



WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

# Westside Hall of Fame Honorees

## 2013 Alumni Board of Directors

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Debbie (Moss) McGrew, '88

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Marc Lowe, '76

**SECRETARY:**

Martha (Williams) Nielsen, '82

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Tom Thompson, '83

Meagan (Davis) Van Gelder, '88

David Williams, '82

[www.westsidealumni.org](http://www.westsidealumni.org)



Karen Javitch, '68, Kristin Gilger, '71, Blane McCann, Jacquie Estee, '68

### Jacquie Estee

*Class of 1968*

Jacquie Estee is a career educator with Westside Community Schools. Following her graduation from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1972, Jacquie began working as a teacher at Sunset Hills Elementary School. In 1974, Jacquie moved to Hillside Elementary, where she served as a teacher and team leader for 10 years. In 1978, she received her master's degree from the University of Nebraska-Omaha. In 1984, she served as the teacher leader at Prairie Lane Elementary. Jacquie became principal of Swanson Elementary in 1986. She moved to the central office in 1993, as the Director of Staff Development. In 1996, she transitioned to the Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Staff Development,

before assuming her role as Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources in 1998. She became the first female Superintendent of Westside Community Schools in 2008, a position she held until her retirement in 2012. She has been involved in numerous professional organizations throughout her career, including the Nebraska Association of School Administrators, the American Association of School Personnel Administrators, Phi Delta Kappa, MOEC Staff Development and Human Resources Task Forces, and the UNO Alumni Board of Directors. Jacquie and her husband Brent have two grown daughters.

### Kristin Grady Gilger

*Class of 1971*

Kristin Grady Gilger has distinguished herself in the field of journalism and journalism

education. A 1971 graduate of Westside High School, Kristin received her undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska-Omaha and her master's degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. For more than 20 years, she worked as a journalist (reporter and editor) for the St. Cloud Daily Times (St. Cloud, MN), the Times-Picayune (New Orleans, LA), the Statesman Journal (Salem, OR), and the Arizona Republic (Phoenix, AZ). While an editor and bureau chief for the Times-Picayune, Kristin received the National Headliner Award for Public Service in Journalism, for a year-long project on race relations in New Orleans. During her tenure as Deputy Managing Editor for the Arizona Republic, Kristin led a team of more than 100 reporters and editors in the nation's 15th largest newspaper.

*Continued on page 5*

# President's Corner

We are very pleased that Dave Williams, '82 was elected to serve on the Westside School Board last fall. As a result, Dave needed to step down from his role as president of the Westside Alumni Association effective January 2013. I will be serving as president for the remainder of Dave's term. Thank you, Dave, for your leadership as president and for continuing as a member of our Board of Directors.

I would also like to welcome Rob Owen, '87 as our newest board member. Typically, the board meets every two to three months at the John Hoich Alumni House located at 90th and Pacific Streets. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact us at [alumni@westside66.org](mailto:alumni@westside66.org). It is not a huge time commitment and we would love to have you!

Planning for class reunions in 2013 is in full swing. Be sure to check the Reunion section of this newsletter. If your class is not listed, it is because no one from your class has contacted us regarding reunion planning. If you are not sure whether we have your current address, please email your contact information to [alumni@westside66.org](mailto:alumni@westside66.org) or call and leave the information on our voicemail 402-390-2183. We want everyone to receive their reunion information. In order to make this occur, it is important that your information remains up to date in our Alumni database.

The Annual Hall of Fame Golf Outing is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2013. This year the event is returning to the Players Club. Kathryn Hawkins Anderson, '00 and Patricia Hawkins Stillmock, '05 are presenting the event. Please consider playing, being a sponsor or donating a prize. This is a fun event and a great way to support the Alumni Association. More information is available on page 3 of this newsletter.

The Alumni Association is in the process of updating our website along with the Westside Foundation. To stay current with all alumni association news, go to our new website, [www.WCSFoundation66.org](http://www.WCSFoundation66.org), and register your email address. We DO NOT sell your name to ANY outside organizations. That is a promise.

Please look at the Events Calendar in this newsletter, and plan on connecting with your friends and classmates throughout the year. Many of these events support our shared goal of keeping our community strong through education.

With graduation and retirements just around the corner, new beginnings are on the horizon for many. Congratulations and best wishes to all.

Go Warriors! Debbie (Moss) McGrew, '88

## Alumni Association "W" Going Digital?

Are you interested in catching up on all the news and information about the Westside Alumni Association? Do you want to know about the latest reunions, special events and "Whatcha doins?" To save on paper usage and postage costs, the Westside Alumni Association is considering going green for those alumni who no longer wish to receive the printed publication. Instead, we will send our alumni an electronic newsletter, but in order to achieve this, we need your updated email address.

To stay current with all alumni association news, go to our new website, [www.WCSFoundation66.org](http://www.WCSFoundation66.org), and register your email address. Click on "Stay Connected" then fill out the name and address form and include your email address, and click submit.

**All email addresses will be entered into a drawing for two \$100 gift cards to a Target near you!**



## 2012 Lighthouse Leader Honorees



Blane McCann, Sue Seline and Steve Seline

### Sue and Steve Seline

Steve and Sue Seline purchased a home in District 66 in 1992, and, although neither of them grew up as Westside Warriors, they sent their kids to Westside, starting in the fall of 1999. Steve is a Benson Bunny and Sue went to school in the suburbs of Chicago. Sue came to Omaha to attend Creighton University and graduated in 1982. She enjoyed a 16 year broadcasting career in Nebraska. Steve earned a bachelor's degree from University of Nebraska Omaha and then received a law degree from Creighton in 1979. He is President of Walnut Private Equity Partners. Sue and Steve have served as president of the Swanson Community Club and president of the Vocal Music Parents' Association. Sue is currently the president of the Westside Foundation. Steve enjoys supporting Westside's debate and DECA programs. He is past chair of Children's Hospital, past chair of the Salvation Army and chair-elect of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce. Sue is past chair of the Omaha Press Club and the Omaha Children's Museum. She enjoys teaching fourth grade religious education classes and currently serves on the boards of Take Flight, the Munroe Meyer Institute, and the Christ Child Society. They have four children, Nick, Casey, Tom and Libby. Tom recently did his Eagle Scout project at Hillside Elementary, helping K-2 graders improve their reading skills.

### Ken West

Westside Community Schools has enjoyed a close working relationship with Ken West for many years, both personally and professionally. Ken is a Principal at DLR Group – Architects and Engineers. He has been with the firm for nearly 32 years. During his tenure with DLR, Ken has been involved with numerous Westside projects, including the Westside Middle School gymnasium addition, the Phelps field and stadium renovation, the Westside High School baseball and tennis complex, the Hillside Elementary addition and remodel, the WHS softball complex, the WHS vocal music room addition and auditorium remodel and the Westside Middle School fine arts addition. Ken is a current member of the UNO Strategic Planning Committee, the UNO College of Engineering Advisory Board, the UNO Durham School Advisory Board, and the Junior Achievement Board. He is a founding member of the Westside Warrior Basketball Association, and a co-founder of the Scholar Athlete Awards Banquet. For the past six years, he has served as the chair of the Westside Community Schools Caucus Committee. Ken has been married for 37 years to Valerie Jernstrom West a 1970 graduate of Westside High School. They have three sons who also graduated from Westside.



# Mark Your Calendars

## Alumni Baseball Game Saturday, May 25, 2013

All WHS Baseball Alumni are invited to the Sixth Annual Alumni Baseball Game the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend. Players will join in the warm-up at 10 a.m., with the first pitch of the game thrown out at 11. The game is made up of all alumni players, with the even graduation years facing off against the odd year's team. Any baseball player who wants to play should RSVP to Coach Greco at [bgreco@westside66.org](mailto:bgreco@westside66.org), so he can order T-shirts. There is no cost for WHS alumni to play or for fans to cheer on the team.

## 20th Anniversary Hall of Fame Golf Outing Monday, July 1, 2013

Organizers of the Westside Open Hall of Fame Golf Outing are hoping to celebrate the event's 20th year by attracting a record number of golfers. "Last year we had a record 244 golfers", said Phyllis Choat, Coordinator. "Each year this much-anticipated event draws alumni, parents, staff and friends from all across the country and even Canada", she added.

The 2012 event raised \$40,000 also a record amount of money. Proceeds from the outing fund scholarships, teacher and staff awards, special projects, alumni gifts to Westside High School and the Westside Hall of Fame awards.

This year's outing will be held on July 1 at The Players Club in Omaha. The four-person scramble welcomes golfers of all abilities for the 7:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. shotgun starts. Golfers will enjoy special 20th Anniversary commemorative gifts, a prime rib dinner and valuable flag, team and door prizes. The Hawkins sisters, Kathryn Hawkins Anderson, '00, and Patricia Hawkins Stillmock, '05, are the presenting sponsors. Jason Hellman, '90, is the chair.

The 18-hole course at The Players Club, designed by Arnold Palmer to embrace its natural environment, covers 7,000 yards and has a par of 71. An additional 9-hole course, called the Highlands 9, is designed to complement the 18-hole course and offers a unique layout. As a 27-hole course, "The Players Club can accommodate everyone who wants to play, especially in the popular afternoon round", said Phyllis Choat. The golf outing began in 1993 as a way to raise funds for the Westside Hall of Fame Award program. Former Superintendent Jim Tangdall and Bob Belgrade, '76, chaired the event for many years. The first event was held at Shadow Ridge; it subsequently moved to Quarry Oaks and then to Highland Country Club/Ironwood Golf and Country Club for many years. When Ironwood closed it moved to Omaha Country Club for two years and then to The Players Club.

For information on sponsorship opportunities and registration, contact Phyllis Choat at [pchoat@westside66.org](mailto:pchoat@westside66.org) or visit [www.westsidegolf.com](http://www.westsidegolf.com).



## Alumni Homecoming Tailgate Friday, September 27, 2013 Omaha vs. Benson

Complimentary food and beverage will be provided by the Westside Alumni Association for all alumni and their family members. Please join us outside the stadium in the circle drive before Westside takes on Omaha Benson at 7:05 p.m. Fireworks will follow the game. Go Warriors!

## VIVI 2013 Saturday, October 12, 2013

VI-VI 2013 will be Saturday, October 12, 2013 at Embassy Suites La Vista. Join us for an evening of food, fun and entertainment. Please help support Westside Community Schools by donating an auction item, attending the event or sending a donation to the Westside Foundation. The invitation will be on the Westside Alumni Association's Facebook page and on the website. For more information, please contact Laura Iliff at [liliff@westside66.org](mailto:liliff@westside66.org) or call 402-390-2193.

## Athletic Hall of Fame

Westside High School inducted four alumni, one former coach and a varsity team during its tenth Athletic Hall of Fame dinner. The Westside High School Athletic Hall of Fame evening took place at Legacy Hall on Friday, May 3. Inductees include Mark Passer ('86) wrestling star, Doug Humphrey ('91) swimming standout, Carla Bennett ('99), volleyball and basketball standout and Tim Green ('99) football and track & field star. Former head boys soccer coach, Bruce Skinner, was recognized and the 1982 Varsity Football Team also was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame. This team is the first to be selected for this honor. In addition to the Athletic Hall of Fame, the evening featured a presentation of the twelfth annual Harley and Beth Schrage Outstanding Coach Awards, which had yet to be announced at the time of this publication. Look for more on our Facebook page, the new website and the Fall W.

## 2012 Homecoming Tailgate

Westside Alumni Association held its annual Homecoming Tailgate on Friday, September 14. The weather was made to order, the food was tasty and the 58-13 victory over the Fremont Tigers sweet!



Don't miss this event scheduled for Friday, September 27, 2013. Check the Events Calendar.

# New Band Uniforms Desperately Needed

## Fundraising Campaign Now Underway

If you look closely, you can actually see the disrepair: discolorations, torn material, broken zippers and badly bent accessories. Westside's band uniforms are literally falling apart.

As these uniforms have been in use since at least the mid-90s, this should come as no surprise. Over the past 15 years, the uniforms have been patched, pinned, taped and even taken apart — two smaller uniforms have on occasion been cut and resewn into others to increase the size. Most buttons and snaps no longer work, nor do many zippers. The accessories are not faring any better: Hats are marred and scuffed, red sequins on the sash are bent and folded, plume holders in hats are broken or do not hold the plumes securely or straight, and the plumes themselves are molting.

James Kordik, Director of Bands, can't tell exactly how old the uniforms are because the labels are unreadable. "The uniforms became moldy on the return from the last Disney World trip in 2010, so they were treated with some type of bleach. Now the label with the manufacturing date is completely blank. We can't even tell what size the uniforms are anymore." According to Kordik's research, the average lifespan of a band uniform is 7 to 10 years.

Cost of new uniforms is substantial. The band needs 250 uniforms at an estimated cost of \$500 each or a grand total of \$125,000. This price does not include hangers, hat boxes or uniform bags, which also need replacing. "This is an estimate based on other school's purchases," Kordik said. "Without a design created and approved it's hard to say exactly how much they would cost."

Top to bottom needs for a uniform include:

- Uniform
- Hat Box
- Plume
- Shoes
- Helmet
- Garment Bag

**“We have the oldest uniforms in Class AA competition. They are in complete disrepair and there is no question we need new ones.”**

*James Kordik, Director of Bands*



The need for new quality uniforms, however, goes beyond basic functionality. "A great deal of our presentation on the field and on the stage is aesthetic," Kordik said. "It is now common to have school colors, plus one, usually black. Black lasts longer and does not show dirt or stains. Black also makes everyone look more uniform and taller on the field."

Many band uniforms now use colors on the front or back — or incorporate a cape — to create a "flash" effect when the students turn, he said, adding that newer uniforms have a sleek futuristic design.

"Our current uniforms have been dated for several years. Sequins on uniforms are no longer used, as they get bent and fray other parts of the uniform when they rub against it," Kordik said. "We have the oldest uniforms in Class AA competition. They are in complete disrepair and there is no question we need new ones. It is not unusual to replace them around the 10- or 12-year mark. For example, Grand Island Senior High School purchased uniforms in 1999 and just got new ones in 2011."

Student pride is also a factor, Kordik said. "There are not enough larger and taller sizes for many students who are forced to wear uniforms that do not fit correctly. Students are embarrassed to wear them and the judges frown on ill-fitting uniforms. So how can we have a good performance or recruit students to band with uniforms the students have no pride in wearing?"

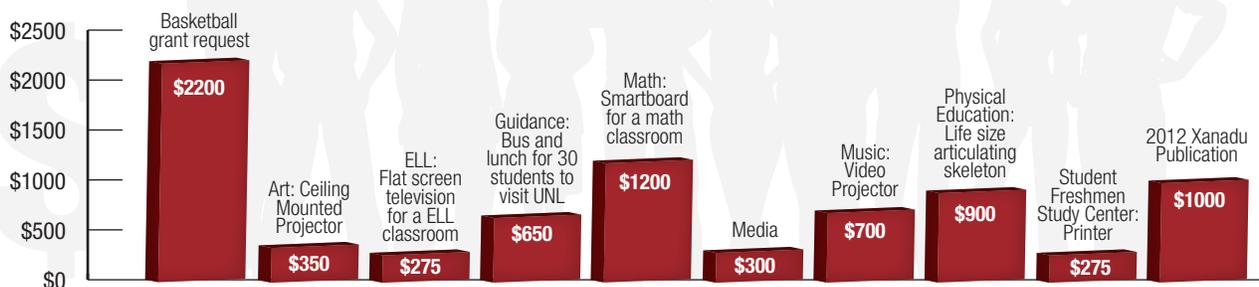
A new band uniform fundraising campaign is being launched this year by the Westside Band Parents Association, and the Westside Foundation is setting up a special fund for this effort, so contributions will be tax deductible. Please consider donating to the fund in the enclosed envelope, as well as enlisting the help of other individuals and companies who support music education. All donors will be listed in the band newsletter, and those who donate enough for a uniform, or uniforms, will have their names sewn inside a new uniform.

The goal is to have new band uniforms as soon as next marching season. If we work together, Westside, we can do it.

Thank you for your support!

## Your donations to the Westside Alumni Association at work!

Westside Alumni Association reviews a request list, or "wish list" from the high school. Last year, we were able to honor the following requests and grants.



In 2002, Kristin began working as Director of Student Media for Arizona State University. In 2007, she became the Assistant Dean for ASU's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communications. She conducts seminars on news writing, journalism ethics, and newspaper management for journalists throughout the world. Kristin and her husband, Gary, have three grown children and live in Phoenix.

### **Karen Sokolof Javitch**

*Class of 1968*

Karen began her career as a teacher, following her graduation from the University of Texas at Austin in 1972. She taught at schools in Austin,

TX and Omaha. In 1982, she co-wrote: *Mother Knows Best: How to Live through and Love our Child's First Four Years*. She is a songwriter and a producer of music, having written and produced 14 CD's of her original music. Her next CD is an exercise CD for children. She is also a songwriter and playwright of four musicals and one play, including *Princess Diana, the Musical*. The musical has been produced in New York, Omaha, and Lincoln; it will be produced in Minneapolis and Chicago in 2013. The musical was nominated for 13 Theater Arts Guild Awards. She is currently co-host of *It's the Beat*, a weekly radio show on 1290 KOIL radio. During the one-hour program, Karen interviews

people in the arts, both locally and nationally, and shares her music on the program. Karen's philanthropic work has raised funds for numerous organizations, including the Nebraska Aids Project, the American Red Cross, the Nebraska Foundation for the Visually Impaired, the Boy Scouts, the Alzheimer's Association, Prevent Blindness, and Children's Hospital. Her latest fundraiser, in 2012, raised funds for pancreatic research at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Karen and her husband Gary are the parents of three adult children, all of whom attended Westside Community Schools.

## **2012 Alumni Basketball Tournament another big success!**

The 19th annual Westside Alumni Basketball Tournament was held on Saturday Nov. 24, 2012, at Westside High School. For the second year in a row, a record number of players – 66 this year - made up the 9 teams that participated in the Round Robin tournament and they came from the classes of 2012 all the way back to 1972. The tournament even featured a guest appearance by longtime Westside Basketball Coach Tom Hall. Although it is always a great time for former Warrior basketball players to socialize, the event is also a fundraiser, with the proceeds helping to fund the annual Tom Hall Scholarship, which provides \$1000 in a college scholarship to the Westside Senior basketball player who best exemplifies the academic and athletic work ethic of former Coach Tom Hall. Last year's winner, Charlie Landen, brought a team of 11 players and led the youngest group to a respectable 5th place finish overall.

Ultimately, the teams from Class of '04 - led by Joe Roth, Ty Jansen, Denny Johnston, Andy

West and the bull in the China shop – Joe Finocchiaro & the Class of '07 (James Bond could not attend, due to the opening of his latest film) met in the finals. The '07 class going through the Round Robin portion undefeated. Led by Derek Fletcher (the Hastings Flash), Max Bridges, Sam Moser (an assistant coach now for the Warrior basketball team), Paul Siebold, Spencer Gallner, Ian Burke, and Kyle Fries, the '07 team ran away with the title in their first appearance in the Finals.

Among the many records broken was the money raised toward the Hall Scholarship. This year over \$800 was raised, making the tournament a huge success, as well as a lot of fun.

Following the tournament, all participants enjoyed Little Caesar's Pizza, donated again by Curt Huston, '81 who is a former participant in the tournament and a longtime supporter of the tournament with his generous contributions.

Please mark your calendars for the next tournament, which will be held Saturday Nov 30, 2013, beginning at 2:00 pm, at the WHS gym. Players, gym rats who did not play ball in high school, and female players are all welcome. Spectators are welcome, and we are seeing more and more cheerleaders attend. The entry fee is \$10, and any additional donations toward the scholarship are welcome.

Contact Rick Berkshire at [rberkshire@berkshire-law.com](mailto:rberkshire@berkshire-law.com) for further information.



# **THANK YOU!**

I wanted to again express my thanks for the Westside Alumni Association sponsoring our trip to UNL. We took 11 students on the trip, and it was a great experience. The students really benefitted from getting the opportunity to be on and tour campus.

Michael McCann  
College Counselor, Westside High School

# REUNIONS

## 1963: 50-Year Reunion

August 9-10, 2013 — We have a block of rooms at the Marriott Hotel-Regency Group Code: HOUHOUA \$89 + tax, includes breakfast. 800-228-9290 ([www.omahamarriott.com](http://www.omahamarriott.com)) Friday: Golf outing - Contact Don Chase for info. Friday evening: Get reacquainted-casual buffet dinner & cash bar at Marriott. Saturday: Morning tour of WHS; free time to explore Omaha. Saturday evening: At Happy Hollow Club for a fancy hors d'oeuvres buffet, cash bar and entertainment. A formal class picture will be taken early in the evening. (Casual dress for both evenings.) We welcome any monetary donations to help offset reunion expenses. AND, we give huge thanks to several of our classmates for personally contacting classmates in and near their states to encourage coming to our party!!! The committee: Don Chase, 402-896-4048 ([donchase@aol.com](mailto:donchase@aol.com)) Jeff Dale, 402-493-4793 ([cjdale@cox.net](mailto:cjdale@cox.net)) , Bill Eilers, 402-334-5204 ([wjeilers@cox.net](mailto:wjeilers@cox.net)), Nadine Berg Jenkins, 402-493-1998 ([najenkins@cox.net](mailto:najenkins@cox.net)) Dennis Mick Shannon, 402-397-5010 ([N1210P@cox.net](mailto:N1210P@cox.net)), Judy McClendon Stratbucker, 402-331-1338 ([jstratbu2@cox.net](mailto:jstratbu2@cox.net)) , John Allen, 402-896-0545 ([John.allen@cbshome.com](mailto:John.allen@cbshome.com)) Facebook page: Westside High School, Omaha NE Class of 1963. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WHS63Omaha/>.

## 1973: 40-Year Reunion

August 2-3, 2013 — We have a block of rooms at Embassy Suites Old Market, 555 South 10th., Ask for Westside High Class of '73; phone 855-277-4940/402-346-9000. <http://embassysuites3.hilton.com/en/hotels/nebraska/embassy-suites-omahadowntown-old-market-OMADTES/index.html>. Friday: Golf Outing – 9am Tiburon Golf Course; contact Jim Bachman to sign up Friday evening: Causal “meet ‘n greet” at Union Pizzeria and Sports Bar for snacks, free beer for advance payers while keg lasts, cash bar. 1420 Cummings Street/ 402-932-2929. Saturday: No plans yet...taking suggestions! Saturday evening: At Embassy Suites for fancy hors d'oeuvres buffet, cash bar and DANCING!!! Dress accordingly! Katie Bryant is putting together a slide show to run Saturday night so please email one or two of your favorite high school photos to her as a high resolution JPEG (if possible). We are also looking for grade school yearbook pictures so tune into Facebook for more info. A PayPal account will be established as a quick way to pay in advance. More info will be in the Invite out in April and on Facebook. Creative ideas and monetary donations to help offset reunion expenses are always welcome! Thank you for contacting your high school class mates and encouraging them to come to the Reunion weekend. Please send mailing or email addresses to Kim Arnold. THE COMMITTEE: The Class of '73 has an amazing group of folks helping with this reunion, but we don't have enough column space for all their names. Here are a few folks you can contact directly: Katie (Gordon) Bryant;

kbryant1955@cox.net, Jim Bachman: jebachman@msn.com, Kim Arnold; Kimmardar@aol.com, Sandra Morar; smorar@mmnk.com, DeDe McFayden Donahue; dede1301@cox.net, Laurie (Tangdall) Kemp; lkemp73@gmail.com, Kathy (Rozum) Elsasser; gelsasser@tconl.com, Dee (Olson) Acquazzino; dracquaz@unmc.edu. Facebook Page: Omaha Westside High School Class of 1973. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/288037060505/?fref=ts>

## 1978: 35-Year Reunion

June 28-29, 2013 — Locations TBA. Please contact Kim Donahue at [kimbdonahue@gmail.com](mailto:kimbdonahue@gmail.com) or Dan Ferris at [Dan\\_Ferris@ajg.com](mailto:Dan_Ferris@ajg.com)

## 1983: 30-Year Reunion

June 29, 2013. — Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Westside1983>. CenturyLink Center Omaha 6 p.m. For more information, email: [Westsidehigh1983reunion@yahoo.com](mailto:Westsidehigh1983reunion@yahoo.com)

## 1988: 25-Year Reunion

June 28-29, 2013 — June 28, Friday Night: Red Eye Tavern & Grill, 8437 West Center Road, 7:00 p.m. FREE Event, Cash Bar Available. Casual Dress. June 29, Saturday Night: Regency Lake & Tennis Club, 606 Regency Pkwy, 7:00 p.m. Cost: \$30 per person, Heavy Hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar Available. Snappy Casual Dress. Questions? Dana (Studenberg) Blakely: [danablakely13@yahoo.com](mailto:danablakely13@yahoo.com), Debbie (Moss) McGrew: [debbiemcgrew@Q.com](mailto:debbiemcgrew@Q.com) or call (402) 690-6872, Meagan (Davis) Van Gelder: [meaganvg@yahoo.com](mailto:meaganvg@yahoo.com) JOIN US ON FACEBOOK: Group Name: WHS Class of 1988 25 Year Reunion, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/382666108480338/> Registration Forms will be mailed within the next 30 days. If you believe your contact information is OUT OF DATE – please e-mail or call Debbie McGrew

## 1993: 20-Year Reunion

August 2-3, 2013 — Friday, August 2nd, 7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m., Paxton Ballroom - 1403 Farnam Dinner and Dance - \$45/person. Saturday, August 3rd: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Tour of WHS, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Family Day at Rockbrook Pool \$5/person at the door. Bring your coolers or there will be hamburgers, hotdogs, and chicken sandwich meals to purchase, 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Johnny Goodman Golf Course, 9 holes of golf for about \$20/person, 7:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. Red Eye Tavern, No Charge - Food and Drinks are there to purchase - Cash Bar. Contact: Liz Gunderson at [lizgundy@yahoo.com](mailto:lizgundy@yahoo.com). Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/groups/519633498067213/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/519633498067213/)

## 2003: 10-Year Reunion

Class of 2003, your reunion is scheduled for the weekend of Friday, September 6th. Please join the “Westside High School, Class of 2003-10-year reunion” page linked below. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/193943424076146/?fref=ts> Chase Woodward, [chase.woodward@gmail.com](mailto:chase.woodward@gmail.com)

## Future Reunions:

Class of 1964 August 1-2, 2014  
Class of 1965 June 13, 2015, <http://www.whs65.com>

# SPECIAL THANKS

Think of a teacher who has made a real difference in your life. The Westside community is fortunate to have so many of these wonderful, high quality staff members, and we would like to give special thanks to those who are retiring this May.

If you see a teacher on this year's list who impacted your life in a great way, please consider dropping them a quick note. Send it to the Westside Foundation, at the address below, by May 20th.

You may also choose to thank them with a donation made in their honor, recognizing what they have done in your life, while also paying it forward for future Westside students. Donations are tax deductible, and they can be designated to the Westside school or program of your choice.

Help us shower with appreciation a memorable class of retirees. Please send your note and/or donation to: The Westside Foundation, 909 South 76th Street, Omaha, Ne. 68114. For more information, call (402) 390-2133.

Mitzi (Delman) Friedman	HS, World Lang - French
Kevin Biga	HS, Science
Bruce Bloom	Swanson, Music
Jana Brawner	HS, Senior Project
Ann Burks	Sunset Hills, Reading District, SPED
Linda Comfort	Swanson, Principal
Laura Croom	Paddock Road, 4th grade
Dottie Deines	WMS, Math
Michelle Dobbs	Hillside, ELL
Carol Halperin	Elementary, EY
Debra Hanslip	HS, Journalism
Rod Howe	Loveland, Principal
Sandy Irish	WMS, World Lang - Spanish
Barbara Irvin	Director Staff Development
Suzy Jones	Swanson, PE
Debra Kaplan	WMS, Math
Janet Koski	HS, PE/Swim
Douglas Krecklow	HS, Business
Rita Leehy	Sunset Hills, 6th grade
Patty McArdle	Director Special Services
Steven Milliken	HS, English
Nancy Mitchell	Loveland, Kindergarten
Linda Morton	Westgate, Principal
Gary Ohm	Paddock Road, Guidance
Donald Oswald	Paddock Road, Principal
James Otto	HS, Math
Rick Peterson	Home/School Liaison
Susan Siczkowski	Director Elem. Education/EY
Jim Stevens	Westgate, SPED
Annette Volberding	Paddock Road, 4th grade
Ruth Woodland	Prairie Lane, 1st grade
Lisa Worrall	HS, World Lang - German
Diane Wulf	HS, SPED
Rita Yasson	

# WHATCHA DOIN'?



Gathering for lunch on June 15th, 2012 at the home of Ann Olmsted, to honor Barbie Day Sample, visiting from Pacific Palisades, CA. All from Westside Class of 1959. From left to right: Juddy McGarrugh Atkins, Judy Metzger Sartin, Barbie Day Sample, Judy Lazer Kaplan, Kathy Carney Encell, Marilyn Handschuh Woodbury, Dottie Carpenter Kuester, Nancy ThomasAmisler

## 1950's

**Lewis Taylor, '58.** Louie is a retired florist. He and his wife, Lillian (deceased) have two children, Tracy who was born in 1966 and Scott who was born in 1967.

**Gerald Wolff, '58** is a Horse Trainer and truck driver. His son, Corey C. Wolff was born in 1975.

## Remembering

- Janice Dohn Winter ..... 1955
- Nancy Jo Hanks ..... 1957
- Carol Eaton Johnston ..... 1957
- Larry Myers ..... 1958
- Lynn France ..... 1959
- Roger Stanway ..... 1961
- James R. Kehm ..... 1962
- John Mesterhazy ..... 1963
- Pam Brinke Dirksen ..... 1965
- Linda Morrison Foster ..... 1965
- John Morrison ..... 1966
- Steve Sokolof ..... 1966
- Patricia Sellner ..... 1969
- Gary Alan Jorgenson ..... 1970
- Virginia Slabaugh Rager "Ginny" .. 1970
- Jim Klatt ..... 1972
- Karen Joyce (Nelson) Lienemann .. 1972
- Helene Wasserman ..... 1975
- James M. Roncka, III ..... 1976
- Catherine Prescott ..... 1983
- Kenneth K. Hansen ..... Former Superintendent
- Christine R. Bunsen ..... Retired teacher
- David Walther ..... Former math teacher
- Patricia Rice Matthews... Former teacher Oakdale
- Pam Brinke Dirksen..... Former teacher, Loveland
- Karen Reigle ..... Retired teacher
- David Walther Thronson, ..... Retired teacher

## 1960's

**Ned H. Criscimagna, '60** Two colleagues and Ned have recently had a book published by CRC Press. The title is **Engineering for Sustainability**. <http://www.crcpress.com/product isbn/9781439853511>. Ned continues to work part time as an engineering consultant and pursue his avocation of singing. Ned and his wife will spend weekends watching their grandson play for the University of South Carolina.

**Candace Lyman Margolin, '64** and her husband, James E. Moore are both Counseling Psychologists, M.S. in the Philadelphia area. They have two grandchildren 3 year old, Eeilia Filor and newborn, Elijah Margolin. Candace has taught history, Latin, English, started four women's book groups, participated in art programs and worked with clients with major mental illness.

**Carolyn Lee Jones, '68**, Married 37 years to Francis Shaner - Landscape contractor Moved to Dallas in 1970 - most of my family is still in Omaha. I was a luxury gift buyer for Federated Dept Stores, the Neiman Marcus Group and Zale Corp and traveled the world. Since fall of 2008 I am living my second career dream as a full time jazz singer leading my own bands in the Dallas Fort Worth area. Recorded my first CD in New York City in 2008, and working on my second to be released in summer of 2013. You can hear and see me live on my web site <http://www.haveyou metmissjones.com/> life is good! WOULD ...LOVE ...LOVE ...LOVE to sing with some of my Omaha musician friends for our next reunion! CLJones Music Group, 214-448-6516, [www.carolynleejones.com](http://www.carolynleejones.com), Facebook: Carolynleejones, Press Kit : HYPERLINK "<http://www.sonicbids.com/carolynleejones>" [www.sonicbids.com/carolynleejones](http://www.sonicbids.com/carolynleejones)

**Gary N. Thomsen, M.D., '69** graduated from UNO in 1973 and the University Nebraska College of Medicine in 1976. I finished an internship and residency in Family Practice at the University of Kansas Medical Center in 1979. I was in a group of Family Practitioners through 2008. I did a 2 year stint in occupational medicine in the greater Kansas City area. I am now trying to develop a Family Medicine Clinic and a patient centered medical home in Osage Beach, MO at the Lake of the Ozarks. I try to spend my spare time with family and still trying to learn to play golf. Gary and his wife Carla Guiher (professor) have three adult children and 3 grandsons.

## 1970's

**David Campbell, '74** is a physician in Granger, IN.

**Gail Hiatt Rule, '75** did not date Mark Rule while in high school. However, Mark remembers that Gail Hiatt was his favorite. They were married 36

years later, by their classmate, Judge Jeff Marcuzzo on June 4, 2011. Mark became a step-dad to Leah, Cory and Luke and "Papa" to two grandchildren, 6 year old Caleb and 2 year old Erica. Gail and Mark live in Omaha. Mark is a train dispatcher at Union Pacific and Gail is the owner of Mom's Touch

## 1980's



**Lisa Dobry Runco, '80** Lisa Runco, vice chair of finance and administration in the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Department of Internal Medicine, recently began serving a one-year term as president of the Administrators of Internal Medicine (AIM). AIM is a national organization of 435 business administrators in departments of internal medicine at medical schools and affiliated teaching hospitals in the United States and Canada. Accounting for approximately 200,000 of the nation's 700,000 physicians, internal medicine is the largest, most diverse specialty in the United States. Runco earned her master's degree in public administration from the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) in 1991 and her bachelor's degree in business administration from UNO, magna cum laude, in 1985. She has worked in various capacities at UNMC since 1991. Runco has served in a variety of roles in the Medical Group Management Association since 1991 and has served as president of the Academic Practice Assembly and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Nebraska Chapter.

**Michael Herman, '80**, University of Iowa, '84 and MIT, '91 where he received his Doctorate and worked under a subsequent Nobel prize winner. <http://www.k-state.edu/today/announcement.php?id=5517&category=events&referredby=email#UIVQkeOeCrs>. Facebook <http://www.k-state.edu/hermanlab/>. He also plays in a locally popular blues band made up of fellow biology professors; and owns a Harley, and has several trips to Sturgis under his belt.

## 2000's

**Liz Sergel Hartman, '05 and Jason Hartman, '05** were married June 9, 2012. They both graduated from TCU in 2009. Liz is an Advertising Account Executive with The Interger Group. Jason is Senior Investment Analyst with the Prudential Capital Group. They live in Dallas, TX.

**Rachel D. Lincoln, '06** is a professional DC-based photographer and mixed media artist. She is also the owner of Lincoln Languages, a professional translation business (French, Spanish, Arabic). Here are her websites: [www.photosbydawn.com](http://www.photosbydawn.com) [www.lincolnlanguages.com](http://www.lincolnlanguages.com)



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Class of: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

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Children's name and ages/birth dates: \_\_\_\_\_

What have you been doing since you graduated? (Use additional sheet of paper if necessary)

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