional. Everything is embroidered and not silk screened, the material is comfortable and long lasting—truly a shirt you will want in your wardrobe!

We have some great

Lunch Bunch activities coming up with the tribute to Emmett Strickland this month, Ms Cheap in May and Mike Organ of the Tennessean in June to talk about the incredible days of the N.I.L.

Blue Jays celebrating Blue Jays, how could it get any better than this?

Thanks!

*Burton*

Burton Dietz

WESA President



Comments, suggestions and ideas for future issues are always welcome! The Blue Jay spirit will never die!