



FALL 2010

# E-ALUMNI NEWS

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

## VCS Holds Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Five former star athletes and a basketball coach were inducted into the Victor Athletic Hall of Fame at a special ceremony on Saturday, October 2nd at the Burgundy Basin Inn in Bushnell's Basin. As part of a new Hall of Fame tradition that recognizes specific teams, the 1977 and 1978 Girls Basketball teams were also honored with plaques at this year's event.

This year's Athletic Hall of Fame recipients are Marla McBride, a VCS teacher and coach from 1969 to 2001, athletes Harold Ryan, Class of 1948, Bill Turner, Class of 1959, Don Dillman, Class of 1964, Mike Cotton, Class of 1979, and Bill Hanley, Class of 1980.

*The Victor Hall of Fame was founded in 1999 as a way to:*

- Recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of outstanding athletes, coaches, administrators and Blue Devil supporters.
- Reconnect those individuals and their families with Victor Central School.
- Deepen the current student-athlete understanding and appreciation for the history of the Blue Devil athletes by seeking their participation.

## HAROLD RYAN – CLASS OF 1948

- Three sport athlete from 1944-1948 in Touch Football, Basketball and Baseball.
- Considered one of the best pitchers in VCS History.
- Played Semi-Pro Baseball for Albany in the 1950's.
- Member of the United States Army Baseball Team in Europe.
- Member of the undefeated, untied and "unscored" upon football team in 1946-1947.
- Mr. Ryan founded the first youth basketball program in Victor.
- Mr. Ryan coached the first Alumni Game in VCS History.



## BILL TURNER – CLASS OF 1959

- Three Sport Athlete from 1955-1959 in Football, Basketball and Baseball.
- 1959 Victor Central Schools Athlete of the Year
- Played for Hall of Fame Coaches, Barney Lynaugh, Carl Palumbo and Ed Ahonen.
- Averaged 10.5 strikeouts per game as a Varsity Baseball Pitcher.
- Scored 38 points against League rival Naples in the era of basketball without Three Pointers.



*Continued on next page*

## **BILL TURNER** *continued from cover*

- Won the 1961 NASCAR Drag Racing Championship
- In 1964 Bill played on the All-Army Basketball and Baseball Teams
- Served in the US Army from 1963-1965.
- Has gone on to own and operate Turner Automotive in Victor since 1972.

## **DON DILLMAN – CLASS OF 1964**

- Three Sport Athlete from 1960-1964 in Football, Basketball and Track.
- 1964 Victor Central School Athlete of the Year
- First Team All Conference as a Junior and Senior in Football.
- Coached by Ed Ahonen.
- Ran the 100, 200 and Relay for four years of High School Track. Coached by Barney Lynaugh.
- Point Guard on the Varsity Basketball Team for three years. Coached by Barney Lynaugh.
- Raced Motorcycles in the Sportsman Division since the age of 12, won NYS Championship at age 18, and won the Eastern United States Title at Fayetteville, North Carolina at age 18. Raced Professional Flat Track and Road Race from 1968 to 1980, winning the Professional East Coast Championship at Reading, PA on a Factory Sponsored B.S.A.

Former Athletic Director and Football Coach, Ed Ahonen referred to Don as “the best athlete” he ever coached at Victor.



## **MIKE “VIRGIL” COTTON – CLASS OF 1979**

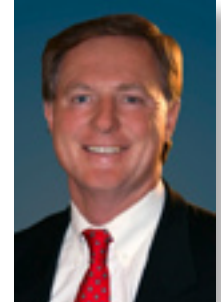
- Three sport athlete from 1975-1979 in Football, Basketball and Baseball.
- Three year starter on the Varsity Baseball Team, the team was three time Finger Lakes East Champions and in 1977 Section V Champions.
- Member of the 1978 Section V Class A Champions in Basketball.
- 1978 Section V Class A MVP in Basketball.
- Three time Finger Lakes East All-Star Basketball Selection.
- 1977 Finger Lakes East All-Star Football Receiver.



- Member of the Inaugural Empire States Games Western NY Basketball Team 1978.
- Member of the 1980 All-Decade Team at the University of Rochester

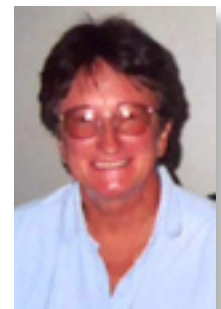
## **BILL HANLEY – CLASS OF 1980**

- Three Sport Athlete from 1976-1980 in Football, Basketball and Baseball.
- 1980 Victor Central Schools Male Athlete of the Year.
- Two time Finger Lakes East All-Star Football Selection at Running Back.
- Two time Finger Lakes East all-Star Baseball Selection as a Pitcher.
- 1980 Unanimous Selection First Team Finger Lakes East in Baseball.
- 1980 MVP of Victor Varsity Baseball Team.
- Played both Baseball and Tennis on scholarships in college.
- Bill has continued to succeed in Semi-Professional Baseball in Texas pitching for the World Series Champions in 1977, 1998 and 2008 in the Men’s Senior Baseball League and winning the World Series of NABA in 2001.



## **MARLA MC BRIDE – TEACHER AND COACH 1969-2001**

- Marla McBride was a Pre Title IX Advocate and pioneer of female athletics at VCS, starting multiple club and Varsity sports for Junior High and High School students.
- Coached Modified, Junior Varsity and Varsity athletics for over 40 seasons throughout her career. Including several League Championships
- She was the girl’s Varsity soccer and Basketball Coach throughout the 1970’s.
- Head Coach of the Section V Victor Girls Basketball Championship Team 1977-’78, Section V Basketball Coach of the Year.
- Continuously insisted upon the ideals of sportsmanship, skill and goal attainment as both a teacher and coach.
- Established a lasting legacy of opportunity and success for young women at VCS in both education and athletics.



## 1976-1977 – VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Victor Central Schools is proud to recognize and honor the 1976-1977 Girls Varsity Basketball Team. The team enjoyed a successful season, capturing the League Title and the Section V Class B Championship Crown. In the semi finals match vs Pittsford-Mendon, in an extremely exciting and close contest, VCS defeated the defending champions of the class B title, 47-45. In the finals VCS beat Livonia in a decisive 46-35 victory, resulting in the Sectional Championship and a perfect climax to an outstanding season.



*Front: N. Bowe, J. Bowe, P. Danks, K. Ryan, D. Reeves. Back: L. Saxby, P. Northrup, D. Ewing, A. Payne, M. Weigert*

## 1977-1978 – VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Victor Central Schools is proud to recognize and honor the 1977-1978 Girls Varsity Basketball Team. The Girls Varsity Basketball Team posted a 16-3 record en route to winning the Finger Lakes League Championship. Their hard work and dedication on and off the court were an inspiration to the young girls that were beginning to participate in community and interscholastic athletics following the Supreme Court's ruling on Title IX in 1972. Their efforts and successes paved the path for future generations of success for female athletes in Victor. ■



**VARSITY**

ROW 1: Y. Femiano, M. Hasenauer, D. Reeves. ROW 2: T. Johnson, K. Barclay, K. Ryan, B. Ubbink. ROW 3: Coach McBride, D. Ewing, M. Weigert, L. Saxby, J. Bowe, Coach Mert.

## Three's A Charm

### *VSH Class of 2010 Valedictorian, Jessica Fessler, Marks Three Generations of High Achievers*

When Avis Pope-Payne was named the Class of 1950 valedictorian at Adams High School in Adams, New York, little did she know that her academic achievement was the beginning of a family tradition of sorts.

Twenty-seven years later, Pope-Payne's daughter, Anne Payne-Fessler was named valedictorian of the VCS Class of 1977 and this past spring, Fessler's daughter, Jessica Fessler, was named valedictorian of the VCS Class of 2010! Anne Payne-Fessler says while it is a lucky coincidence that she, her mother and daughter share the honor of being Valedictorian of their high school classes, there are much bigger awards to be had in life. "This (valuedictorian honor) was a nice confidence booster with which to enter the next phase of our young lives! I do admit to being tickled that Jess and I can claim the same award from the same high school 33 years apart.

*A Q & A with Anne-Payne Fessler, VCS Class of 1977 Valedictorian:*

#### **Did you always aspire to be Class Valedictorian?**

I don't know that anyone actually "aspires" to be Class Valedictorian but I could be wrong about that! My actual aspiration was to do the best I possibly could on each and every assignment... and that turned into Valedictorian! I'm sure that it helped that I tend to have a very competitive personality whether it be in the classroom, athletic arena, or the business world.

#### **What was your inspiration?**

Growing up my family provided a home environment where academic achievement was encouraged, but I guess my real inspiration was from within myself: a desire to not just do "okay" but do very well. It was something that I could never really explain, but I know that Jess shared it because we spoke about that desire



*Avis Pope-Payne, Anne Payne-Fessler, and Jessica Fessler*

with each other, "Sometimes don't you wish you could just do a mediocre job and forget it?!"

#### **What did being Valedictorian mean to you?**

Being valedictorian to me meant that I had achieved my goal of doing the best I could do. The temporary small town notoriety that went with it was not truly welcomed but I didn't mind being one of those honored with being allowed to speak at Commencement!

#### **How does it feel to be part of one of three generations of Valedictorians?**

I am very proud of my daughter Jessica. I feel that she worked much harder in school while taking high level courses than I ever did when I walked the halls of Victor High School! I am hopeful that all those late nights she spent finishing assignments will ease her transition into college level studying at M.I.T. And I am very grateful to my mother (and my dad) for giving me the gift of intelligence as well as encouraging me to achieve excellence. So I guess the feelings are pride and gratitude, not for myself but for my daughter and my mother. ■

# Academic, Athletic and Artistic Distinctions

- In 2010 we had 127 students earn AP Scholar Awards and eight students named Commended Students in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program.
- In June 2010, 95% of our students graduated with a Regents Diploma. 64 % earned a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation and 29% received a Regents Diploma with Honors. To receive a Regents Diploma with Honors a student must have an average of 90% or higher on their Regents examinations.
- The Wind Ensemble won first place and Grand Champions at the 2010 Darien Lake Music Festival. Also taking honors were the Varsity Choir winning first place and Grand Champions, and the Jazz Ensemble winning second place.
- Twenty new members were inducted into the VCS Tri-M Chapter this past September. Tri-M is an honor society for music students that not only recognizes a superior level of achievement in musical performance, but also academic achievement, character, responsibility, dedication to the art, and service to the department.
- More than 50% of our high school students participate on at least one of our 82 athletic teams and many are two and three sport athletes.
- In 2010 we celebrated two New York State Championships, our Girls Varsity Volleyball Team and Diver Ashley Broderick.

## VICTOR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



November 12 and 13, 2010  
at 7:00 PM

Victor Jr/Sr High School Performing Arts Center  
Adults \$7.00, Students \$5.00  
available at [www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org) starting October 25.

Purchase tickets at the door:  
Adults \$10.00, Students \$7.00



## An Evening of Culture

By Mark Langdon Smith

*In Faith County, somewhere in the middle of nowhere in the South, the Mineola Council for Cultural Recognition is set to produce Romeo and Juliet. A colorful group of local folk make up the cast and crew. Even though they don't have their lines memorized, the set isn't finished, and a dog keeps barking offstage, they give it a go!! This is "Bill" Shakespeare as he never meant it to be (or not to be...)!*

November 18th - 20th at 7:00 PM  
November 20th at 1:00 PM

All seats in the VEC Auditorium are RESERVED.  
VCS Students \$6 Adults \$7 ~ Senior Citizens FREE

*Tickets available online at [www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org) under "Quick Links."*

## Robert Vuichard, 2004 Alum, Wins Yale Glee Club's Emerging Composer Award

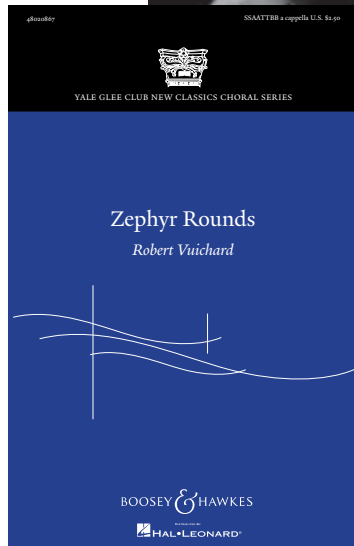
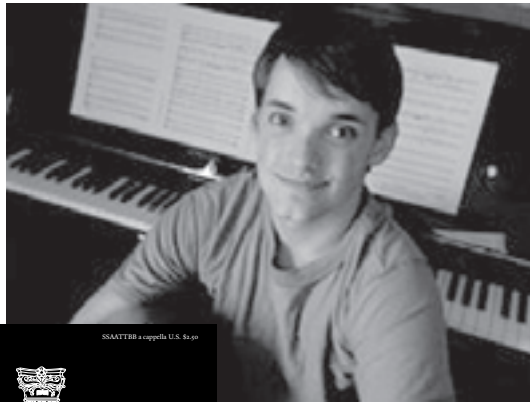
Robert Vuichard, (VSH Class of 2004), won the Yale Glee Club's Emerging Composer Award in 2007 for his piece, *Zephyr Rounds*. As the recipient of this honor, Vuichard's piece was published by Boosey and Hawkes, as part of the Yale Glee Club New Classics Series. Vuichard has since signed contracts for other choral works with GIA, Inc. as part of the Westminster Choir College's Choral Series.

While at VCS, Robert was involved in school choirs, string orchestra and many of the junior and senior high school musicals as an actor and in the pit orchestras. At age 16, he elected to begin studying music theory and composition on nights and weekends at the Eastman Community Music School (an extension program of the University of Rochester).

Vuichard attributes his success to the wonderful music programs at Victor, but also acknowledges Victor's strong liberal arts offerings as an integral part of his success in the music industry.

"Victor's strong arts training, no doubt, has been key to my young success in music and publishing. However, I know that this success is also due in great part to the strong program of integrated studies that

has been taking place at Victor, grades K through 12. If it were not for the strong integration of math, liberal Arts, foreign language and even physical education that took place during music and art classes at Victor, I know that my path



would not have been so easy. Of course, Victor's gifted arts faculty is truly to be thanked for my successes."

Following graduation from VSH in 2004, Vuichard studied at the University of Michigan. Robert was a scholarship student at the Aspen Music Festival, the

Cleveland Institute's Young Composers Program and the Scoring for Motion Pictures and Television Seminar at the University of Southern California. While

studying in Ann Arbor, Robert had the rare opportunity to work as a production assistant with the University Musical Society [UMS] the oldest University arts presenter in the United States, acting as co-producer for the productions of Chanticleer's Earth Songs and the Netherlands Bach Society's performance of *The Mass in b Minor*.

Mr. Vuichard has heard his music performed across the United States, Canada and Europe, in venues ranging from the back lot music studios of Los Angeles to a dimly lit sanctuary as far away as Neuchatel, Switzerland. Robert has been commissioned by Joe Miller and the Westminster Choir, Jerry Blackstone and the University of Michigan Chamber Choir and Jeff Douma of the Yale University Glee Club.

Since moving to New York in early 2009, Robert has enjoyed success as a freelance engraver, working with Schott Music Publishers, as well as the Oxford University Press's publication of *The Complete Collaborator* by Martin Katz.

Currently residing in Manhattan, Vuichard holds a Bachelor's Degree in music composition from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. His principal teachers include Susan Botti, William Bolcom, Betsey Jolas, Michael Colgrass and Tania Leon.

*Continued on next page*

*VSH Music Teacher, Katherine Dupra  
Lauds Vuichard*

“It is not often that a teacher encounters a student of the caliber of Robert Vuichard. His talents are many and of an exemplary nature. I had the honor of teaching this young man when he was in the Intermediate School and then again at Victor Senior High School. It was evident at a very early age, that Robert was a uniquely multi-talented individual. In High School, he was an outstanding choir and orchestra member. He had lead roles in many of our musicals and scored A+ at NYSSMA solo fest for Voice. He competed in piano performance recitals and achieved high honors from the Howard Hanson Piano Competition. In his junior year, he composed a piece for Choir and piano and

we performed it at the Holiday concert. In his senior year, Robert worked with the IB Music Theory class as a composition consultant. These are just a few of the many accomplishments that Rob Vuichard achieved while he was a student here. While he was in college, he came back to Victor High School, and gave a master class for the choir students.

It was truly a privilege to teach this exceptionally talented young man and I am so pleased to hear of his recent success in getting his first work published. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.”

*Zephyr Rounds* is available for purchase at the Hal Leonard Music Store at [www.halleonard.com](http://www.halleonard.com). ■

VICTOR  
CENTRAL  
SCHOOLS  
116TH  
ALUMNI  
BANQUET



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, June 12, 2011

Location to be Announced

*For Information about the banquet  
or about joining the alumni association,  
call Ken Weigert at 585-924-2944*

*VCS Holiday Music Events*

**November 12-13, 2010**

JH Musical, 7:00 PM, JH/SH Arts Center

**November 18-20, 2010**

SH Fall Play, 18-20th 7:00 PM, 20th - 1:00 PM,  
VEC Auditorium

**December 7, 2010**

5th/6th Grade Bands, 7:00 PM, JH/SH Arts Center

**December 8, 2010**

Intermediate Orchestra, 7:00 PM, JH/SH Arts Center

**December 14, 2010**

Intermediate Choruses, 7:00 PM, JH/SH Arts Center

**December 15, 2010**

3rd Grade Concerts, 6:30 and 7:30 PM *Primary Auditorium*

**December 16, 2010**

JH Choral Concert, 7:00 PM, JH/SH Arts Center

**December 20, 2010**

SH Holiday Concert, 7:00 PM, JH/SH Arts Center

**December 21, 2010**

JH Instrumental Concert, 7:00 PM, JH/SH Arts Center

## Class of 1970 Celebrates 40th

The Victor class of 1970 held its 40th reunion on Saturday, July 24, 2010 at Mickey Finn's Station One in Victor. It had been 30 years since the last reunion, and organizer, Donna Blazey said people were ready for a great evening of food and fun.

In addition to Blazey, Sue Mills and Len Sharp began planning the reunion in early spring. Blazey said it was a challenge to find all of their classmates but with the help of many on Facebook and Classmates.com, along with internet searches, local advertising and phone calls, 88 of the 100 Class of 1970 classmates were located. Reunion attendance was 52, of which 38 were classmates.

Blazey said that each alum's name tag had that classmate's yearbook picture on it. "Forty years is a long time!" she said.

Despite the passing of four decades, Blazey said the reunion was a success. "Many stories from the old school days circulated, new photos of grandchildren were shared, and friendships were renewed with hope of the next reunion in 5 years rather than 10." ■



*"Don't be dismayed at good-byes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after moments or lifetimes, is certain for those who are friends."*

~ Richard Bach

## Upcoming Reunion

### Class of 1986

**July 29-30, 2011**

Contact Information: <http://www.facebook.com/?ref=logo#!/group.php?gid=40316848871>  
 Laura Howe at [laura1205@frontiernet.net](mailto:laura1205@frontiernet.net)



## Class of 1974 Celebrates 34th

About 55 attended dinner at the Class of 1974 reunion this past summer.

Alum came from as far as California and Texas! ■



## Class of 1975 Celebrates 35th



*Jim Exton*



*Paul Spezio, Steve Brooker, Mark West*



*Anna, friend of Gerald Sullivan, Gerald Sullivan, John Spittal*

# Victor Central Schools Seeks Archives

*“Students can benefit in several ways from researching their school’s history... This is history that is near at hand and that has a direct connection to their lives.”*

~ Larry J. Hackman, Director, Truman Presidential Museum and Library; former New York State Archivist



Do you have photographs of the victory garden that students in our school planted and tended during World War II?

Does an old box or filing cabinet hold copies of letters that students wrote concerning our country’s involvement in Vietnam?

Did the science curriculum at Victor Central School change during the formative years of the Schools produce rich historical records. Yearbooks, school lunch menus, flyers promoting dances, student elections, musicals, plays, photographs, letters, issues of the school newspaper, and other items document not only the history of the school, but often reflect the history of our community, state, and nation.

We have developed a school archives in our records center, housed on the second floor of the Victor Education Center. Hopefully, this archive, or historical collection can serve two primary purposes:

1. Be a repository for the collection and preservation of historically valuable documents relating to the history of our school, which would otherwise be lost.
2. Constitute an important element of programs for teaching research-related skills to students.

As a key element in establishing this archive, we are urging the public to help support our endeavors by donating artifacts to the archives that they may have in and around their homes, which may otherwise be lost to future generations. We are particularly interested in:

*Student handbooks*

*Student newspapers*

*Yearbooks (especially from 1998)*

*Photographs*

*School lunch menus*

*Course catalogs*

*Student term papers about the school or Community*

*Artifacts (trophies, flags, uniforms, memorabilia)*

*Older Newspaper articles from the local newspapers*

*Special awards received*

*Records of special school programs*

*Audiotaped or videotaped oral histories*

*Scrapbooks*

*Videotapes of school performances and athletic events.*

Perhaps you don’t wish to part with your piece of history. You can still help our efforts by loaning us the article to copy, scan, or photograph. We look forward to your response. We also plan on having the artifacts exhibited from time to time. By the way, does anyone have a school bell from one of Victor’s many one-room school houses? We’d love to hear from you.....

*\*Contact Chuck Callari at [callaric@victorschools.org](mailto:callaric@victorschools.org) or 585-924-3252, ext. 1116*

# VCS Seeks Names of Distinguished Graduates

Do you know a Victor Central School alumnus who has made a significant contribution to society? The Graduates of Distinction program honors such individuals. Applications are currently available in the Office of School and Community Relations or on-line at [www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org). Alumni selected for this honor will be recognized at graduation on June 26, 2011.

Posthumous nominations will be accepted. Upon request, information on individuals making nominations will be kept confidential. Honorees must meet the following criteria to be considered: (1) a Victor Central School graduate of at least 15 years; (2) Post-graduation achievement that includes job-related achievements; professional honors and awards, professional affiliations, publications; (3) Civic or community involvement; (4) Educational achievements; (5) Other appropriate qualifications that merit consideration. **Nominations must be submitted by January 3, 2011.**

**Graduates of Distinction Committee  
c/o The Office of School and Community Relations  
Victor Central Schools  
953 High Street  
Victor, New York 14564**

## *Send Us Your News*

If you are an alumnus of Victor Central Schools, we encourage you to e-mail us at [alumni@victorschools.org](mailto:alumni@victorschools.org).

Feel free to tell us about accomplishments or events in your life such as a wedding, birth of a child or grandchild. Whether or not you have visited campus lately, participated in a recent alumni event, or browsed our directory, you are sure to find information instrumental in helping you maintain a connection to your alma matter and other Victor graduates.

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Steve Martin, President  
Tim DeLucia, First VP  
Kathy Hart, Second VP  
Pat Bolger  
Mark Hamilton  
Bob Rose  
Mike Young

Dawn A. Santiago-Marullo  
Superintendent of Schools

Liz Welch & Sherri Lasky  
Office of School and Community Relations

[alumni@victorschools.org](mailto:alumni@victorschools.org)