



SPRING 2009

E-ALUMNI NEWS

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Victor Central Schools to Honor Graduates of Distinction

On Sunday, June 28, 2009, *David E. Corbit* (Class of 1959) and *William F. Kocher* (Class of 1966) were recognized as Victor Central Schools' 2009 Graduates of Distinction. The Graduate of Distinction program was initiated in 2002 as a way to recognize VCS alumnus who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and made significant contributions to society.

David E. Corbit, Class of 1959

Following his graduation from VCS, David Corbit earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Hamilton College in 1963 and the Doctor of Medicine degree from the University Of Rochester School Of Medicine in 1967. Dr. Corbit completed a rotating medical internship at the Medical College of Virginia in 1968 and went on to serve as a General Medical Officer in the United States Navy from 1968 to 1970. In 1973 he completed his residency in Ophthalmology at Indiana University Medical Center and is certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology. Since 1974 Dr. Corbit has been a partner at New Hampshire Eye Physicians and Surgeons in Manchester, NH.

Over the years, Dr. Corbit has touched thousands of lives both in and outside



William F. Kocher, Class of 1966

Following his graduation from VCS, William F. Kocher attended Indiana University where he graduated with a Bachelors of Science degree with distinction in 1970. In 1973, he graduated from Cornell University Law School with his Juris Doctorate. For the past 35 years, Mr. Kocher has had his own private law practice in Victor.

Mr. Kocher's list of professional achievements is long and varied. He was the Assistant District Attorney for Ontario County from 1974 to 1991. From 1978 to 2006, he was the Victor Village attorney. From 1991 to 2006, Kocher was also the Victor Town Justice. Kocher is also the acting city judge for the city of Geneva, New York. Among Kocher's list of other accomplishments include his appointment by former New York State Governor George



his professional practice. Beginning in 1991 he and his partners served as principal investigators for the clinical studies in laser vision correction. He has continued a large practice of general ophthalmology with emphases in cataract surgery and glaucoma management. For many years, Dr. Corbit has served on the New Hampshire Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation and is currently chairman of its

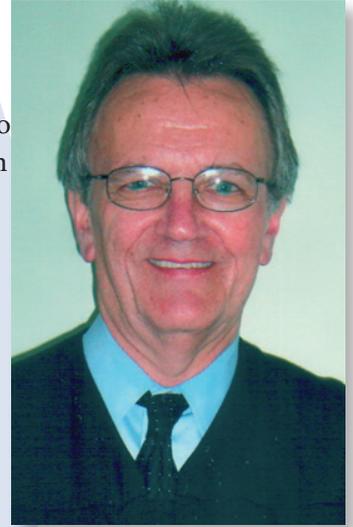


Physician Advisory Committee. He was instrumental in the development of the Lions Eye Clinic in Manchester, NH, which provides free eye care to financially disadvantaged people around the state. He also conducts a monthly free clinic at a local shelter facility.

Dr. Corbit is a recipient of the Lions Clubs' prestigious Melvin Jones Fellowship Award, given to a person who represents humanitarian qualities such as generosity, compassion and concern for the less fortunate. In a similar vein, he was honored by the Pastoral Counseling Center in Manchester in 2007 with their Good Samaritan Award in the realm of Medicine and Healing.

Dr. Corbit enjoys singing and occasionally traveling with the Manchester Choral Society and has enjoyed hiking and skiing in the mountains of New Hampshire. He is married to Judy Morris Corbit (VCS, Class of 1960), and they have three children and two grandchildren. ■

Pataki to Ontario County Court in 2006. In 2006, Kocher was also elected to a ten-year term on the Ontario County Court. He has been the Acting Supreme Court Judge for Ontario County since 2006. From 2006 to present, Judge Kocher has been assigned to the Development of Integrated Domestic Violence Court. He was also appointed by the Honorable Judith Kaye (former Chief Justice of the New York State Court of Appeals) to the New York State Judicial Commission on Interbranch Relations, a nine judge commission whose members were selected from full time judges across New York State. Through the years, Judge Kocher has also been an avid instructor at various training sessions for the New York State Magistrates Association.



Judge Kocher's personal contributions are equally impressive. He has been an active participant in Victor Community Baseball for many years. He is involved in the Ontario County Historical Society. While Kocher is well known for his professional resume and community service, he is also widely known as the man who has always been available to the people of Victor, working behind the scenes, without notice or expectation of reward.

Judge Kocher is married to Mary Burns Kocher (VCS, Class of 1967). They have two daughters, Cassie and Molly, both VCS graduates. ■

VIS' Toothpick Bridges Class Gets A Special Visit From "World Renowned Toothpick Engineer" (and Class of '88 alum!) Stan Munro

When VIS teacher, Amy Smith-Faczan, learned that Stan Munro, the incredibly talented "toothpick engineer" (and VCS class of '88 alum) visited Honeoye Falls Schools, she immediately went to his website (www.Toothpickcity.com) and e-mailed him asking if he would come to Victor to do a workshop with her bridge class. "We specifically wanted to see one of his bridges," Smith-Faczan said, but it turns out Munro brought much more.

"He brought the London Tower Bridge, St. Patrick's Cathedral, a Star Wars X-wing Fighter, and Wat Arun (temple in Bangkok) for us to see." Smith-Faczan says these toothpick models were just some of the smaller pieces from his exhibit "Toothpick City II," located at the Museum of Science and Technology (MOST) in Syracuse, New York.

Needless to say, Smith-Faczan's students, as well as many other VIS students, were blown away by the depth, dimension and sheer creativity of Munro's work.

Smith-Faczan's bridge class is composed of 14 sixth graders. Together, they not only work with a budget, they plan, design, and construct toothpick bridges, working much like a business. "One student is the accountant, another

the director, and the other, the architect, and they all help build their toothpick bridges," Smith-Faczan said.

Students tested their bridges for strength by tying a bucket to them and filling them with weights. Students' bridges were judged on strength, how well they're built according to architectural plans, and aesthetics. As for Munro's



impressions of VCS, more than twenty years after graduating . . . "I only wish they had a class like this when I went here!" ■

2009 VCS Athletic Hall of Fame Inducts Two Alumni

On Friday, June 19th, Victor Central Schools' Athletic Hall of Fame inducted two of its finest athletic alumni at a special recognition ceremony at the Burgundy Basin Inn.

This year's inductees, Mike Bowe, class of 1979, and Seth Payne, class of 1993 were not only star athletes while at VCS but well into their post graduate years.

Before graduating in 1979, Mike Bowe was part of three successful VCS sports programs, baseball, basketball and football. Among his VCS sports accomplishments, Bowe was on the first team all area Finger Lakes baseball team for second base. He was also on the 1977 Section V championship team where he was the 2nd base starter. In basketball, Bowe was a part of a two-time first team all area Finger Lakes team in 1977-78 and 1978-79. He was also part of the 1977-78 Section V championship team, the 1977-78 Section V tournament team and the 1978-79 Section V runner up team, the first Victor team to play in a New York state championship series.

Bowe's football record was equally impressive. In 1978 he was the unanimous choice for first team All Finger Lakes team for running back and defensive back positions. In 1978, he was also named the most valuable player.

Bowe took his natural athleticism to Cortland State University where he not only played varsity basketball but was also a star football player, as well. For the past 25 years, Bowe has been a teacher for the Marion County district in Florida where he has been the school's football and basketball coach for the past 22 years.

Bowe is a three time Florida Athletic Coaches Association district coach of the year. In 2003-2004, he was named Florida Athletic Coaches Association All Classes District Coach of the Year. In 2004, he was chosen by the state of Florida coaches to coach the North Team in its annual state of Florida senior North and South All Star Game.

Bowe is currently a member of the mid Florida men's and women's Basketball Officials Association.



Mike Bowe, *Class of 1979*



Seth Payne, *Class of 1993*

While at VCS, Seth Payne was not only a stand-out football team player, but a leader, as well. In 1993, he was captain of the football team. He was also part of the All-Greater Rochester and All State teams. In addition, he played in the 1993 Eddie Meath All Star Game.

After Victor, Payne went on to become a four year football letterman at Cornell University. While there, he was a two-time All Star Ivy league player, held the record for career sacks, was named defensive captain and received the most improved player over four years award. He was also a Cornell Sphinx Head award winner.

In 1997, Payne was a fourth round pick for the NFL's Jacksonville Jaguars, who he played for from 1997-2001. While there, he became a starter his rookie year. From 2001-2006 Payne played for Houston. While there, in 2002 he received the unsung hero award and in 2004 he received the Ed Block courage award.

This past spring, Payne was inducted into the Section V Hall of Fame. Currently, Payne is active with the Shriners Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House. ■

New VCS Superintendent, Dawn A. Santiago- Marullo

Pledges to Continue to Help “Make Good Things Happen for VCS Students”

“Victor Central Schools will continue to be a high performing organization where all children and adults can thrive.” That is just one of the goals that Dawn A. Santiago-Marullo plans on achieving in her new role as Superintendent of Victor Central Schools.

Santiago-Marullo, who replaces Timothy J. McElheran as the lead administrator for Victor Schools comes to her new role with more than 27 years of experience in the district. Prior to becoming superintendent, Santiago-Marullo was Director of Special Projects and Programs for the district for four years and before that, she was instrumental in the development of the International Baccalaureate Diploma program. But it is Santiago-Marullo’s 18 years in the classroom as a high school Spanish teacher that gives her a unique perspective that she relies upon to be a successful educational leader. She “knows” students, and there is no doubt by the smiles on their faces and easy-going interactions she shares with them in a school hallway or at a school event, that they “know” her, too.

“I want to be a leader in a school district where, as each child walks across the stage to receive his/her high school diploma, every member of the staff will be able to say, “I

gave him/her my very best and he/she is ready to go out into the world and succeed.”

Success. This is something that Dawn Santiago-Marullo not only strives for on a personal and professional level, but something that she says she has the good fortune of being in the midst of on a daily basis.

“The Victor Central School community has the perfect combination of great students, an amazing staff, and very supportive parents, businesses and residents. Because everything is in alignment, we are able to provide our students with a world-class education.”

For more information on Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo go to www.victorschools.org ■



Victor Coaches Receive District's Highest Accolade – The Heart of Excellence

They have touched the lives of thousands of students through the years, both as teachers and coaches. Earlier this year, Victor Central Schools proudly honored Coaches Bill Coleman and Shelly Collins with one of the district's highest accolades – The Heart of Excellence.

Coach Bill Coleman

"Face life the way you play tennis...with dignity."

When Bill Coleman came to Victor Schools in 1960 to be a sixth grade teacher at the Intermediate School, there was no tennis in the district. That all changed four years later when in 1964 he became the first head coach of the boys' varsity tennis team. Eleven years later, Coleman expanded on his passion for tennis when he began coaching Victor's brand new varsity girls' tennis team. The rest is history. And what a history it has been! Although he retired from teaching in 1998, Coleman continued to stay on at VCS as the tennis coach. This year, after coaching tennis here for nearly 45 years, Coleman retired.

Coleman may be retired, but he is hardly hanging up his tennis racquet. This Waterloo native, who has been playing the game since he was ten years old, says he will continue to play when he can. (He still plays in a 140 year and over (combined ages) tournament in Bristol Harbor where he lives!) Tennis is not the only thing Coleman will do in his new spare time. He also looks forward to playing golf, taking walks and traveling with his wife Muriel. He will also have more time to devote to his to own "home team" which consists of two daughters, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Known as "King Coleman" to his players and the community, Coleman looks back on his time with Victor with great pleasure and pride. "It was a real privilege to be associated with so many great people," he said.

As for the game, "Sure, the game has changed quite a bit through the years with more modern racquets and year-round lessons, but the kids are still not much different from 1960. Through the years, they have



Coach Shelly Collins

"Play better than you did the day before."

The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle named her Co-Coach of the Year, but from our perspective, girls varsity volleyball coach Shelly Collins has been an award winner for many years.

While this twenty-two year Victor coaching veteran is proud of this most recent recognition, she quietly shuns the spotlight, quickly redirecting it to her team and how it is merely a reflection of how well they did. This past fall season, the girls' varsity volleyball team had a 20-1 record including a second straight Section V Class A title and state title. This past spring her girl's softball team also took the Section V Class A title.

But a winning record makes not for great coaching, according to Collins. "Some years, during our least successful seasons . . . one year, the team had a 5 and 13 record . . . this is when I did my best coaching . . . and there were no awards for those years!" she said with a smile.

Win or lose, Collins, who has been also been a physical education teacher at Victor High School for the past twenty years, is very proud of her players, not only for their physical prowess, but for their mental capacity to work hard, whatever their place on the team. "We don't set goals per se to win so many games or titles. My philosophy is simple, play better than you did the day before."

Collins, a Naples native, said it was her father who instilled many of these values in her. (He still plays in a mens' 65 years and older softball team today!) She says Coach Pat Beya of the Naples School District also made a big impression on her. And, it seems Collins, herself, continues to pass along these lasting impressions to her own players.

"Many of my players may never play volleyball again after they leave Victor Schools but I know they can take the lessons they have learned from the game and apply them in life. That's a great thing," Collins said. ■



VCS Bids a Fine Farewell to 2009 Retirees

They have shaped the lives of thousands of students through the years by teaching, counseling and coordinating. Some of them stood at the front of the classroom everyday, others worked diligently behind the scenes. Whatever their role, they did it with heart. They did it with excellence. They did it for our students. They will be missed.

Victor Intermediate School:

Jeffrey Kaller, 1979-2009, Physical Education Teacher

Toni Kiddie, 1979-2009, Elementary Teacher

Mary Ellen Sabey, 1979-2009, Elementary Teacher

Joyce Gibson, 1980-2008, Secretary

Judy Derycke, 1990-2008, Food Services

Patricia Magnuson, 1993-2008, Teacher Aide

Victor Junior High School:

Judy Richmond, 1979-2009, Library Media Specialist

Victor Senior High School:

Frank Rychlik, 1972-2009, Social Studies Teacher

Kathy Gillis, 1985-2009, Teacher Aide

District Wide:

Bill Straub, 1973-2009, School Facilities

Francis Becker, 2000-2008, School Facilities - Working Supervisor

VCS CLASS OF 1984

25 YEAR REUNION INVITATION

Saturday August 15, 2009 @ 4:00 p.m.

Location: Burgundy Basin, 1361 Marsh Road, Pittsford, NY (www.burgundybasin.com)

Details: Outdoor-Pavilion, Casual, Adult Only, Picnic Style Dinner with 4 hours open bar (beer, wine & soda). Pavilion is located directly behind the Burgundy Basin Inn.

Cost: \$40.00 per person. \$75 for couples *Advanced Registration Required!*

Advanced Reservations for Class Members Needed As Soon As Possible.

Also join everyone on Friday Night (Aug. 14th),
Victor Village Inn, 34 E. Main St., Victor, NY 14564 (585) 924-5025, 8:00 p.m. - until

We are also looking for volunteers
to help with tracking down class members and making final arrangements.

Please copy and send this form along with a check for \$40 for individual or \$75 for a couple,
payable to Victor Class of '84 as soon as possible.
(*Class donations also accepted if you cannot make this year's event*)

Questions: e-mail: VictorClass84@rochester.rr.com
or call Greg "Doc" Lefebre (585) 755-4734
Mail: Reservation Form and Check payable to Victor Class of '84
to: Greg Lafebre, 613 Westchester Ave., Rochester, NY 14609

Complete the following information and send in with your check.

Name (include maiden name)

E-mail Address

Phone Number

Guests Name (if applicable)

Regular Mail Address

What have you been up to?

Can You Help With the Reunion? Yes No

VCS ORCHESTRA ROCKS!

Be part of a unique event with the
VCS Orchestra and Mark Wood,
the world-renowned string master of the
Trans-Siberian Orchestra.



Victor Central School District has a long history of excellence and innovation with its Strings Program. From its implementation of the revolutionary Suzuki Method for strings education to the recent development of a symphony orchestra resulting in an exhilarating performance of music from the *Pirates of the Caribbean* movies, the Strings Program has been at the forefront of music education in Victor.

The VCS Strings Program is now ready to take it up a notch with Mark Wood's "*Electrify Your Strings!*" program. During two days of workshops next April 9&10, Mark will introduce our students to a whole new world of string playing and give them an experience they will NEVER forget. This program will change the students'

perception of what their instruments are capable of and enlighten them as to how they can express their creativity through strings. "*Electrify Your Strings!*" is a unique opportunity to partner with a world-renowned artist and board member of the prestigious American String Teachers Association. Our students are sure to benefit from the inspiring and motivational techniques Mark has developed through years of research and experience.

What's more, the program culminates in an evening concert extravaganza featuring our Sr. High students performing alongside Mark and his touring band, *The Mark Wood Experience*.

You can help release the creative potential of our students with your generous donation.



"We each have a song inside us which needs to be heard. My sincere hope is that this course will trigger your students' curiosity and spark their passion to develop their own personal voice."

Mark Wood

Sponsorship Opportunities

(sponsors will be acknowledged in concert program)

- Maestro's Circle : \$500 +
- Director's Circle : \$250 - \$499
- Benefactor : \$100 - \$249
- Patron : \$50 - \$99
- Friend : \$15 - \$49

Please make checks payable to

Victor Central Schools - Sr. High Orchestra Club and mail to
Victor High School, c/o Tim Nowak, 953 High Street, Victor, NY 14564

SPONSOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Name

Student Name (if applicable)

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Email Address

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Academic, Athletic and Artistic Distinctions

- For the fourth consecutive year, our District received recognition by the New York State Education Department as a “high performing” school district.
- In November, 70 VSH Juniors and Seniors were inducted into the National Honor Society.
- In June 2008, 96% of our students graduated with a Regents Diploma. 65% earned a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation and 32% 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.
- Victor Marching Blue Devils took fifth place in their first year in the National Class at the New York State Field band championships in October.
- Stars of Tomorrow Awards Program recognized the 2009 Senior High Musical for Outstanding Musical Production, Featured Actress, Singing Ensemble, Student Orchestra, Supporting Actress, Acting Ensemble, Leading Actress, Leading Actor.
- 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.
- All ten fall varsity teams qualified as scholar athlete teams. While eight of our winter varsity teams and six of our spring varsity teams qualified for scholar athlete teams.

Send Us Your News

If you are an alumnus of Victor Central Schools, we encourage you to e-mail us at **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.

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