



PIONEER WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN RESERVE ACADEMY

Newsletter

Spring 2018

Volume 23, Issue 3

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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(Megan '13, Colin '15, Brooke '19)

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(Marin '16, Spenser '19)



Dear Current and Alumni Moms,

Happy Spring! I cannot believe how quickly this year is flying by! It has been such a great year and PWA could not have fulfilled its mission of enhancing the quality of student life and facilitating communications between WRA and the parents as well as we did without all of the wonderful support from of all of you! I have been blessed with such a fabulous Executive Committee and Committee Chairs, as well as the countless volunteers who have made all of our programming successful! I would also be remiss if I didn't thank Danielle Dobiecki, Katie Kagler, and Sucharita Ghosh for putting together such great newsletters this year. I hope you have enjoyed them as much as I have!

We are currently in the process of looking for moms to fill our Executive Committee and Committee Chairs positions for the 2018-19 school year. No experience is needed and we will always try to put people on committees with an experienced committee member. This is a great way to get involved, work with our fabulous students and meet other spectacular moms. You can find a list of PWA Committees on the Parent Portal. Please reach out to Megan Valentine at megmvalentine@gmail.com if you are interested in getting involved next year.

Even though we are already thinking about next year, we still have some really great events coming up this Spring. Details for these events can be found on the Bulletin Board in this newsletter. I just wanted to mention a few here. Alumni Moms (and Dads) please join your fellow alumni parents for a night out on Thursday, April 26th at Brew Kettle in Hudson. Current parents, one of the highlights this Spring is the Spring Soirée sponsored by the Advancement Office. It is a great way to meet fellow parents and there will be an auction of some fun WRA items! The Soirée will be held on Friday, May 4th and you should have received an invitation to this event in the mail. If not, please contact Jennifer Corby at corbyj@wra.net.

Finally, we would love to see everyone at our last PWA General Meeting on Saturday morning, May 5th, at 8:30 am in the Morgan Hall Boardroom. This is a great way to socialize with everyone and hear about all of our upcoming events and how you can get involved.

Thank you again for all that you do! It has been a pleasure serving as PWA President this year!

Warmest Regards,
Kim Barsella
PWA President
(Megan '13, Colin '15, Brooke '19)

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A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



April 10, 2018

Dear Pioneer Women,

I am ready for spring! Nonetheless, as I look across campus I see snow. At least the planning for graduation, in my office, indicates warmer weather should arrive soon.

As we move through the cold months of the school year, your assistance has made the cold days more enjoyable. Thanks so much, as always, for your organization and arrangements for the Bicknell Bonanza. The students really had an enjoyable evening.

I noticed in Morning Meeting yesterday the seniors had invitations to the Senior Family Party. All of these events and your efforts with events are enjoyable and memorable for the students.

Hopefully we will all enjoy warmer spring weather soon. Thank you again for all of your hard work on behalf of the students.

Christopher D. Burner '80
Head of School



Important Dates

| | |
|-----------|--|
| April 26 | Alumni Parents Get-Together, 6:00 p.m., Brew Kettle, Hudson |
| April 27 | <i>Grandparents Day</i> |
| May 3 | Current PWA Moms' Network Night Out, TBA |
| May 4 | Spring Soirée for Current Parents, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Pierce House Lawn |
| May 5 | PWA General Membership Meeting; 8:30 – 10:00 a.m., Morgan Hall Boardroom |
| May 22-24 | <i>Exam Week Coffee House; 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.</i> |
| May 23 | <i>Send-Off to Summer for Students; 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Ellsworth Patio</i> |
| May 24 | <i>WRA Prom (Juniors and Seniors and their guests), Lake Forest Country Club</i> |
| May 26 | <i>Senior Class Family Party (invitations sent to Seniors and Parents)</i> |

Events in italics will require parent volunteers. Look in the Weekly Connections for volunteer sign-ups.

If you are interested in joining the PWA General Membership Meetings via conference call, email pioneerwomen@wra.net at least two days prior to the general meeting. We will email you the instructions to join the meeting. If you plan to come in person, no need to RSVP.

Diary of a Boarding Parent



One of the best things about having a boarding student is when they come home for a couple weeks. Even though my grocery bill doubles with a 6'3" 17 year-old eating machine home, I absolutely love seeing Jake staring into the refrigerator or hanging out on his teenage sister's pink bed catching up about stuff and listening to music. It's great to see him help his younger fourth grade sister with her homework. As Erma Bombeck wrote, every dog needs a boy, and our spaniel Ormsby is overjoyed when Jake is home. For boarding parents, having everyone at home just doing "their thing" has really special significance. There's no place like home.

In another year, my first-born will be graduating WRA and heading off to college. That fact of life became very real to me over Spring Break as Jake and I toured six schools. The thought of Jake being away at college was not as overwhelming as I expected it would be, although perhaps that will change after May 2019. As we toured schools, I noticed other parents and students quite focused on residential life, but for us it was no big deal. The concept of

an R.A. - no big deal - Jake is already a dorm prefect. He "gets" all of this already. Jake knows how to manage his time, studies, athletics, meals, and his laundry. He already knows the importance of building relationships with faculty, the value of an advisor, and that it's perfectly okay to ask for help if he needs it. Jake, like other WRA students, especially boarders, will have an edge over other college students. In many respects, college will be like going to another WRA, although I wonder if it will have the same sense of community. Perhaps it depends on the college.

We are very fortunate at WRA to have such an amazing College Counseling department that somehow manages the varying interests, goals, and challenges of about 200 juniors and seniors (and their parents) as they prep for this important chapter of their lives. I have no idea how they accomplish what they do, as I find myself insanely busy with just managing the futures of my own three children! Truly, the reason for the investment and so many sacrifices, including sending a child to school so far away from home, culminates with the wonderful folks in College Counseling.

As a parent, managing this process from North Carolina (or China or wherever!) can be a bit logistically challenging, but it's all good thanks to the technology of texting, right?

Mom: Did you hear from the coach at XYZ College as to when he wants you to visit?

Jake: Ya

Mom: Ok, can you share details so I can plan to come up to take you?

Jake: Ya

Mom: (*several hours later*) Well?

OR...

Mom: Have you been studying for ACT?

Jake: Ya

Mom: How are you feeling about it?

Jake: idk

The reality is Jake is in great hands at WRA - all our kids are. The applications, recommendations, interviews, testing, and campus visits will all get done, and done well. WRA students take their classes seriously, study for APs and SATs, volunteer, participate in athletics and extracurriculars, attend dances, and make lifelong friendships. I can only imagine the mix of emotions our Class of 2018 parents and students must be feeling about now - proud and privileged to be graduating WRA and excited about life beyond Reserve, but sad to be saying goodbye to the community they've known for the past four years. However, that home and family they've known at WRA will always be there for them. There's no place like home.

Danielle Dobiecki
(Jake Pendergraft '19)





Enchanted Forest Sadie Hawkins

Student Council meets on Thursdays for lunch to discuss and plan campus life. At times the PWA Student Activities Committee will attend a meeting to ask for dance theme ideas, possible venues on campus and food suggestions. This year students suggested an Enchanted Forest theme. How do you transform KFAC into an Enchanted Forest? Bring together WRA Technical Theatre Director Tom West, Martha Ziga Bayliss '88, Laura Boniface and Kim Smith to allow the creative juices to flow! A burlap and twisted paper tree, parachute tree canopy, and forest mural greeted students as they arrived the dance on March 3. The dance floor was packed with talent and excitement. A chocolate fountain was flowing and the WRA Dad's Club created mocktails featuring "Poison Apple shots, Coconut cocktails, and Blue Fairies." Thank you volunteers for helping create this fantasy night and connecting with the WRA students! You brought joy and wonder to campus!

PWA Student Activities Committee:
 Kelly Williams (*Cassidy '20*)
 Kim Smith (*Hannah '20 and Sarah '17*)
 Laura Boniface (*Andrew '18*)
 Kathryn Wiggam (*George '18 and Calvin '19*)



Spring Appreciation Breakfast

On March 8, PWA hosted its annual Faculty and Staff Appreciation Breakfast. This was a terrific opportunity to show our thanks to these exceptional people who go above and beyond for our children each and every day. This year's theme was "Spring", recognizing this was the last day of school before Spring Break.

The south end of the Ellsworth dining hall looked particularly elegant with tables dressed in green and white linens and brightly colored fresh flower centerpieces. Chef Eddie Mundy and his amazing staff once again proved themselves to be second to none. The food was outstanding, featuring an omelet bar and Chef Ben's home fries, a fresh fruit and granola bar, and cheddar biscuits with chorizo and caramelized onion gravy. Chef Eddie also provided an incredible assortment of freshly baked bagels and schmear from Cleveland Bagels and the most delicious and unique doughnuts from BROWNUTS, also located in Cleveland. Last, but not least, the delicious coffee came from Heartwood in Hudson. Thank you to all of the hard-working parent volunteers who helped so much!

Stephanie Zampelli (*Colton '17 and Chloe '18*)

PWA AROUND CAMPUS

Western Bicknell Bonanza

WRA students, faculty, staff and their children enjoyed the traditional Bicknell Bonanza on February 21. Annually a weeknight is set aside for inflatables and food to let off steam from the hard work and accomplishments in the classroom. This year featured pizza, Chick-fil-a sandwiches, and root beer floats! The MAC concessions area was set up as a Western town showcasing a chuck wagon, jail and saloon. Students were especially creative with Alan Doe's photo area--the jail! Students embraced Big Glove boxing and used the Memorial gym bleachers as a cheering section and a place to hang out and unwind from a busy winter on campus.

This night would not have happened without all the help of WRA parents decorating, manning the inflatables, checking shoes and coats, and helping serve food.

The night ended with dancing and prizes (Amazon and local restaurant gift cards and audio speakers).

PWA Student Activities Committee



Alumni Moms Explore

On February 21 the PWA Alumni Parent Committee hosted a tour of the new Wang Innovation Center. Matt Gerber accompanied by Ms. Fritz gave the group detailed explanations of the different machines and equipment contained in the new center. After the tour, the group of more than 15 worked at computers and designed their choice of coffee mugs or water bottles. Everyone was extremely impressed with the new Wang Innovation Center. The group commented how wonderful that our students have this space to explore, design and create.

Chris Hulsey (*Nathan '12 and Nicholas '17*)



COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXAM WEEK SURVIVAL KITS

Exam Week Survival Kits are a great way to help your hard-working student get through those long study sessions. Look for ordering and delivery info in the Connections in late April/early May. We sold over 45 kits during the fall exams, so make sure you treat your child again this Spring!

CELEBRATION CAKES

Does your student have a special occasion coming up? A birthday? A performance? A tough exam or sporting event? Send them something to celebrate the day, achievement or victory! The PWA Celebration Team offers cakes, cookie cakes, cupcakes and donuts delivered to the WRA Campus Store for your student. Sign-in to the Parent Portal on the WRA site, find the order form (under 'Forms' at the bottom of the page - Parent Organizations section), explore the options and place your order. Give us one week from order to delivery, and we will surprise your student with a sweet treat from you. It takes five minutes - and means so much! Questions, contact 'the Cake Ladies' directly, aka Melinda Kerins, at kerinsfamily@gmail.com and Martha Bayliss at zigmar@mac.com.

MOMS' NETWORK

Thanks to Kim Wepler and Julia Landry for organizing our Mom's Network event on March 1. A good time was had by everyone who attended at Lager & Vine Restaurant in Hudson. The next Mom's Night Out is scheduled for May 3. Save the date and look for more information in the upcoming weekly Connections for the event date and time.

DORM FEEDS

The Dorm Feed Committee treated our boarders to Pizza on February 28. There will be two more Dorm Feeds during the Spring and they could always use some extra hands to help deliver the goodies. If you are willing to help out, please contact Pam Blossom at pblossom@mindspring.com or Kate Zampelli at gpz2220@aol.com

CONCESSIONS

Thank you to everyone who helped out with Concessions throughout this past year! There were a lot of successful events and the Concessions team did a great job of providing a wonderful service for all of our visiting and home teams and their guests and raised a lot of money for PWA to help us support our mission of enhancing the quality of student life at WRA. A special thanks goes to Melissa Polak who has chaired this committee over the past several years!

ALUMNI PARENTS NETWORK

The Alumni Parents' Committee will host a parents' event on Thursday, April 26 at 6:00 pm at Brew Kettle in Hudson. Both Alumni Moms and Dads are invited and encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to either Mary Sprunt (mwsprunt@aol.com) or Chris Hulsey (chulsey15@gmail.com) by Tuesday, April 24.

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

The Senior Activities Committee continues to work on the plans for the upcoming celebrations for the WRA Class of '18. If you are interested in participating in Prom, After-Prom or the Senior Class Family Party, please email Tamara Procop at gtlprocop@aol.com. We would appreciate any input or assistance that you can devote. It is a great venue to meet new people of the Reserve family.

USED BLAZERS & KILTS NEEDED

If you have any used WRA blazers and kilts that you would be willing to donate to PWA for our Blazer and Kilt Sale held during registration in August, we would greatly appreciate it. You can drop them off at the WRA Campus Store. We will then send them out to the dry cleaner to get them prepped for the sale. Questions, contact Karla Corl at karlacorl@hotmail.com.

EXAM WEEK COFFEE HOUSE

PWA will be hosting the Exam Week Coffee House for our students on May 22-24, 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.. Drinks and snacks are provided by PWA, but we will be reaching out for volunteers to help staff the Coffee House. Please contact Candy Howard (rbhcmh@roadrunner.com) if you are interested in helping out. There will also be a SignUpGenius posted in the Connections as we get closer to the date.

Ties to Tradition

OLD HUDSON, OLD RESERVE

The ideas and research for this column (and all of my columns thus far) come to you with the help from esteemed WRA archivist and historian, Tom Vince. I grew up in Hudson and remember Mr. Vince from the time I was a very little girl who regularly visited the Hudson Library on Aurora Street with either my mom or my grandmother.

At that time, Tom was the head librarian and archivist there. This, keep in mind, was in the 1970's (Tom never looks any older). I was most fascinated by Mr. Vince's cat, Dewey Decimal, who had free range of the library and could often be found on the check out counter or on the tops of book shelves. I remember that library and the cat like it was yesterday.

When my son started WRA this past fall and I volunteered for the PWA newsletter, I knew Tom would be a great resource for me to learn more about WRA and to help me come up with great ideas for articles. Tom and I have crossed paths in different capacities over the last 47 years, not only at the library, but also through Hudson Heritage Association, where he helped all of us learn so much about the history of Hudson, its people, and landmarks. I was looking forward to once again picking his brain on historic subject matter, this time at Reserve. For this Spring issue, I was thinking of a column on the colors or maybe the green blazer, or even the tie. When I ran that by Tom, he encouraged me to expand my topic to possibly include some of the old Reserve songs. With my little glance back at Old Hudson, let's take a look at the song Old Reserve and another song called Hardscrabble.

Behind these two most notable songs was their writer, Ralph E. Clewell, who was head of the music department from 1930 until around 1957. Old Reserve, which is still sung today, used words by Frederick Ashley who was a Principal at WRA from 1892 until 1897. Old Reserve was copyrighted in 1934.

However, not very many people probably remember Hardscrabble. Hardscrabble is about "Davey" Hudson, who had the "keen" idea of starting a school in Hudson. Clewell goes on to write about the Shawnee, the Wyandots, and Tony Wayne. This cute score refrains with "Onward on Reserve, long the trail blazed onward, on onward, on onward by our fathers. Onward, on Reserve..." While it was sung once at an Alumni function, it is not widely known today.

So, without further adieu, [here is the sheet music to Hardscrabble](#). Please click on the link to view it. Perhaps you can pull up to your piano or an instrument, or just sing it yourself!

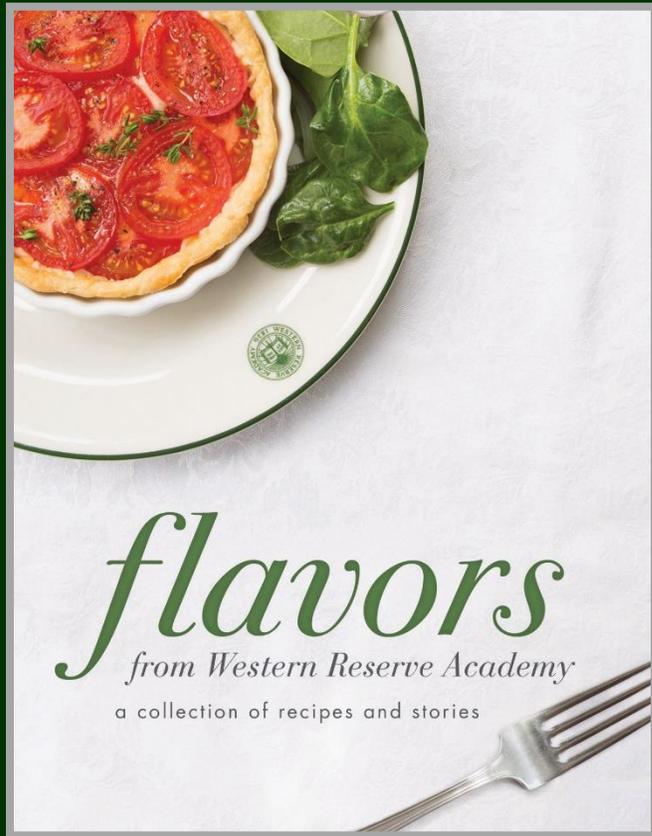
Katie Kagler (George '21)



*Photograph of Dewey,
the Hudson Library's resident cat, circa 1971*



*WRA Archivist Tom Vince, showing off "Davey" Hudson's portrait,
which is proudly displayed in the John D. Ong Library.*



Flavors from Western Reserve Academy is a collection of recipes and stories that capture the essence of the WRA community. You'll find 192 kitchen-tested recipes from 117 contributors, including WRA families, alumni, teachers, staff and board members, as well as area chefs. *Flavors* is the third PWA cookbook, the previous two were *Miles From Home* (2003) and *WRA - Pioneer Women Cookbook* (1996).



PWA testing recipes at the home of Linda Morris, Cookbook Committee chairperson and mother of Rachel '16

You can purchase the book for \$25 at the Campus Store or order online at WRA.net/store.

The money we raise from sales helps support our mission of enhancing the quality of student life at WRA through events like the Back-to-School Bash, Homecoming, Dorm Feeds, and Exam Week Coffee House, to name a few.

Kale and Quinoa Salad with Lemon Dressing

Kathryn Wiggam, mother of George '18 and Calvin '19

This is a very appealing salad, chock-full of healthy ingredients. Over time you will find yourself thinking of ingredients to add, such as pecans, cherry tomatoes, etc., as an excuse to make it often. Tastes great the next day, too! Serves 6 to 8.

Lemon Dressing

- 1/3 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon lemon zest
- 2 teaspoons red wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 3/4 cup olive oil

Salad

- 2 cups cooked quinoa
- 8-10 cups torn kale (bite-size pieces)
- 2 cups purple grapes, cut in half
- 2 whole red bell peppers, seeded and diced
- 1/2 cup (heaping) grated Parmesan
- 1/2 cup sunflower seeds, toasted

Make the dressing: Whisk together the lemon juice, lemon zest, vinegar, mustard, honey, garlic, salt, and pepper. Gradually pour in the olive oil in a steady stream, whisking constantly. Set aside.

In a large bowl, toss together the quinoa, kale, grapes, peppers, Parmesan, and sunflower seeds. Toss with dressing.