



# WHAA NEWSLETTER

*Pride and Tradition*

Volume 1 Issue 1

First Quarter 2013

## A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello All,

My name is John DeMarco. If you do not know me, I am the current President of our Westmont Hilltop Alumni Association. We are newly organized and have been working very hard over the past year to grow this association for “our school.” We want everyone to be able to connect with old classmates as well as future graduates. We strive to assist the school and current students with items of need. Some of these items may include new tablets to replace old and out dated text books, helping a student with purchasing items so they can participate in a sport or activity they love, or just by sponsoring a scholarship for a student or students to help with the costs of college.

As a graduate of Westmont Hilltop, I am proud to say that I am a “Hilltopper” and look forward to serving all. So once again, please support our school and future Alumni.

By the way, look for us at homecoming and other sporting events! We’ve been known to cook out for special occasions!

Sincerely,

John DeMarco (Class of 1987)

## 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

## FUNDRAISER

**The Westmont Hilltop Alumni Association is currently holding its first fundraising project. This is a raffle to benefit the general fund.**

**First place is an autographed, authentic Mario Lemieux home jersey.**

**Second place is a Carolina Hurricanes hat and puck signed by Eric Staal and Cam Ward.**

**Third place is a Pitt Zoo t-shirt and mini replica helmet.**

**Tickets are \$5.00 each and the drawing will be held at 7:00pm on Friday, May 10th 2013 at Shorty’s Italian Smokehouse in the West Hills Square. The winner does not need to be present.**

**Please contact any of the Officers or Board of Directors or for info you can email [westyalumni@gmail.com](mailto:westyalumni@gmail.com).**

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## Hilltoppers in the News

**Karen (Rudel) Reb** (Class of 1986) was featured in the January 4th, 2013 edition of the Johnstown Tribune Democrat, spotlighting her tour guide business in Paris, France.

Read the article [HERE](#)

Website: <http://sightseekersdelight.com/>

**Chris Antemann** (Class of 1988) has had her elaborate porcelain sculptures displayed in numerous solo and group exhibitions, around the world.

Website: <http://www.chrisantemann.com/>

## Do you remember.....?

Everyone has a few things that are stuck in their memory from their days at Westmont. Do you remember any of these? Email us your memories. It will probably make someone else smile, too!

- When the Middle School uniforms were blue and gold
- [Bus evacuation drills](#)
- Track & Field days
- [American Government trips to the Ebensburg jail & courthouse](#)
- Physics trips to the Buhl Planetarium
- [Awards assemblies](#)
- Student council blood drives
- [Senior skip day](#)
- Senior breakfast
- [Senior slide show](#)
- The Matsko Mile
- [Southmont School](#)

## The Westmont Impact

**The Westmont Hilltop** school district not only provided me with a great education, but it instilled a sense of unselfishness and tolerance. It gave me an opportunity to participate in the "school of hard knocks," so to speak. There were, of course, many classmates and teachers that I did not understand or may not have seen eye to eye with, but I learned to respect their opinions and values. Now this was rooted, of course, in what my parents taught me, but my parents weren't around between 7:30 and 3:00 while I was shaping the man I am today.

*William J. Hargreaves (Class of 1994)*

**I am a Hilltopper.** How proud I am everyday to say those words and to feel that in my heart. How proud I am every time I go to a sporting event or a play or I see someone proudly wearing their red and gray.

Moving to Westmont in 9th grade was not an easy transition. I came from the "city school" with an attitude and a chip on my shoulder. But somewhere between Mr. Rudnac cracking jokes in homeroom and my mastery of the Matsko mile, I became a Hilltopper.

I met my best friends; had my first boyfriend; had my first heartbreak; had success in sports; had adversity in sports; struggled with math classes; found my love of writing – in short I grew up in those halls along with my classmates. Through the years some of them have faded away but I am so happy to say that mostly, my bond with my fellow Hilltoppers of all classes has actually strengthened over the years. Friends who I had in HS and I have picked up like we've never missed a beat and others, who were acquaintances, have become great friends. There's something special about our little school – something that you don't see everywhere. As my dad always says when we talk about Westmont "it's a little slice of heaven".

I am a Hilltopper. Glad you are too!!!

*Mary Beaujon Calissie (Class of 1986)*



# 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

# 2012 Homecoming Game ...



# Welcome

## **Alumni & Associate Members**

Harry Bennear  
Linette Lonsinger Blackburn  
Mary Beaujon Calissie  
Dr. and Mrs. William Carney  
Susan Ellingsworth  
Robert A Gleason, Jr.  
Ryan Gleason  
William Glosser  
Michael Goerlich  
Robert Hanson  
Judy Eckel Heinze  
Jason Hughes  
Tom Kirby  
Brock Rozich  
Jonathan Rutledge  
Nancy Zimmerman

## **Family Members**

Dr. Magdi & Karen Azer  
Michele Azer  
Melissa Azer  
Christian Azer  
Barney and Lana Custer  
Patrick Wolfe  
Jan Esserman Wolfe  
Daniel Wolfe

## **Business Sponsors**

Linette A. Blackburn, Allstate  
Dale Oxygen  
Highland Financial, Ltd.  
Art McQuillan, Attorney at Law  
Shorty's Italian Smokehouse  
Sharon's Dance Studio  
Slovenian Savings & Loan  
Somerset Trust





**Officers**

President  
John DeMarco  
  
Vice President  
William J. Hargreaves  
  
Treasurer  
Colleen Goerlich  
  
Secretary  
Paula Ostrich

**Board of Directors**

Brian A. Krise  
Carol M. Pavlosky  
Charles Zimmerman

**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

**WHAA Meetings**

Meetings are generally held the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm in room 111 in the Middle School. Occasionally the date, time and/or location must be changed, so please check the Facebook page for information. We hope to see you!

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

Membership amounts are:  
\$10 Individual  
\$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)