

Connections

A Publication of the Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Public School
Education Foundation

We Can't
Succeed
Without You

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P.O. Box 125, Warren, MN 56762

Rhonda (Jones) Heyd: Country Roots To Country Boots



By: *Melanie M. (Fulks) Nelson,*
WHS Class of 1981

According to Rhonda, (Oslo High School, Class of 1987) those words ring ever true to her heart. Her country roots began strong and her country boots are kickin' up memories every day! Rhonda's story begins with her modest, rural American roots. Her education began as an Alvarado Indian way back in the late 70's. She was always proud and happy to be a small-town, country girl! She and her only brother, Rodney moved to Alvarado in 1977. They had the good fortune to live just two houses down from their cousins, Will Bayne and Mike and Spencer Selnes. She fondly recalls the blessings that come with having cousins in her life was endless and those memories are valuable treasures for her to this day. All of them went to school together, along with other Alvarado cousins Troy, Tadd and Travis Vanyo. Rhonda fondly reflects, "this small town living was an amazing experience!" Coincidentally, all their parents were also graduates of Alvarado, as well! There were a lot of Vanyo family members (aunts, uncles and cousins) in those graduating high school class pictures that lined the hallways. She shares how well she remembers how several kids would congregate at "The Court" in the summer and taking the bus to Warren for swimming lessons, T-ball and bible camp. In the winter months, several kids would go ice skating. Rhonda can still remember the smell of the warming house when their wet mittens would rest on the heater and that smell of burnt yarn would start lingering. It was a quick reminder that you'd better get your mittens off that heater before a hole burnt through them! In her rural community, she commented that they always felt safe and would go trick-or-treating all over the town ~ then the cousins would get together and trade different candies with each other and have fun building card houses. Family time was valued and a rich part of her

upbringing, so, for her family, it was a huge deal when the first video game "Pong" was rolled out and even a bigger family event when cable TV came to Alvarado. Their extended family played together countless hours. As she reflected on childhood memories, she noted how they played a significant role in developing a passion for music, songs and singing and served as a backdrop to her lyrics.

Rhonda recalled her high school years being filled with volleyball and cheering for the local basketball teams. She spoke of enjoying music and academics and fondly recalled taking piano lessons from Mona (Heggasteun) Schroeder, Spanish, FHA and attending school dances. She reflected once that she and Lewis Rogalla won first place in a dance contest, winning a 6-pack of Dr. Pepper! Rhonda enjoyed being a varsity basketball cheerleader during her freshman year for the Alvarado Indians. The following year, her family relocated and she and her brother suddenly became students in the Oslo School District. Rhonda continued to cheer ~ cheering against her rival community of Alvarado! While in Oslo, choir, art and cheering were again favorite activities for Rhonda, she especially felt honored to cheer for her brother's team. One preferred class in high school was Spanish; it gave her the opportunity to be bused back to Alvarado, and her friends, daily to attend class. Rhonda recalls loving that class and has found it useful in college and throughout her adult life as well. She shared a few other fond Oslo High School memories: she especially enjoyed Joe Corradi's "row quizzes" ~ everyone who was a student of Mr. Corradi loved him and thought he was an awesome teacher. Mr. Dave Schroeder was another favorite teacher Rhonda remembers well. She and her classmates felt it was always exciting finding out who was sitting at "The Brown Table" during lunch break. She also recalled the annual Bean Days Parade and activities always being thrilling to all in the community.

While in high school, Rhonda learned to play guitar and would sing with her dad's band, "Thunder Ridge." She didn't realize it then, but her robust love for the stage and music was beginning, playing and singing onstage for the first time at age 14 and from then on, she found herself "hooked on country and gospel music." Her love and passion had begun! Without realizing it, she found that writing music was an undeveloped gift and by the time graduation came around, Rhonda was writing her own music. As a senior in high school, she was given the opportunity to let her talent shine when she was selected to

perform the very first song she ever wrote during her graduation ceremony. Following the ceremony, she spent the rest of the evening performing with Thunder Ridge at her own graduation party. Those two memories are two of her most cherished memories to date.

Following graduation, Rhonda's folks divorced, with her father remarrying and adopting her beautiful step-sister, Courtney (Argyle, MN). Though Courtney didn't grow up with them, they loved her as a sister and Rhonda enjoyed coming home to watch her school concerts and plays. Rhonda began her post-secondary career at Northland Community and Technical College in Thief River Falls and earned an Associate of Arts degree. Then shortly thereafter obtained her Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) degree. She accepted a position in East Grand Forks at the Good Samaritan Center. It was during this time that she met and married her first husband. He worked for Vigen Construction; she found it exciting when his company sent him to Wisconsin and California to work on renovations to the Anheuser-Busch Company facilities. Making this move allowed Rhonda to experience life outside of Minnesota. For the first time ever, she experienced NO SNOW in the winter! Rhonda made her first TV appearance in 1988 where she sang and performed two of her original songs for a Christmas promotional telethon. In 2001, the couple moved back to Grand Forks but decided to part ways. That was when she accepted a position at Noridian Healthcare Services but continued pursuing her passion in music by volunteering in several music and singing groups.

Rhonda's "Country Boots" were starting to kick up some new dust! In February of 2013, while co-hosting a volunteer community guitar group, she met her second husband and musical partner, DuWayne Heyd. He'd come to listen to her group that day. A friend of hers asked her to have DuWayne join the group onstage. Following the performance, he joined her music circle and later walked her to her car that afternoon. The rest is, as they say, history. Rhonda and DuWayne began an immediate courtship and were married one year later to the day in Las Vegas. Because he'd been a veteran to many local "gigs" and had a lifelong dream of playing at the Opry, DuWayne wanted to share that with Rhonda. He exposed her to much more traveling and fun adventures! DuWayne had an established music career in the 90's, including a traveling Opry-style show. She states that DuWayne wanted to "offer me that

Continued on page 6

Join the WAO Education Foundation for our
16th Annual
Golf Scramble Fundraiser
Friday, July 23, 2021
at Riverside Golf Course
Warren, MN

18-hole, 4-person scramble

Come for lunch and
play 9 holes for fun.

Registration is NOW Open

Starts at 7:00 a.m.
Shotgun start: 8:30 a.m.

\$50.00/person

Pre-registration strongly suggested.

Contact us at
(218) 745-4646 ext. 1317 or
email: edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us

To reserve a golf cart, call 218-745-4028
and leave a message. Your call will be
returned.

FUN, FOOD, GAMES, PRIZES!

Warren-Mesa Picnic

February 19, 2022 in Mesa, AZ
See page 6 for more information.

Class Reunions

Please contact the Education Foundation with
your class reunion details for our next edition
of "Connections." We would be glad to give you
our most current addresses for your classmates.

In return we ask that you give us any
address updates that you become aware of.

Warren-WHS/WAO Florida Picnic

February 19, 2022
Pavilion at Maxine Barret Park
beginning at noon
See page 5 for more information

Marshall County Fair

July 21 - July 25, 2021

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Greg M. Haugen Memorial Scholarships
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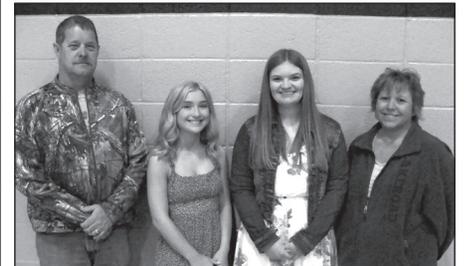
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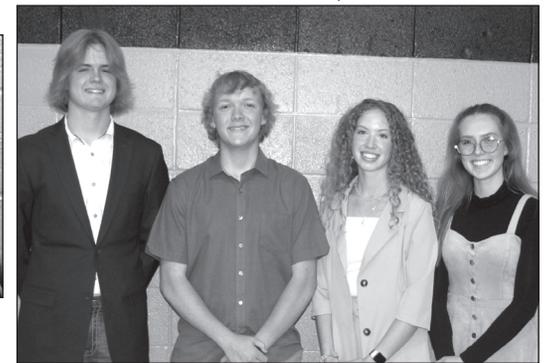
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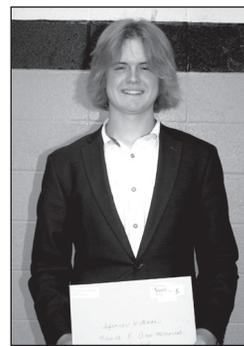
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Congratulations!

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DUANE SWANSON, COURTNEY NELSON,
ED ROSENDAHL

WARREN-WAO FLORIDA PICNIC

FEBRUARY 19, 2022

THE VISUAL EXTRAVAGANZA OF
SARASOTA AWAITS YOU ON

IT'S A SIGHT TO SEE AND A PERFECT DAY
WILL BE IN STORE FOR YOU.

Come one and all to Florida for the 2022 WAO & Friends gathering at the Pavilion at Maxine Barret Park.

More details will be in the fall "Connections" and on various Warren sites on Facebook.

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS 2021

STEFAN JOHNSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

– This scholarship was established in 2021 by Jordan (WAO 2005) and Brooke (WAO 2006) Johnson in memory of their uncle Stefan who passed on January 21, 2021. Stefan was a WHS 1978 graduate. He was an extremely gifted artist with a passion for drawing, writing and composing music, singing and "guitar picking." Stefan was married to Phyllis and the father of Winston. The family of three created, composed, and performed beautiful music. This scholarship is for someone going into the area of agriculture or music/arts.

BOBMATTSON/DAVESCHROEDERSCHOLARSHIP

– This scholarship was established in 2020 by Jeff Jacobson, Alvarado 1986 graduate. Both Bob and Dave were coaches during Jeff's high school days. This scholarship is intended for students who have been involved with golf, basketball, or volleyball.

BETTY MELGARD SCHOLARSHIP

– This scholarship was established by Betty in 2020. Betty's late husband Cal, was a WHS 1944 grad and all of her five children are WHS grads. This scholarship is intended for a student to attend a trade/technical two or four year school. Sadly Betty passed on April 10th of this year.

Golf Registration Form

Please return this with your entry fee. (\$50/person)

Team Member's Names: _____

Contact email _____ Contact Phone: _____

Team Name: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: WAO Education Foundation Mail to: WAO Ed. Foundation, P.O. Box 125, Warren, MN 56762

Tribute and Memorial Gifts

November 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021

In Memory of Agnes Kobetsky
Frances (Pinkerton) Fanfulik
In Memory of Annette (Parkin) Strandell
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Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler
Don & Glorianne Loeslie
Duane & Shari Swanson
Robert & Deanna Bossman
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Romelle Vanek Ferris
Russell & Patricia (Anderson) Juvrud
Stanley & Marilyn (Strickler) Sirek
Steve & Marie Goodwin
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Wayne & Carole (Stroble) Edgar
Wendell & Michal (Loeslie) Sands
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Patrick & Kathleen (Vansickle) Carr
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Patty (Bossman) Hines
In Memory of Barbara (Jankowski) Gray
Dallas & Joyce (Andresen) Way
James & Deb Stengrim
John & Gaye (Wages) Oehlke
Pat (Gilbert) Carlson
Patrick & Ann (Berget) Zavoral
Wayne & Carole (Stroble) Edgar
In Memory of Betty (VanBaalén) Goodwin
Adriana (VanBaalén) Omang
Anna Wheeler
Bette (Grega) Swanson
Brenda (Forslund) Borowicz
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Henrietta (VanBaalén) Bergman
Howard & Nancy (Oberg) Sturman
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JaNeen Miller
Jerry & Rita Dalzell
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Lee & Susan (Bergman) Myxter
Lloyd & Adelaide Kasprick
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Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom
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Rita Walker
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Connie (Swanson) Moen
In Memory of Delphine Safranski
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JaNeen Miller
In Memory of Donald Narlock
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Bette (Grega) Swanson
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Dale & Beverly (Torgerson) Clausen
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Gladwin Lynne
Ilayne Potucek
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Duane & Susan (Jackson) Palm
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Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning
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Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman
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Russell & Patricia (Anderson) Juvrud
In Memory of James Gerszewski
Don & Glorianne Loeslie
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In Honor of Jason & Heidi Mischel for Christmas 2020
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Stanley & Marilyn (Strickler) Sirek
In Memory of Judy Olson Stengrim
DelRoy & Marlene (Olson) Shane
In Memory of June Becker
L. Peder & Karen Larson
In Memory of June Goplin
Terry W. Paulson
In Memory of Kari Wagner
Gary & Nancy (Kliner) Wagner
In Memory of Kathy Boman
Allyn & Susan (Matcha) Roley
Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman
In Memory of Ken Carlson
Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble
Carol J. Anderson
Carol Scott
Chet & Patty Parham
Clarence Johnston
Dallas & Joyce (Andresen) Way
John & Gaye (Wages) Oehlke
Lorraine Dewar
Lowell & Shirley (Mykleby) Hamrick
Mary (Carlson) Myhrer
Mylo & Marlene (Bonnette) Carlson
Nicolle Fowler
Pat (Gilbert) Carlson
Patrick & Ann (Berget) Zavoral
Paul & Janet (Carlson) Aakre
Richard & Barbara Olson
Robert & Julie Mudge
Rodney Carlson
Ron & Brenda Hamilton
Todd & Kathy (Clausen) Johnston
William & Nancy Burrows
Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman
In Memory of Ken Sylskar
Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble
In Memory of Larry Graham
Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble
In Memory of Lee Matinson
Don & Glorianne Loeslie
Gary Vetteson
Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning
In Memory of Leona Chalaturnyk
Carol J. Anderson
Michael & Betty (Bjorgaard) DuBore
Philip & Gloria Thompson
In Memory of Leona Vasek
Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble
Carol J. Anderson
Gladwin Lynne
Jerry & Rita Dalzell
Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman
Rick & Marie Schmiedeberg
In Memory of Loren Engelstad
Anonymous
Carol J. Anderson
Clayton & Jodi (Olson) Quade
Don & Glorianne Loeslie
Doug & Jo Sorenson
Elva (Nordling) Bustrack
Gary Vetteson
Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning
Jack & Delores (Anderson) Sedlacek
John & Rachel Peterson
L. Peder & Karen Larson
Patty (Bossman) Hines
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman
Rick & Nancy Mattson
Rovella (Franks) Weiland
Steve & Marie Goodwin
In Memory of Louie & Gertie Kuznia
Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble
In Memory of Lyle Anderson Football Challenge
Brian & Diana Black
In Memory of Marilyn (Erickson) Mattson
Bill & Carol Sedgeman
Carol J. Anderson
Don & Corrine (Goplin) Slaughter
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler
Duane & Shari Swanson
Elva (Nordling) Bustrack
Jerry & Rita Dalzell
L. Peder & Karen Larson
Rev Dale & Nadine (Anderson) Peterson
Rovella (Franks) Weiland
Steve & Marie Goodwin
Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman
In Memory of Marlan Warne
Carol J. Anderson
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler
In Memory of Marlys Carlson
Rev Dale & Nadine (Anderson) Peterson

In Memory of Mary Lou (Johnston) Krueger
Don Krueger
Jodi Krueger
In Memory of Mary Lou Cook
Rona (Cook) Anderson
In Memory of Maureen (Engstrom) Greentree
Rodney & Deborah (Claerbout) Erickson
In Memory of Mavis Elseth
Jr. & Carol (Stengrim) Buzalsky
In Memory of Melanie (Bork) Carpenter
Tom & Ann (Carpenter) Walski
In Memory of Merrill & Mildred Stroble
Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble
In Memory of Michael & Jean (Halvorson) Hart
Richard & Margaret (Olson) Nelson
In Memory of Michael Peterson
Elva (Nordling) Bustrack
L.R. & Avis (Nordling) Eickhoff
In Memory of Murray Goodwin
Dillon & Sara (Beaudry) Nelson
In Honor of Mylo & Marlene Carlson
Wayne & Deanna (Carlson) Zink
In Memory of Nancy (Boman) Wurtz
Davey & Michelle Frederick-Riopelle
In Memory of Norma (Fering) Edman
Tim Edman
In Memory of Oliver "O.J." Peyton
Gary & Stephanie Goroski
In Memory of Paula Laudal
Jr. & Carol (Stengrim) Buzalsky
In Memory of Peggy Olson Sandberg
DelRoy & Marlene (Olson) Shane
In Memory of Phyllis (Spilde) Moos
Family of Phyllis (Spilde) Moos
In Memory of Quayne "Mischief" Sherwood
Betty (Sorensen) Carlson
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler
Duane & Jerrilyn (Olson) Potucek
Faye Wallsten
George & Susan (Hill) Lee
L. Peder & Karen Larson
In Memory of Ray Burwell
Alan, Lana (Walker) & Sophia Maruska
In Memory of Raymond Gerszewski
John & LaVerne (Storbakken) Messelt
In Memory of Renee Zilka
Carol J. Anderson
Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom
In Memory of Richard "Dick" Palmer
Ed & Linda (Engelstad) Turn
In Memory of Richard Nelson
Betty (Sorensen) Carlson
In Memory of Rick Neegard
Cindy (Neegard) Goulet
In Memory of Robert & Margaret Sommers
Sheila (Sommers) Ballard
In Memory of Robert Duckstad
Erman & Betty Ueland
In Memory of Robert Swanson
Swanson Family
In Memory of Robin McDonough
Jr. & Carol (Stengrim) Buzalsky
In Memory of Robin Swanson
Jr. & Carol (Stengrim) Buzalsky
Swanson Family
In Memory of Roger "Buzz" Omdahl
Robert & Terri Quanrud
In Memory of Rolland "Rollie" Toupin
Alan, Lana (Walker) & Sophia Maruska
Bette (Grega) Swanson
Carol J. Anderson
Darlene (Torgerson) Dvorak
Ed & Linda (Engelstad) Turn
Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning
Greg & Sandy (Jagol) Johnson
James & Judy (Burwell) Pulkrabek
James Kuznia
Jerred & Tara Copp
Jerry & Rita Dalzell
John & Deb (Zutz) Copp
Ken & Robin Hanson
Kipp & GERALYN (Kuznia) Loeslie
L. Peder & Karen Larson
Leslie & Patty (Pickett) Howard
Luann (Knudsen) Johnson
Mark & Judy Swanson
Patrick & Ann (Berget) Zavoral
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman
Robert & Colette Ellerbusch
Steve & Marie Goodwin
Sue (Johnson) Davidson
In Memory of Stuart "Stewey" Hurst
Patrick & Ann (Berget) Zavoral
Treasure (Soltis) Omdahl
In Memory of Terry Albaugh
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman
Rovella (Franks) Weiland
In Memory of Terry Beaudry
Greg & Maureen Potucek
Steve & Marie Goodwin
Tom & Jan Aafedt
In Memory of Terry Edgar
Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble
Carol J. Anderson
Clayton & Jodi (Olson) Quade
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler
Earl & Linda Johnson
George & Marlene Neys
George & Susan (Hill) Lee
Gladwin Lynne
Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom
John & Deb (Zutz) Copp
John & Jean Walker
Karen (Hickman) Larson
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman
Ronald & Sharon (Edgar) Abrahamson
Steve & Marie Goodwin
Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman
In Memory of Toby & Joyce Carlson
Dan & Lynnae (Carlson) Gilder
In Memory of Tom & Judy (Maruska) Yutrzienka
Carol J. Anderson
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler
Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning
Mylo & Marlene (Bonnette) Carlson
In Memory of Tricia Filipi
Cindy (Riopelle) Filipi
In Memory of Verna Oseth
Richard & Margaret (Olson) Nelson
In Memory of Vernon & Shirley Roley
Mark & Claudia (Roley) Thompson
In Memory of WHS 1958 Classmates
Charles & Dolores (Weiland) Zammert
In Honor of WHS Class of 1951
Barbara (Melgaard) Lindenber
In Honor of WHS Class of 1961
Leona Neegard
Patricia (Neegard) Anderson

John & Gaye (Wages) Oehlke
John & Jean Walker
Kathy (Stone) Williams
Mark & Judy Swanson
Mark & Merilee Potucek
Michael & Betty (Bjorgaard) DuBore
Rita Walker
Steve & Marie Goodwin
Wayne & Sharon (Ranstrom) Larson
In Honor of Shawna Gjovik
Cindy (Riopelle) Filipi
In Memory of Shirley (Stark) Johnson
Alan, Lana (Walker) & Sophia Maruska
Arls Pederson
Bill & Carol Sedgeman
Carol J. Anderson
Cindy (Riopelle) Filipi
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler
Don & Glorianne Loeslie
Don & Susan (Lundgren) Anderson
Duane & Shari Swanson
Ed & Beryl (Bossman) Palmer
Elva (Nordling) Bustrack
Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning
Jeanie Ulferts
John & Carol Bowman
John & Deb (Zutz) Copp
John & Jean Walker
John & Sharon (Strunk) Carlson
Karen (Hickman) Larson
L. Peder & Karen Larson
Mylo & Marlene (Bonnette) Carlson
Patrick & Ann (Berget) Zavoral
Patty (Bossman) Hines
Paul & Janet (Carlson) Aakre
Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman
In Honor of Sondra (Maruska) Weinzierl
Peter & Sharon (Maruska) Kratt
In Memory of Stefan Johnson
Alan, Lana (Walker) & Sophia Maruska
Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble
Bette (Grega) Swanson
Bev Johnson
Carol J. Anderson
Charles & Rosemary (Wilkinson) Berget
Clayton & Jodi (Olson) Quade
Darlene (Torgerson) Dvorak
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler
Don & Glorianne Loeslie
Doug & Jane (Bennett) Safar
Ed & Linda (Engelstad) Turn
Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning
Gladwin Lynne
Ilayne Potucek
Janice (Hanson) Pulkrabek
Jeanie Ulferts
John & Carol Bowman
John & Deb (Zutz) Copp
John & Jean Walker
Karen Johnson
Ken & Robin Hanson
Kipp & GERALYN (Kuznia) Loeslie
L. Peder & Karen Larson
Leslie & Patty (Pickett) Howard
Luann (Knudsen) Johnson
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Rovella (Franks) Weiland
In Memory of Terry Beaudry
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Steve & Marie Goodwin
Tom & Jan Aafedt
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In Memory of Tricia Filipi
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In Honor of WHS Class of 1951
Barbara (Melgaard) Lindenber
In Honor of WHS Class of 1961
Leona Neegard
Patricia (Neegard) Anderson

The WAO Education Foundation is a nonprofit organization and every contribution is greatly appreciated. Even though we have carefully compiled this list of Memorials and Donations, please notify the Foundation if you believe any error has occurred.

Where Are They Now . . .

Tami (Halvorson) Schumacher, Class of 1989, "Following my graduation, I attended the University of North Dakota (UND) with a double major in Elementary Education and Special Education and once graduated, I began my teaching career in East Grand Forks in 1994, teaching special education. I taught elementary school for 24 years. In 2017, I made the switch to regular education and began teaching 2nd grade at New Heights Elementary School. As an educator in EGF, I have served in various leadership capacities, serving as President of our local teacher's union for 4 years. I love what I do and I love going to work every day. Even playing a small role in the success of a student, I feel teaching continues to be one of my greatest passions.

"In my personal life, my husband Todd, also a teacher (High School and College Science), and I have been married 17 years. We have three children: Ashton, age 25, McKenzie, 21 and Sam, 16. We have enjoyed every moment as parents and encouraging our children to always do their very best. Once Sam graduates, we're not quite sure what we'll do when his activities are done, because we feel like we have been on the run following them for the past 18 years. But we wouldn't trade those miles and memories for the world.

"Then about two years ago, we followed a lifelong dream of becoming a foster parent. We have opened our hearts and home to children in need. It has been one of the most rewarding experiences for our entire family. We look forward to the challenges that come with this part of our lives and will continue to serve in this capacity as long as possible.

"In my free time, I love to walk, read and travel as much as possible. We love spending time with friends and family. Due to COVID, it has been difficult to see and visit my parents as much, so I look forward to spending more time with them as well. This summer my husband and I are planning a bucket list trip to Nashville, Tennessee!

"I'll end with I quote I try to live by everyday: "Never look down on anyone...unless you are helping them up!" ~ Jesse Jackson"

Mike Brekke ~ WHS, Class of 81, "Following graduation, I continued playing basketball at UMC, then transferred to Jamestown College. In 1986, I graduated from Jamestown College and started working in the insurance industry. After 20+ years in insurance, I decided to leave the industry

and start Brekke Custom Homes in Fargo. My wife, Susan (Cavalier High School) and I have two teenage children, Cole (17) and Emily (15)."

Angela Spidahl, WAO 2016, is not only experiencing living in France, she is getting a great education while doing it. She is the daughter of Shawn and Wayne Spidahl as well as sister to **Hallee, WAO 2019**. Angela began her college education at North Dakota State University in Fargo, ND pursuing a double major in Vocal Performance and Marketing. She decided to finish her second major, Marketing, in Grenoble, France at the Grenoble Ecole de Management. Besides all of the cultural centers Grenoble has to offer, this city is also well-known for hosting the 1968 Winter Olympics. It is also enclosed by the majestic peaks of the French Alps. After receiving her Bachelor's certificate in International Business, Angela decided to stay and enroll for her Master's Degree in Marketing Management. This spring she will be halfway through the program. When she has spare time, Angela gives vocal, piano and guitar lessons. In due time, she will probably be giving skiing lessons as well.

Andrew Edman has one of the most interesting jobs most people have never heard of. He attended WAO schools until 2003 and then finished a two-year education commitment at the Perpich Center of Art at Golden Valley, MN, before coming back to graduate at WAO in 2005. Then he attended the Boston School of Fine Arts where he received his degree. Andrew began working as a Development Engineer at Boston's Children's Hospital as a member of a small team developing medical devices and realistic simulations of human organs for training doctors and nurses. The simulations are done to prepare clinicians for difficult surgeries. Developing surgical trainer devices typically involves creating simulated organs, bones and other anatomical features that appear and respond as the real thing. It is a challenge that requires novel fabrication methods and technologies like 3D printing and 3D scanning. Andrew is the son of **Dan, WHS 1969**, and Marilyn Edman who taught at the elementary school in Warren for numerous years. Andrew also has a brother, **Matthew, WAO 1997**.

News and Notes . . .

Harvey Andreson, WHS 1969, is retired and living in New Orleans, Louisiana. After graduating from Warren High School, Harvey moved on to the University of Minnesota where he earned a degree in Chemical Engineering. Straight out of college, Harvey took a job working for Union Carbide in Charleston, West Virginia. In 2001, the company was bought out by Dow and his job was transferred to New Orleans. After working 35 years, Harvey got an early retirement. Now he and his wife, Sue, of 46 years, are spending their time traveling and spoiling grandkids. They have three grown children and five grandchildren. He added they survived Hurricane Katrina with almost no damage. Despite living most of their adult lives in either Charleston or New Orleans, Harv and Sue have the distinction of never missing any of the Class of 1969's six class reunions.

Cheryl (Christenson) Zeh, WHS 1977, is the office manager and financial coordinator for Our Savior's Lutheran Church Synod office in Moorhead, MN. Cheryl is the daughter of Pastor David Christenson who served Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Warren from 1976-1992. Cheryl's sisters are **Julie, WHS 1979** and **Sandy, WHS 1981**.



Ashley Vongroven's WAO 4th grade class pictured with their Scholastic books funded by the WAO Education Foundation.



These books were purchased by the WAO Education Foundation for the first graders for use with their units.

Donations

November 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021

Alvarado Lions Club	Gerry & Patti (Olson) Evin	Myrna (Godel) Super
Amy Jo Huderle	Harley & Darlene Marek	Nathan & Amy Wozniak
Ardyce (Strand) Dunning	Harvey & Leslie Sedlacek	Pat (Gilbert) Carlson
Autumn (Russell) Schindele	Irene (Sherry) Brock	Patrick & Ann (Berget) Zavoral
Barbara (Anderson) Jorgenson	Irv & Kay Bergsagel	Patrick & Kathleen (Vansickle) Carr
Ben & Kari (Stinar) Miska	Jack & Delores (Anderson) Sedlacek	Paul & Mary Jo (Gowan) Richard
Beverly (Fladland) Thureen	Jacquelyn (Olimb) Jones	Philip & Janet (Srnsky) Broesch
Beverly Sillerud	Jacquelyn Peterson	Raymond Larson
Bill & Carol Sedgeman	James Bustrack	Richard & Barbara Olson
Brandon & Kelsey (Sorenson) Deschene	James Olsen	Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman
Brekke Custom Homes / Mike Brekke	Jason & Stacy Hanson	Richard Stanghelle
Calvin & Amber Schoepp	Jay & Jodi Tescher	Rodger & Kim Hautgvædt
Carl J. & Alexandra Johnson	Jeanne Johnson	Ronald & Mary Nowacki
Carol J. Anderson	Jeff Jacobson	Ronald & Sharon (Edgar) Abrahamson
Caroline Sedlacek	Jeremy & Jaime Woinarowicz	Scott & Tamara (Johnson) Oberg
Chad & Catherine Brekke	Jim & Pat (Stroble) Emerson	Sharon (Botko) Kays
Charles & Margaret Cheney	John & Joyce Holmstrom	Sheila (Sommers) Ballard
Comstock Township	John & LaVerne (Storbakken) Messelt	Sigvart & Marlene (Wittman) Silnes
Dale Haakenson	John & Paddy (Soderberg) Devins	Stanley & Marilyn (Strickler) Sirek
Darrel & Melanie (Fulks) Nelson	John Short	Stephen & Elizabeth Murray
David & Shari (Watts) Narlock	Jon & Julie (Fulks) Jonasson	Steve & Desilee Brekke
David J. Engstrom	Jordan & Brooke (Bork) Johnson	Sylvester & Carol Vanyo
Dean & Mary Jo Chandler	Junieve (Hammerlund) Woods	Todd & Jan (Narlock) Mortimer
DelRoy & Marlene (Olson) Shane	Ken & Faye Carlson	Todd & Kathy (Clausen) Johnston
DelRoy Lieberg	Kim Brekke	Tony & Michelle Gullikson
Denise Ortiz	Kirk & Heidi Thorstenson	US Bank - Jeanne E. Kotrba Trust
Dennis & Louise Brekke	Larry Murphy	Warren Lions Club
Dick Knutson	Lee & Karen Daby	Wayne & Beverly (Hanson) Torgerson
Doug & Jane (Bennett) Safar	LeRoy & Marlene Hedquist	Wayne & Carole (Stroble) Edgar
Dr. Sarah Roley & Greg Yeager	Leslie & Patty (Pickett) Howard	Wayne & Deanna (Carlson) Zink
Duan M Bjerke	Lou Ann (Steffen) Beck	Wayne & Rhonda Jordheim
Duane & Jerrilyn (Olson) Potucek	Madonna (Batko) Dennis	Wayne Wood
Dwight A. Anderson	Margaret (Streich) Dufault	Yvonne (Batko) Schill
Ed & Renee (Rehder) Rosendahl	Margery (Torkelson) Hegrenes	Zachery Stene
Eloise (Austinson) Wheeler	Mark & Claudia (Roley) Thompson	
Eric & Mary Stanislawski	Mark & Judy (Evin) Flaten	
Ernest & Evelyn Lizakowski	Mark & Julie (Hess) Nowacki	
Evangeline (Torgerson) Guenther	Mark & Merilee Potucek	
Frances (Pinkerton) Fanfulik	Marlene (Diedrich) Mandeville	
Freddie Martinez	Mary (Carlson) Myhrer	
Gayle Short	Matt & Ashley (Holien) Vongroven	
Gerald & Sandra (Potucek) Maruska	Maxine (Paulson) Thoreson	
Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning	Michael & Donna (Laymon) Miller	
	Mike & Renee Borowicz	

HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

2021 Class Reunions

WHS 1950

July 23: Jan Aakre
218-289-0986

Conrad Goroski
218-686-0440

OHS 1970

July 31: Jim Batko
218-289-4672

WHS 1971

July 24: Mag Melgard
218-686-4149

WHS 1980

July 23-24: Carrie Delisle
218-745-6920

WAO 2010

July 24: Brenna Swanson
218-201-2198

WAO 2001

July 23: Kari Miska
kmiska@wao.k12.mn.us

WHS 1981

July 23: Jim Myrfield
218-686-5449

james.myrfield@gmail.com

Rhonda (Jones) Heyd: Country Roots To Country Boots



George Strait and John Conley. The experience was so electrifying for the couple! While outdoor dining that night, as they were listening to local talent and bands, DuWayne struck up a conversation with a banjo-playing lady, only to find out later that she was a performer on the Hee Haw Show!

On March 23, 2014, which happens to be Rhonda's birthday, opportunity once again came knocking and the couple grabbed the opportunity to record an album entitled, "I Love You Because." This experience taught her the ways of Nashville, stating, "once you get to the recording studio and sing your music, you hire a music promoter; the music promoter presents your music all over the world." And that is just what happened. Together they created two albums in the music industry: one a traditional country collection of songs and the second one reflecting Gospel country music. As a result of their promoter spreading their music across the globe, Rhonda earned a few honorable awards. The title song from their album, "I Love You Because" was named True Music Reports #3 hit song in 2015. In 2017, "Stars in Your Eyes" reached #1 on the International Country Music Chart, while a second song, "I Want to be a Soldier" landed as #1 on the God's Country International Chart. Then again in 2018, her song, "Livin' This Life" reached #1 on the International Country Music Charts. She and DuWayne feel greatly rewarded to be able to share their songs and passions with everyone. They would like to someday return to Nashville and attend a Nashville Reunion of Professional Entertainers.

All their music can be heard through their free website: duwayneandrhondaheyd.com. This summer DuWayne and Rhonda already have booked an appearance at Ashley Days in Ashley, ND in June.

Currently, DuWayne owns Heyd Construction in Grand Forks while Rhonda, 20 years later, continues to work for Noridian as a Quality Review Specialist. The Heyd's have five grandchildren and their hobbies include music, gardening and traveling to Arizona every other year.

Our interview closes with her reminding me that no matter your profession, whether you're a teacher, lawyer or business professional, when you're all gathered together, it's all a "brotherhood." You're able to share memories, dreams and passions around the career you love. And, one last thought: remember, even if you're a little country girl, you should never fear following your dreams!

Nashville experience with recording" so he brought her in on that amazing experience. The couple never lived in Nashville, but they would spend 3 weeks there, recording and performing at various venues. While in Nashville, Rhonda had the opportunity to perform with Johnny Cash's youngest sister, Joanne Cash. Her husband served as the pastor at her church in Nashville and she performed with her band there. Rhonda commented that she also had the fortunate opportunity to meet Glen Campbell's younger brother ~ a fiddle player ~ and they performed together with many famous celebrities families. Everyone they met and played with was so professional and multi-talented, they didn't make mistakes. Each performance was perfectly done and always professional. A favorite memory of Rhonda's from Nashville was when she was visiting the Grand Ole Opry for their honeymoon and was called onstage to play trivia. She and DuWayne also visited the Country Music Hall of Fame where they participated in an impromptu duet for other visiting fans. Later that evening, Rhonda would have the opportunity to shake the hand of the steel guitar player who joined them in the recording studio. They also were fortunate to get to meet many performers who do the live shows with headliners such as Martina McBride,

Chat with the Chairman

Dear Alumni and Friends of the Foundation,

Greetings from the Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Education Foundation!

The word COVID-19 was in the article I wrote in December and it is still a big part of our vocabulary now, but there is light at the end of the tunnel! I hope that you've been fortunate to receive your vaccine shots and are attempting to return to a more normal lifestyle. The Foundation has lost many alumni and friends to this horrible situation over the past 15 months.

On May 26th we announced at Scholarship Night that we facilitated 78 scholarships to 14 graduates from the 32 WAO graduating seniors totaling \$77,800. In addition, seven of these scholarships are renewable for the additional years of school up to the amount of \$21,000. We are pleased to have the following new scholarships this year: the Betty Melgard Scholarship; the Bob Mattson & Dave Schroeder Scholarship; and the Stefan Johnson Memorial Scholarship. Thank you all for helping our students as they continue their education. You will find pictures of all of the recipients on the shelves of the donor wall in addition to the ones in this issue.

We are hoping and very much looking forward to resuming our annual golf scramble this year. This will be our 16th event. Come join us on Friday, July 23rd for a day of fun, food, and prizes at the Riverside Golf Course in Warren beginning with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. All paid golfers that are registered by July 16th will be entered into a drawing to receive their \$50.00 registration fee back! We're looking forward to seeing many of you when you come "home" for a class reunion and the Marshall County Fair!

Come reminisce, show your family, and walk the halls of the school buildings on Saturday morning, July 24th from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Masks and social distancing will be enforced unless there are state changes. The gym and auditorium floors will be done and you'll be able to walk on them! Plan to stay for the Alumni Jazz Band Concert that begins at 2:00 p.m.

Thus far in 2021, we have given over \$24,841.58 to the WAO staff and students for classroom needs and requests. This is made possible because of your generous support. We all have something to give. Once we give and realize that it is better to give than to receive, our life is more satisfying. This is so true with the many alumni/friends that have chosen to give back for what they received as a student or staff member at one of the schools that now make up WAO.

Each issue of "Connections" contains a list of recently deceased alumni, staff, and friends. We are often shocked to hear news of the passing of these people. It reminds us that we are really not in charge of anything and we never know when our time will come. It also reminds us that we can establish our own legacy. Have you thoughts about yours? We've had many inquiries of how people can leave something to the Foundation. The answer we've been told is that it can be stated in your legal documents. If you are in need of our tax ID number, please contact us.

We still have a good supply of cookbooks. They are available at various business places and at the school for a reduced price of \$10.00. If you're from out of the area, we'd be happy to mail you one for \$15.00. It's filled with great recipes!

We truly appreciate your help in keeping our database as current as possible. Your calls, notes, and texts with changes are very important. Thank you for taking the time to contact us.

Please keep in mind that any donation or memorial that is sent in the mail or completed online can be designated to any scholarship, activity, grade or department by indicating it on your check or on a note. If you are donating online, follow the prompts. All undesignated funds go into our general account.

We continue to thrive, flourish and progress with more growth opportunities and involvements. Thank you for believing and partnering with us.

If our board can be of any assistance to you with more information, please feel free to contact one of us. "We can't succeed without you!"

Arizona Warren And Surrounding Area Potluck FEBRUARY 19, 2022

Since the 2021 picnic was cancelled, look for twice the fun Saturday, February 19, 2022. There have been 90-100 attendees in past years.

Rain or shine, the picnic will be held at the NorthPoint Building, Viewpoint Golf and RV Resort, 650 N. Hawes Drive, Mesa, AZ 85207. The security guard can direct you.

Look for a good, old-fashioned potluck dinner from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Dinnerware and water will be provided. BYOB and a dish to share.

Donations for expenses will be accepted the day of the picnic. Any additional funds will be donated to the WAO Education Foundation. If you have any questions, contact Marion Hickman Pace - mlhickman68@gmail.com, Jane Miska Sirek - gjsirek.athome@gmail.com, Jackie Arnold Lee - jacalyn129@yahoo.com or Kay Hendrickson Root - kayroot@gmail.com.

TOP 75 God's Country Music Chart
INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL MUSIC CHART
*** COMPILED FROM USA & OVERSEAS AIRPLAY Tracking Radio Airplay Since 1991

NO. 1 I WANT TO BE A SOLDIER RHONDA HEYD

2019 SPRING NEEDS APPROVED

Funded by the Ed. Foundation

Concert Clavinova: B. Becks, Vocal/Choir - \$7072.00
WAO Band Music Library Update: M. Fridstrom, Band - \$877.81
Pony Drone: C. Kirchner, HS Art/Yearbook/Etc. - \$388.00
BOTS!: B. Murray, Business Ed. - \$350.00
Art Carts Restock, M. Stanislawski, HS Special Ed - \$200.00
Reading Extensions, M. Stanislawski, HS Special Ed - \$407.40
Child Development & Culinary Arts Supplies, J. Pribula, FACS - \$285.11
Literacy Mentor Texts, L. Johnson, First Grade - \$3789.15

Guided Reading Book Collection, C. Gilbert, Elem. Reading Specialist - \$7085.00
Author Visit: K. Johnson/K. Miska, Principal/SLP - \$1700.00
Reading Intervention Curriculum: A. Schoepp, Elem. Special Ed. - \$700.00
Indoor Recess Options: A. Wimpfheimer, Elem. Office - \$281.00
Live Butterflies: K. Desrosier/L. Maruska/J. Crummy, Kindergarten - \$150.98
MCA Testing Days (Elem and HS) - Water/Snacks For - \$500

Military Honors:



By: *Melanie M. (Fulks) Nelson,*
Class of 1981

Ernest Lizakowski: Oslo, Class of 1946, United States Army. I graduated with a class of 20 students: 10 boys and 10 girls. On June 30, 1948, I enlisted into the US Army. I spent most of my time as a clerk typist in Davidson Headquarters in the Occupation of Japan. As I was completing my enlistment, I returned to the US

when I heard that the North Koreans were invading South Korea. Instead of returning to my Unit, I chose to go home to help with the harvest. This was a big mistake, due to the fact that since I was recalled, I was then assigned as a Rifleman in Combat Infantry Company I. For eight months, I experienced an extremely freezing winter in the trenches on the hills. In the spring, the weather was very rainy with no shelter other than poncho rain coats in sloppy mud. The summer was extremely hot and miserable with a lack of water. The waster was collected from the streams where the Chinese shot at us from nearby hills. We fought from the hills with help from our artillery and sometimes from the Air Force with their machine guns, rockets and Napalm bombs, as a last resort. My time in combat as a Rifleman and later as a Squad Leader was soon ending – “WHOOPIE!”

After returning home, I attended Wolverine School of Trades in Detroit, completing courses in Mechanics, Plumbing, Pipe Fitting and Welding. In 1954, I married a school teacher, Evelyn (Kiedrowski). We raised three children and 6 grandchildren. In 1957, we moved to Grand Forks, ND where I was employed in the plumbing industry. Joining the union created many traveling jobs until my retirement in 1990. Being retired for 33 years is the best job I ever had!!! Second best job is still being involved in farming.



Jacob Edgar: WAO, Class of 2007, United States Marine Corps 2008 – 2012 ~ Following the completion of my first year of college in 2008, I enlisted and served as a Corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps. I was sent to basic training at the Marine Corps depot in San Diego, California for three months, then went on to the School of Infantry (SOI) in San Diego for another two months. I

graduated with my Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) of 0311 or Infantry.

After Basic and SOI, I was selected for my first fleet assignment with the 3rd Light Armor Reconnaissance in Twenty Nine Palms, California as a Scout. Our mission included recon, vehicle interdiction and as a quick reaction force which included to move into an area quickly and set up either an offensive or defensive position for a main element to either engage or withdraw from an area. I was in the fleet for a total of 12 days before I was sent on my first deployment to Sahl Sinjar Air Base in Iraq. Once in Iraq, I worked as Security for the base, which is a common place to put newer Marines on their first Deployment. After 7 months, I returned state-side to prepare for our next Deployment. Roughly a year later, I was deployed to Afghanistan as a Team Leader to the Sangin Valley in Helmand Province. Our first major role was to protect a road being constructed that would intersect the major highway as a short-cut or supply route. The road was heavily laden with IED's as a means to disrupt the supply route. We went there with 9 light-armored vehicles and after three weeks of being guardians we returned with 4 vehicles; mine being the last one of the four. Our last major role was a 30-day op that took place near the Pakistan-Afghanistan border called Bahrum Cha, which was being used by insurgents as a way to enter and exit Afghanistan. After 7 months, I returned state-side and finished my enlistment in the summer of 2012. I returned to Warren to work as a Crop Consultant with North Star Ag and married my wife Amerae (Knoll) ~ WAO, 2009 Edgar in March of 2014. Together, we now have two beautiful children: Reece, age 3 and Ella June, age 11 months.



Lyle Palm, WHS Class of 1978, I enlisted in the United States Navy on September 1980 to become a welder attending Navy boot camp at Great Lakes Illinois from January thru February of 1981. I then attended my first U.S. Navy school in March of 1981, my class “A” school in the Philadelphia Naval Yard, my Navy rating was Hull Maintenance Technician. After completing my first training assignment in May of 1981, I was shipped out to San Diego, California to

attend the U.S. Navy's premier welding school, class “C” welding school. I then spent the next 8 months perfecting my craft, attending and passing all three advanced welding courses with the intent to become the best welder in the Navy. The Navy was making a huge investment in me, having sent me to over a year of advance welding schools, I was on the hook to perform and they got every penny back they spent on me. For the next twenty years I worked as a U.S. Navy welder, quality assurance inspector, trainer, and mentor. I was one of the lucky ones, choosing a military career path that I enjoyed and loved, with an acumen for welding and fabrication, my military career was set. During my time in the Navy, I had the pleasure of being the Leading Chief Petty Officer in charge of four different nuclear and non-nuclear welding shops, my training prepared me to weld on nuclear piping systems and associated nuclear components onboard submarines and surface ships. My motivation to serve in the United States Navy was to serve my country, as many of my family members have done over the years, gain an education and travel. I ended up getting a great career, world class education and a wonderful family along the way. I eventually retired from the Navy in April of 2001, having served on three U.S. Navy ships, USS Proteus AS 19, USS Dixon AS 37 and USS McKee AS 43 and three shore stations Naval Submarine Training Center Hawaii, Submarine base Hawaii and SIMA San Diego. Having retired, I decided to settle in San Diego, California, a very familiar place where I had raised my children and had made a home. Currently I hold the position of Chief Academic Officer for a non-profit Veterans training center, Workshops for Warriors, located in San Diego, California. If you know of an active duty service member who is transitioning out into civilian life, a veteran or wounded warrior who needs training in the following skills: CNC machining, Solidworks, Mastercam, or welding. Workshops for Warriors can help them get a new start, into a new career in just 16 weeks, all they have to do is want to learn! We are a Skill-bridge organization and we do take the GI Bill and a limited number of scholarships are available!

Check us out at wfw.org
Lyle Palm
Chief Academic Officer
Workshops for Warriors
lyle@wfw.org
2970 Main Street
San Diego, CA 92113

Sale on Cookbooks

Funds from the sale of this book will help benefit the learning experience of young people in the Warren-Alvarado-Oslo School District.

We hope you enjoy this large variety of recipes. It has been exciting to hear from past alumni, current students, staff and faculty.

Thank you for your continued support!



\$10
\$15
Mailed Out

Recently Deceased Alumni, Staff & Friends

These are death notices of alumni and staff that we have received. If you have additions or corrections, please contact the Education Foundation.

- 1939 WHS Fern (Adolphson) Lundgren
- 1942 ALV Norma (Fering) Edman
- 1943 WHS Fern (Bjorgaard) Dahlman
- 1944 WHS Ruth (Kasprick) Beiswenger
- 1946 WHS Phyllis (Spilde) Moos
- 1946 WHS Arthur Vansickle
- 1947 Oslo Loretta (Aas) Machal
- 1948 Oslo James Gerszewski
- 1948 ALV Gene Ranstrom
- 1949 ALV Marilyn (Erickson) Mattson
- 1951 WHS Donald Slusar
- 1952 WHS Gloria (Wages) Lindstrom
- 1954 ALV Katherine (Nelson) Lunski
- 1954 WHS Betty (Van Baalen) Goodwin
- 1955 ALV Duane Stavig
- 1955 ALV Janice Erickson
- 1956 WHS Shirley (Stark) Johnson
- 1956 WHS Lee Martinson
- 1956 WHS Loren Engelstad
- 1958 WHS Judy (Maruska) Yutrzecka
- 1958 ALV Terry Beaudry
- 1961 WHS Annette (Parkin) Strandell
- 1961 WHS Joyce (Hedlund) Smith
- 1961 Oslo John Gerszewski
- 1963 ALV Carol Pribula
- 1963 Oslo Michael Hart
- 1964 WHS Barbara (Jankowski) Gray
- 1964 WHS Ken Carlson
- 1964 Oslo Jean (Halvorson) Hart
- 1965 Oslo Thomas Campbell
- 1967 Oslo Raymond Gerszewski
- 1967 WHS Terry Albaugh
- 1968 WHS Ronald Hickman
- 1968 WHS Maureen (Engstrom) Greentree
- 1971 WHS Darrell Conely
- 1971 Oslo Karen Osowski
- 1972 WHS Terry Edgar
- 1973 WHS Elaine (Anfinson) Austin
- 1974 Oslo Maryann Heinz
- 1976 WHS Francis Pribula
- 1978 WHS Rose (Sabol) Peterson
- 1978 WHS Stefan Johnson
- 1982 Oslo Brenda (Mondry) Decker
- 1985 WHS Donald Narlock
- 1987 WHS Kenneth "Ken" Kise
- Cook WHS Leona Vasek
- Teacher WHS Jeanne (Fertig) Olson
- Teacher Oslo Verna Oseth
- Friend Kathy Boman
- Friend Elaine Heck
- Friend Kari Wagner
- Friend Rolland "Rollie" Toupin
- Friend Quayne "Mischief" Sherwood
- Friend Robert Greer
- Friend Eugene "Bud" Paulson
- Friend Betty Melgard
- Friend Donna Mae Toupin

Recently deceased family and friends list is updated weekly on the Education Foundation link at www.k12.mn.us

The WAO Education Foundation appreciates any information sent in to be shared by past graduates from the Warren, Alvarado, and Oslo area. Keep them coming!

Alumni Jazz Band



By: Charlie Roux

At the present time, plans are being made to create an Alumni Jazz Band. As you know, last year this band had to be postponed due to Covid.

As of now, we have assembled a band of 14 musicians. Two of these musicians are retired music teachers who love to perform. We also have

members who I consider friends of the band. The years that will be represented are 1974, 1975, 1983, 1989, 1990, and 1993.

There will also be 2 people fronting the band as vocal soloists.

This concert will be performed on July 24th, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the WAO high school auditorium. This program will be a benefit for the future WAO band trip. Due to Covid conditions, the band hasn't done any fundraising for the trip in 2023. Members of the band and their parents will have a presence at the concert and will be carrying donation baskets.

Please come and reminisce the musical past with us, always remembering that enjoying the past doesn't mean impacting present negatively.

Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Public School Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization to benefit education.

Gifts of \$100 or more to the Foundation are recognized on an attractive donor board located in the east entrance of the high school.

Please Contribute The Ed Foundation would appreciate your financial support, so we can continue to send you this newsletter.

Give Us Your Ideas Let us know what is interesting to you or what other information you'd like to see in this newsletter.

Enclosed is my contribution to support the work of the WAO Education Foundation

- \$ _____ Membership Tutor (\$1-99) Educator (\$100-499)
 Mentor (\$500-999) Scholar (\$1,000-4,999) Benefactor (\$5,000 or more)

Class of: WHS _____ OHS _____ AHS _____ WAO _____

Other: (specific) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I would like information on the benefits of planning a gift to the WAO Education Foundation through my will an insurance policy

Make checks payable to: WAO Education Foundation
 (All gifts to WAO Public Education Foundation are tax deductible.)

This gift is in memory of in tribute to

Name _____

Please specify here whom should receive notification of this gift
 Notice to: _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

GIFT RECOGNITION

Your annual supportive membership is established with a gift of \$25 or more.

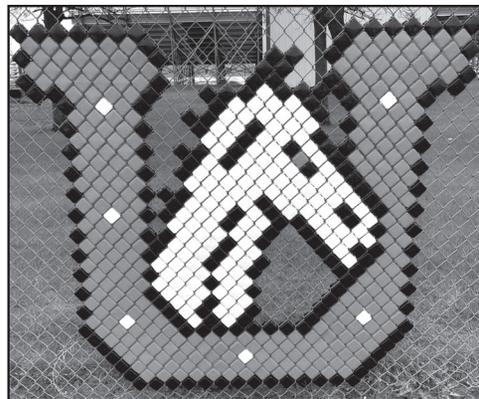
For accumulated gift totals of \$100 or more, an engraved recognition plate bearing your name will be added to the Recognition Wall in the Warren/Alvarado/Oslo School.

www.wao.k12.mn.us email: edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us (218) 745-4646

A Saga of Covid 19 by Eileen Baird, WHS 1946

*Twass the year 2020, it was so sublime, but soon
 We would find out everything was not fine.
 There was a pandemic, world wide it was true.
 People were sick and dying, it was much worse than the flu.
 It spread like a wildfire, the worst ever seen,
 To everyone's horror it was Covid 19.
 A lockdown was ordered, Executive Manager Michaun said it seemed cruel,
 But they had to obey Minnesota Governor's new rule.
 Through all the pandemic, walking the halls was allowed,
 Just make sure to stay away from the crowd.
 We missed all the friends, the crafts and the games.
 Whatever we did, it just wasn't the same.
 I must make a comment about our fine staff,
 They worked very hard and still make us laugh.
 A warning we hear, what a task,
 Don't forget to put on your mask.
 It really keeps us on our toes,
 And we are always reminded to cover your nose.
 Another rule we've heard from the start,
 Be sure you are keeping 6 feet apart.
 Residents still eat in their rooms,
 Plans are to open the dining room soon.
 As of now, a few are allowed,
 Perhaps up to eight, a very small crowd.
 We go to appointments with bus driver Jay.
 He helps us, drives well, it sure makes our day.
 Hats off to Manager Michaun,
 She works diligently to keep residents safe
 And Covid virus free.
 Before the pandemic, local pastors would come to hold service, so divine,
 But now with no visitors, it's in the Chapel online.
 Last summer and fall the service and communion was held outside,
 Of course, with the weather, we had to abide.
 Now in winter we meet in the Chapel, booths with visitors three.
 It works out quite well, most all will agree.
 Last summer, by appointment, we had visiting hours,
 To visit with family for one hour.
 It was always a worry we could get caught in a shower.
 Behold! A vaccine finally found,
 Now the main object is to distribute it around.
 A few weeks ago we read in our newsletter,
 The place was listed as part of phase 1A
 Things were looking much better.
 Then came the announcement,
 It came very quick.
 We would get our vaccine shots on January 26th.
 Our team will come back the twenty third of February to give second shots,
 I'm sure they won't tarry.
 Soon we can look forward to see friends and relatives dear.
 With Prayers and by the The Grace of God, it will be a healthy year.*

Put-IN-Cups



WAO art department has been working hard this spring to install additional Put-IN-Cup murals around the athletic area of the school. Mr. Kirchner and 3 of his art classes have been installing, refining and finalizing 6 new mural designs behind the high school. Many of these murals are athletic-themed words that help promote fusion and pony pride. They bring new life to the track and football area, bright colorful designs are added to the normally dull chain link fence. These cups were designed by a company from Texas and were purchased with funds provided by the WAO Education Foundation.

The WAO Education Foundation is not in charge of the WAO Hall of Fame

It is simply for sharing information with alumni.
 WAO Alumni Hall of Fame announces 2020 Winners:

- Susan Blish
- Dr. David Fischer
- Dr. Charles Cheney
- Chief Justice Oscar R. Knutson (deceased)

An award ceremony will be held during the Marshall County Fair on Friday, July 23, 2021 at 5 p.m.



Become a Member - Just \$25
 So we can keep this newsletter coming to you!