



# WHAA NEWSLETTER

*Pride and Tradition*

Volume 1 Issue 4

Fourth Quarter 2013

## A Word From Our President

During the brief history of the Alumni Association, we have begun to lay the ground work towards achieving some of our goals:

- The dedication of the Alumni that helped us through meetings and events. Reconnecting with many of our Alumni through our website, Facebook page, and tailgating events.
- The ability to offer two scholarships this year for the graduating seniors.
- Fundraising events involving “our” future alumni.

These are just a few of the things that as an alumnus, I can say I’m proud to be a part of.

We are always looking for innovative ways to help us grow and maintain our commitment to the school, the students, and the community.

Please consider joining and/or attending our monthly meetings. The yearly \$10 membership fee helps us with all these projects and helps return the pride to “our” school.

Sincerely,  
John DeMarco ‘87  
President  
Westmont Hilltop Alumni Association

## About The WHAA

### Your Westy Pride doesn’t end when you graduate!

An enthusiastic group of alumni spanning more than 50 years have come together to establish the Westmont Hilltop Alumni Association. This organization will serve both the alumni and current students and families at Westmont in various ways:

- Planning alumni events at key times of year, providing opportunities for graduates to reconnect, network and have fun
- Offering support and resources to class representatives who are planning reunions
- Promoting current school activities, athletics and other events to the alumni community
- Connecting alumni and current students for college and career planning
- Raising funds to provide financial support for projects, updated materials, new equipment and supplies and upgraded technology for current students and teachers

## Coming Events

The Westmont Hilltop Alumni Association is currently working on the following future events:

### A fundraiser **Cornhole Tournament**

A Westmont Hilltop High School **All-Class Reunion**, to be held in conjunction with 2014 homecoming weekend.

For more details on these and other events, please visit the WHAA website!

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## *Official WHAA*

Many of you have joined various Westmont Hilltop alumni groups. Their membership fees and profits only benefit the website owners. The WHAA is acknowledged by the school district; there's even a link to our site on the district page! We are the only group actively working to benefit the students and faculty at Westmont.

The WHAA is currently developing guidelines to award at least one scholarship a year to a graduating senior, beginning with the class of 2014.

We will assist academic, athletic and arts programs in all our schools, to help offset expenses not covered by school budgeting.

Plans for an all class reunion at next year's Homecoming game/weekend are in the works. Mark your calendars for October 17 and 18, 2014.

Tailgating at home football games has helped us continue to make our presence known, and increased our donations and memberships.

So, before you pay a membership fee at a site like [AlumniClass.com](http://AlumniClass.com), think about who should benefit from your donation. Join us at [www.WestyAlumni.com](http://www.WestyAlumni.com).

## *That Hilltopper Pride*

On November 20th 2013, Westmont Hilltop defeated Somerset Area 58-32 to finish with a record of 6-0 and win its third consecutive championship in the Central Western Scholastic Quiz League and its eight title in the past twelve years. Congratulations to team members Matthew Wehner, captain; Alex Hockensmith; Josh Livingston; Dorothea Oller; Nicco Shorto; and Erik Wehner. The team's coach is Melissa Kalwanaski.

## *Congratulations, Coach!*

On December 20th, 2013, the Westmont Hilltop hockey team beat South Park 5-0 to hand Art McQuillan his 500th win as head coach! He has coached the Hilltopper skaters for the past 27 years. Photo courtesy of Mark Kresak.



**CLASS REUNIONS:** If you know of an upcoming WHHS class reunion, please let us know and we will post information about it on the WHAA website and Facebook page. If you are responsible for the planning of your class reunion, please email us at [WestyAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:WestyAlumni@gmail.com)

**WHAA SCHOLARSHIPS:** The Westmont Hilltop Alumni Association will be providing two scholarships to graduating seniors in the 2013-2014 graduating class.

# From Yesteryear ...



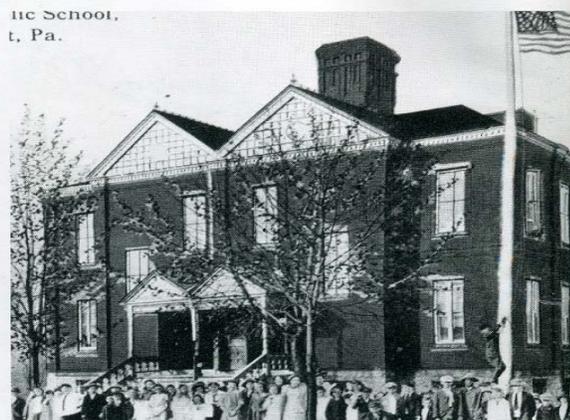
## WESTMONT HILLTOP ALMA MATER

*Dear Alma Mater we sing to you,  
sing of your kindness your power too.  
We glory in your name, your works to view,  
Dear Alma Mater, we sing to you.  
Dear Alma Mater we sing to you,  
pledging our loyalty our vows renew.  
Your name we'll ever love, your precepts true.  
Dear Alma Mater, we sing to you.*

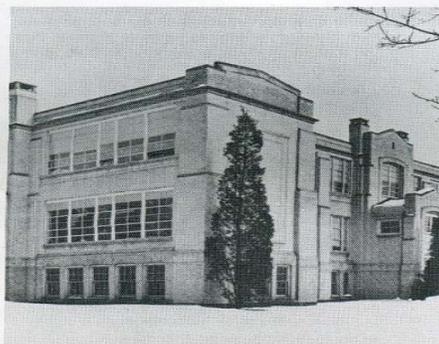
Written by Willard E. Ackley, the supervising principal



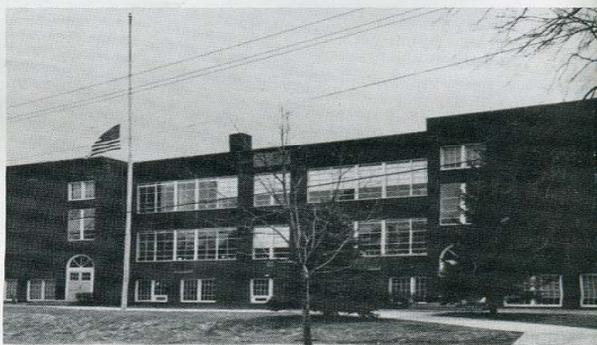
Stutzman School. . .



Westmont Public School. . .



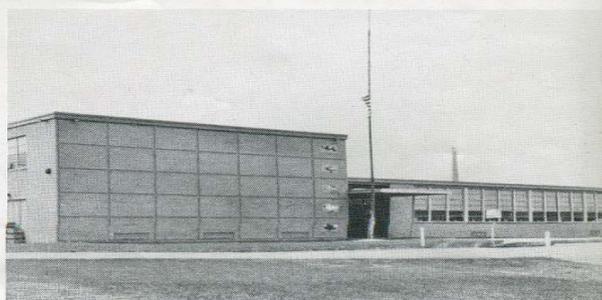
Old Westmont-Upper Yoder Senior High. . .



Southmont School. . .



Tioga Street. . .



and the new Elementary School.

## *Westy's Retired Teachers ...*

### **December 11th, 2013 Retired Teacher Luncheon**



First retired teach luncheon held at Laurelview Village Oakwood Restaurant in Davidsville on December 11th, 2013.

Row 1 Left to Right: Diane Rugh (French), Barb Hunt (office secretary), Diana Smeal (library), Donna Zellers (Spanish), Beth Good (Choral), Doris Leibfreid (Science), Janet Pudliner (Physical Education), Bob Wardrop (French, German), Colleen Goerlich (Art, Athletic Director.)

Row 2 Left to Right: Pat Letizia (office secretary), Cheryl Adams (English), Toni Callihan (History), Karen McNair (Math), Debra Tacznowsky (English), Sharon Mastovich (Guidance), Melissa Kohler (English), Joy Kushner (English, Guidance.)

Row 3 Left to Right: Steve Lindberg (Science), Earl Mostoller (History), Debbie Donahue (Science), Elaine Dutko (Library), Debbie Chuba (English, Guidance), Joe Moskosky (Special Needs), Jeanne Draisey (Nurse), Roy Shaffer (Shop), Ernie Papinchak (Marching Band, Orchestra), Andrew Swedler (Science), William Grubb (Math.)

## *In Memorium*

It is with heavy hearts that we say farewell to these dedicated Westmont Hilltop faculty members:

[William Good](#), retired government teacher and graduate of Westmont-Upper Yoder High School.

# *Hillstopper Pictures ...*

## **December 17th, 2013 Winter Instrumental Concert**



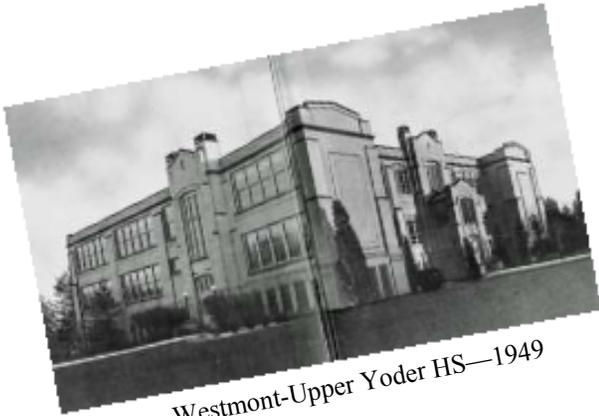
# Hilltopper Pictures ...

## December 19th, 2013 Winter Choral Concert



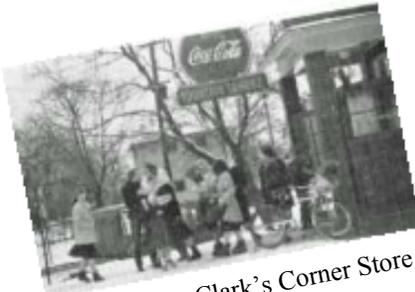
# A Little Westmont History—1949 ...

## WESTMONT – UPPER YODER HIGH SCHOOL CIRCA 1949



Westmont-Upper Yoder HS—1949

In 1949, the High School was located on Tenth Ave (now Diamond Blvd) and Luzerne St. The class of 1949 had 85 members, and the high school held 9th thru 12th grade. The gym was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, where the library is currently located; the library was also located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor where classrooms overlook the bus drop off. Also in 1949, the school ended at the doorways to the backstage of the auditorium. What is now the music and science rooms did not exist, nor did the shop or current gymnasium.

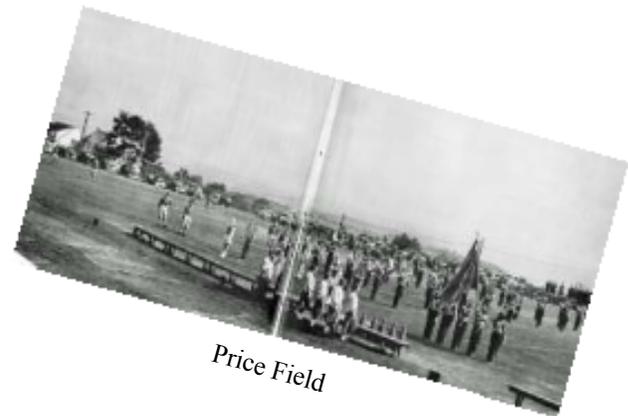


Students at Clark's Corner Store

There were nineteen members of the faculty for the HS. Along with the standard courses many of us may be familiar with, students could take German, Spanish, Latin, French, Stenography, Banking and Law, Pennsylvania History and Salesmanship Business.

In sports, new bleachers were constructed on the visitor's side of Price Memorial Field and cars parked around the perimeter. Three men, Carl Engh, William Askey and Robert Mannion, handled all the coaching duties for the boys.

Although they were known as the Hilltoppers, the yearbook often referred to the football team as the 'Hillers'. They finished their season 6-3 and played teams like Homer City, Huntingdon, Ebensburg, and Indiana as well as locals Conemaugh, Bedford, Conemaugh Twp, Somerset and Ferndale. In basketball, The 'Enghmen' had a successful season of 13-5 and made it to the PIAA playoffs, winning the District 6 title. The varsity team also played an exhibition game against an Alumni team, losing 30-40. The baseball team had a tough season of 2-6 and boy's track went 1-3, with Frank Piazza qualifying in the javelin for the state finals. There were no competitive sports for girls outside of school intramurals.



Price Field



Boys "W" Club

## *A Little Westmont History—1949 ...*



Girls "W" Club

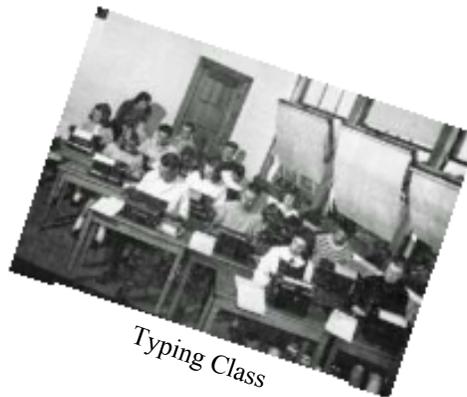


Winter Formal

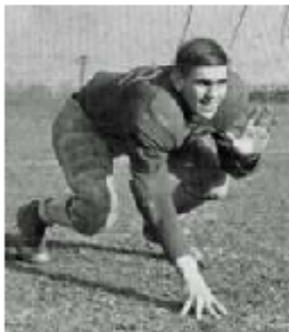
Spanish, French and German each had their own language clubs. The Y Teens and Hi Y were branches of the YWCA and YMCA respectively. The Y Teens main event was the Valentine Party. Admission was charged according to waist measurements! The Hi Y sent \$10 worth of food to a needy family at Thanksgiving, and they had several interesting speakers at their night meetings. The other activities available to the student body were Girl's Gym Club, photography, biology, senior play, chorus and band.

Boys and girls also competed in intramurals. Both competed in volleyball, basketball and mushball. For the boys, the classes also competed in football. The girls competed as individuals in archery tennis, ping-pong and badminton, and in teams for deck tennis. For the first year since the end of WWII, the boys 'W' club was able to acquire new jackets. To become a member of this club, boys had to earn a varsity letter in one or more of the four athletic programs at WUY HS. Girls earned letters in intramurals, and had their own 'W' club.

The students of 1949 had several clubs to choose from. The Student Council of 1948-49 introduced the Charter system. This gave the student government the ability to grant charters for all clubs in the school. Without the charter, the club was not officially recognized. The Key Club only had male members in the 40's. The Phoenician and Yodler were also active in the school.



Typing Class



Charles Zimmerman  
1949 Alumni

Thank you to Charles Zimmerman for loaning us his 1949 Phoenician. He is currently the founder and spiritual leader at the Community Open Door Church in Westmont. Among the many community projects and committees that he's involved in, Mr. Zimmerman is a current member of the Board of Directors for the WHAA.

Do you have a yearbook we could borrow to peek into the life of a Hilltopper? Please email us at [WestyAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:WestyAlumni@gmail.com)

# The Westmont Impact

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"**My experience** in the Westmont Hilltop School District has a lot to do with my success both personally and professionally. Westmont is second to none when it comes academics, sports and life long friends. I have been away for 25 years, however, I always look forward to visiting high school friends and family when visiting Johnstown. I'm proud to be a Westmont Hilltop Alumni."

Todd Vore, Class of 1986

"**I learned** a great deal by growing up in the Westmont community and being a part of the Westmont school system. Some of my greatest relationships were with teachers, coaches and classmates from the Westmont school system. The learnings at Westmont helped to prepare me for college and ultimately adulthood. After leaving the area following graduation, I always had a vision to return to Westmont to be a part of the community and raise my children in this wonderful area."

- Casey Craig, Class of 1993

**Westmont Hilltop School District** gave me the education, skills and confidence to enter into a difficult Electrical Engineering Technology program at Pitt-Johnstown and walk away as one of the few who finish. What we learn during those impressionable years truly shapes the rest of our lives and my success as an automation engineer ultimately can be traced back to the system and teachers at Westmont Hilltop. From a young age, I had a deep pride in our academics and athletics and that stands true today. To me, I see Westmont Hilltop school and alumni as a family and that has driven me to want to give back to the Hilltopper community. I continue to call the Westmont Hilltop community home and am proud to be active in the Alumni Association. It is inspiring to watch other alumni who understand that this is our school, our kids, our teachers, our community and our family. Wherever we go, whatever career path we choose, whatever we do with our life, we have one thing in common with thousands of others – we are Hilltoppers.

- Brian Krise, Class of 1987

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## Welcome

### Alumni Members

Jennifer (Onufro) Scott  
Tiffany Sawarynski  
Thomas Been

### Household Membership

Casey and Erin (Lebzelter) Craig  
John and Michele (Vore) DeMarco  
Jade Stager

### Associate Members

Tom Callihan



**Officers**

President  
John DeMarco, '87  
  
Vice President  
William J. Hargreaves, '94  
  
Treasurer  
Colleen Goerlich, '71  
  
Secretary  
Paula Ostrich, '85

**Board of Directors**

Brian A. Krise, '87  
Carol M. Pavlosky, '86  
Charles Zimmerman, '49

**School Information**

**Westmont Hilltop High School**  
200 Fair Oaks Drive  
Johnstown, PA 15905  
Phone: 814.255.8726

**Westmont Hilltop Middle School**  
827 Diamond Boulevard  
Johnstown, PA 15905  
Phone: 814.255.8704

**Westmont Hilltop Elementary School**  
675 Goucher Street  
Johnstown, PA 15905  
Phone: 814.255.8707

**Useful Links**

Westmont Hilltop Alumni Association  
<http://www.westyalumni.com>

Westmont Hilltop School District  
<http://www.whsd.org/>

Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission  
<http://www.westmonthilltoprecreation.com>

**You can Contribute!**

If you have information, stories or pictures, please send them to: [WestyAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:WestyAlumni@gmail.com)

**WHAA Meetings**

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm in room 111 in the Middle School. Occasionally the date, time and/or location must be changed, so please check the Facebook page and the calendar on the WHAA website for information. We hope to see you!

**Join/Support the WHAA**

Support the Alumni Association with a membership and/or a contribution.

Membership amounts are:  
\$10 Individual, Alumni  
\$10 Individual, Associate  
\$35 Family  
\$50 Business

You can now donate using Paypal! Please visit the WHAA website for details

*This Association is recognized by the Westmont Hilltop School District. You can find our link under 'Resources' on the District Website.*

- Alumni .....\$10
- Associate Member .....\$10
- Household Membership ..... \$35
- Business Membership w/web ad\* .....\$50
- Gift membership ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I'm interested in being a volunteer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Alumni – year of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **Westmont Hilltop Alumni Association** and send to:  
Westmont Hilltop Alumni Association, Middle School Administration, Attn: Mary Hartnett, 827 Diamond Blvd., Johnstown, PA 15905

Website: [WestyAlumni.com](http://WestyAlumni.com)

Email: [WestyAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:WestyAlumni@gmail.com)