



# PASS IN REVIEW

Issue 5, Autumn 2011

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[http://westernairesalumni.org/download\\_newsletters.html](http://westernairesalumni.org/download_newsletters.html)

## A Letter from the Alumni Association Board

Dear Alumni and Friends,

It has been a very successful summer, indeed. The Westernaires returned to the glory of the Estes Park arena, performing two sold-out shows for a packed grandstands of enthusiastic audiences. Red division teams performed so well that they brought the audience to fanatical foot stomping and hand clapping to the beat of the music. The shows were so successful that the Estes Park Rooftop Rodeo board beseeched Red Team to come back and perform an encore two weeks later at the world famous Rooftop Rodeo – a first in Westernaires history. Yes, the 2011 show season has once again demonstrated the recipe for magic: *take some talented Colorado kids, add horses, and mix in a network of dedicated and loyal volunteers.*

Annual Show is now upon us once again, and we are reminded of the importance of fundraising to keep all of this going in the right direction. Times are tight. Of tremendous impact has been the price of staples like hay and fuel hitting such great heights.

This year the Alumni Association is hosting a **silent auction** for

raising funds. We've got some amazing auction items: from skydiving to weekend getaways; from romantic meals for two to autographed sports memorabilia. With thousands of dollars' worth of great items, our goal is to raise as much money as possible for the upcoming year. Won't you please participate in our auction? Please go online right now to <http://www.biddingforgood.com/westernairesalumni>

to view the items and place your bid. Our auction will culminate on the weekend of Annual Show, October 29th & 30th, where we'll also be taking bids in person at the Alumni Association booth on the Event Center midway. While we've posted the value for each item on the auction website (and on **page 2** as well), please feel free to bid higher than the posted value – remember, it's for a good cause!

We thank you for supporting our mission of connecting kids with horses, building our alumni network, and continuing to serve our communities.

# ALUMNI

# 20

## Alumni Week 2011

Photos courtesy of Kevin Miller. To see more photos from Alumni Week, visit Kevin Miller's website at: [www.digipic.us/equestrian/westernaires](http://www.digipic.us/equestrian/westernaires) and Glenn Akiyama's website at <http://akiyama.zenfolio.com/>



Alumni proving that they still have specialty skills.



(Left) Katherine Carter, a 2009 graduate, came all the way from Orlando, FL to participate in Alumni Week. She currently works for Disney.

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# AUCTION



## The 2011 WAA Fundraising Silent Auction October 15th—30th Online and In Person Culminating at Annual Show

Help the Westernaires Alumni Association to raise funds by bidding on auction items. With a cornucopia of dozens of items of varying value and description, we know there is something of interest for everyone who visits our online auction.

Amidst our tempting inventory, choose from items to enhance your home, gift certificates for services to refresh your spirit, lots of dining certificates to please your palate, and events that the whole family can enjoy!

With each bid, donation or referral, you will have the pleasure and satisfaction of knowing that you, too, have helped our fundraising efforts while also having the opportunity to pick up some great goods and services.

Our online auction site is up and running: **[www.biddingforgood.com/westernairesalumni](http://www.biddingforgood.com/westernairesalumni)**. The final auction bids will take place over the Annual Show weekend, and the auction will close on Sunday, October 30th at 4:00 Mountain.

Auction participants can partake either online, in person at Annual Show, or you may call us to place your bid by proxy. Don't worry if you don't live in Colorado or if you don't plan on making it out to Annual Show — this auction is designed so that everyone can participate, no matter where you reside.

Similar to EBay, the Bidding For Good auction website lets you enter the highest amount you are willing to pay for a particular lot. The system records this amount. Then, during the auction it bids for you, up to your maximum bid amount. The website analyzes your bid one increment at a time and bids for you only when necessary, so you may win the lot at a price lower than your maximum price. Check back on the website to see if you've been outbid.

More items will be added each day, so check the auction website frequently! Auction opens on October 15th at 8:00 AM Mountain time. **<http://www.biddingforgood.com/westernairesalumni>**

### Auction items include:

1. A Lafuma foldable chaise lounge chair (\$169 Value)
2. One Indoor skydiving first class ticket at SkyVenture Colorado (\$78 Value)
3. Six passes to LolliPop Park indoor children's amusement park (\$90 Value)
4. 10 alpine slide rides at Heritage Square (\$80 Value)
5. A family four pack of tickets to the Denver Zoo (2 adults, 2 child) (\$42 Value)
6. Four four-packs of tickets to Wits End Comedy Club (\$175 Value)
7. Four tickets to Mad Cap Theater (\$72 Value)
8. Two \$40 gift certificates to Woody's Pizza (\$80 Value)
9. A one-night stay with breakfast for two at the luxurious Table Mountain Inn (\$209 Value)
10. A basketball autographed by Denver Nuggets star Nene (\$150 Value)
11. Four VIP passes to the Royal Gorge Bridge (\$100 Value)
12. Two Tram and Cave tickets to Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park (\$44 Value)
13. A weekend night stay getaway for two at The Curtis Hotel (\$200 Value)
14. A \$50 gift certificate to Elway's Steakhouse (\$50 Value)
15. 10 admit two tickets to Comedy Works (\$480 Value)
16. Four tickets to the Bovine Metropolis Comedy Theater (\$64 Value)
17. Two tickets on the Durango & Silverton Train (\$175 Value)
18. One annual pass for two people to the Denver Botanical Gardens (\$55 Value)
19. Four passes to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (\$48 Value)
20. A saddle blanket from Murdoch's (\$150 Value)

Pass In Review®  
Westernaires Alumni Association  
A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization  
Founded in 2009

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# The 2011 Annual "Horsecapades" Show

Oct. 29th & 30th

Visit, mix, and mingle with other alumni at the Alumni Association booth on the midway level of the Event Center.

There are four Horsecapades shows this year. Show times are:

**Saturday, October 29, 10:00 AM**

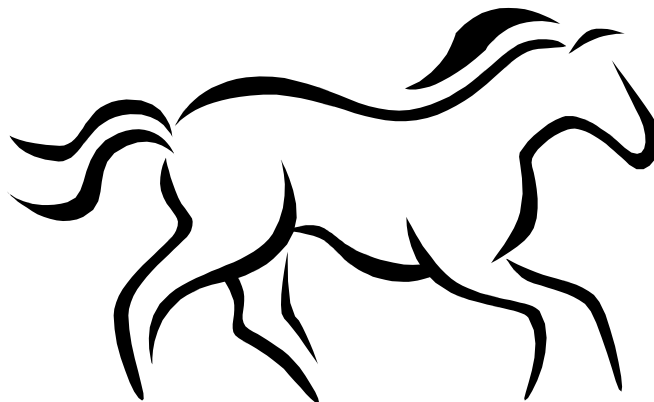
**Saturday, October 29, 2:00 PM**

**Saturday, October 29, 7:00 PM**

**Sunday, October 30, 2:00 PM**

Tickets are **\$8.00** each. To purchase tickets, you may:

- ✉ Mail us a check or money order. Please include the number of tickets you wish to purchase, the show(s) you wish to attend, your mailing address, and how you wish to take delivery of the tickets. We can either send the tickets to you, or you can pick them up at the Will Call window on the day of the show.
- ✉ Purchase tickets online from our website. We take Visa, MasterCard, and



Discover cards. Simply go to [www.westernairesalumni.org](http://www.westernairesalumni.org) to purchase online from our secure checkout functionality. We can either send the tickets to you, or you can pick them up at the Will Call window on the day of the show.

- ✉ Show up on the day of the show and purchase tickets at the ticket window. However, many shows sell out, so purchasing your tickets in advance is a wise decision!

**Don't plan to be in the Denver area on October 29th and 30th? Help to support the cause by purchasing donation tickets!** All donation tickets are 100% tax deductible.

The Westernaires Alumni Association will have a booth at Annual Show again this year, so please stop by and see us. We'll be performing additional fund raising, and we'll be celebrating alumni and old friends at our Homecoming show.

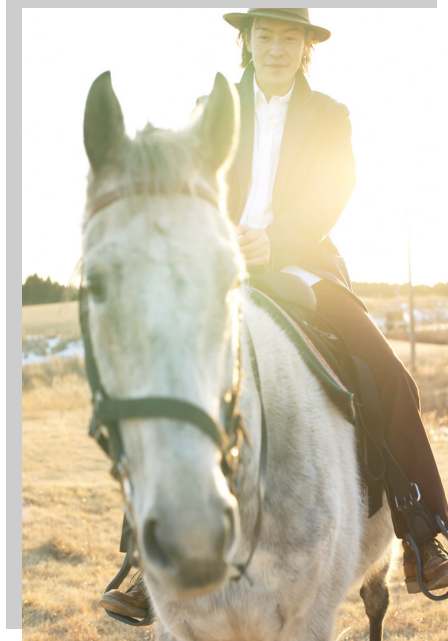
## Bringing a Horse to Annual Show?



Are you an alumnus who would like to bring your own horse to Annual Show? Upon your arrival on November 6th, please stop in at the Barn Office (it's on the northeast side of warm-up arena) and check in with Barn Superintendent Larry Britton. Please be aware that you must purchase a ticket to ride in the show.

Larry will provide you with a stall and a stall card. The stall fees have not yet been set, but will be approximately \$10.00 for the entire weekend. Please bring your own feed and any necessary supplements and tack that you may require.

Anyone who rents a stall will be expected to fully clean the stall upon departure on October 30th, after the show.





# Alumni Spotlight Bill Fisher



## Karen Kronauge had the pleasure of catching up with Bill Fisher, one of the original members of Westernaires.

Karen: *Thank you for taking the time to chat with us, Bill. First, let's start with how long you were a part of the Westernaires?*

Bill: I was a part of the group from 1946 to 1957, so eleven years in total. When I first got involved as a child, the club was called the Paul Gregg Pony Club. Paul Gregg was a deceased Denverite who was a famous artist for the Denver Post newspaper. Elmer Wyland was the "drillmaster" and founder of the group. **(Editor's Note: Elmer Wyland renamed the organization "Westernaires" in 1949).**

Karen: *And that was before there was a "Fort Westernaire".*

Bill: Right. We met out at a stables that had a riding arena. It was down south, as I remember, off of Wadsworth. Westernaires was really tiny back then, compared to what it is now.

Karen: *What do you remember most about Elmer Wyland?*

Bill: He was a very inspirational man. He and Marjorie didn't have any kids of their own, as I recall. He was a nice man, and very imaginative. I remember people touring his barn at his house – he was an innovator. **(Editor's Note: Elmer E. Wyland enjoyed tinkering and aimed to engineer a better-working barn).**

Karen: *What did you like most about your time spent in Westernaires, Bill?*

Bill: We rode in just about every parade in the Denver area. I remember riding in the Easter Parade that went down Wadsworth and ended at the Lakewood Country Club. We were all about the flags, and in particular, the American Flag, which I carried. At the time it was mostly about us boys riding around in a circle in some uniforms. (chuckles)

Karen: *Ha ha! I think circles are a mandatory maneuver for teams in Westernaires, Bill.*

Bill: (chuckles) Everything was so different back then. My family lived near 9th and Kipling — Lakewood was like the desert. I went to Lakewood High School, as did most of the kids who were in Westernaires at the time, but there just wasn't anything around us back then — that part of town was the boondocks.

Karen: *Do you keep in touch with any other Westernaires?*

Bill: I trade the occasional email with one or two people who were also in Westernaires.

Karen: *Tell us about your life after Westernaires. What did you go on to do?*

Bill: Went to Colorado College, participated in ROTC, and got a college degree in geology. I flew planes, and went into the Army's flight school. I ended up in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot where I got shot.

Karen: *WOW!*

Bill: I was in the military for 25 years and retired as a Colonel at 44. I then went on to work for a defense contractor selling airplanes. My wife and I had the opportunity to live in Egypt for 12 years — it was beautiful. We currently live in a very pretty place near Little Rock, Arkansas. We love it here.

Karen: *It sounds like the military has been a pervasive force in your family's life.*

Bill: Yes. Two of my three children (my daughter and my son) were Captains in the Navy as well.

Karen: *Did you notice any similarities between Westernaires and the military?*

Bill: Besides the uniforms? Very possibly. I feel as if most of the success in my life has been attributable to being involved in Westernaires as a kid. And to my mother. She was an amazing woman.

Karen: *Thank you very much, Bill, for taking the time to share your story with us. And thank you for your service to our country!*



## What is the Westernaires Alumni Association?

In an effort to reconnect, to celebrate our common heritage, and to support the organization that was so influential on our early lives, a group of Westernaires Alumni was asked to band together and commence the formation of an Alumni Association. Structured similar to other fraternal alumni groups, the Westernaires Alumni Association exists solely for the benefit of the Westernaires organization and aims to act as a "pass-through" entity for Westernaires fundraising.

The mission of the Westernaires Alumni Association is to promote involvement in and advancement of the Westernaires organization. Alumni Association programs support and strengthen partnerships among the Westernaires organization, Westernaires alumni, and future Westernaires.

Would you like to share your story with us? Is there an alumnus who you'd like us to interview? Contact us at:

[info@westernairesalumni.org](mailto:info@westernairesalumni.org)



(Above) Bill Fisher performing at the Estes Park show in 1955. Recognize the barns and those mountains?

(Left) Bill Fisher riding in pairs during a parade and show in 1952. Yes, those are blue jeans he's wearing!

(Right) Bill Fisher chatting up the crowd at a parade in 1958.





# Sponsor a Westernaire Horse

The Westernaires Alumni Association is proud to bring you a program aimed at collecting auxiliary resources for the Westernaire rental horses.

We understand that not everyone has the money, time, or wherewithal to own a horse anymore; that's why sponsoring a Westernaire Horse – any horse who may have touched your life in some way – is a popular alternative.

Sponsor ANY Westernaire horse, in memoriam or living, rental horse or owner horse, pony or draft. All money collected from the program goes directly to an encumbered fund for the Westernaire string, helping to ensure that the rental horses will always continue to have the tack, supplements, and state-of-the-art care that they need.

## Sponsor Me

<b>Color:</b>	Grulla brown
<b>Gender:</b>	Gelding
<b>Breed:</b>	Quarter horse
<b>Age:</b>	~12 years
<b>Height:</b>	15 hands
<b>Likes:</b>	Helping with Red Division

Hi. My name is Curtis, and I am a Westernaire horse. I'm a quarter horse who now lives at Fort Westernaire. Even when I'm amongst my many horse friends, you can find me easily in a lineup, because of my gorgeous grulla color. But I'm not just about my looks—I love running in Red Division teams. In fact, I can be a bit of a handful at times. I'm not well suited for younger riders yet, but I'm working on it.



Sponsor a Westernaire Horse

Would you like to sponsor me, or any of my other Westernaire horse friends?

Similar to other sponsorship programs, individuals can contribute on a one-time basis, or on a repeated, regular basis.

The Westernaire Alumni Association officially began the Sponsor a Horse program at the 60th Anniversary gala event in August 2009, and we're happy that the program has already been a great success.

Never fear if you see that your favorite Westernaire horse has already been sponsored by someone—horses can be sponsored by more than one person, and ANY horse can be sponsored.

## Historic Photos

Elmer E. Wyland, founder of Westernaires



(Above) Elmer E. and Marjorie Wyland, circa 1980.



(Top Right) Elmer standing in the barn office at the 1955 Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, Penrose Stadium, Colorado Springs, CO.



(Bottom Right) Elmer riding in the 1956 Easter Parade.

"What youngster has not dreamed, at some time or another, of a life in the saddle – riding in the habit and tradition of the West – out in the open spaces, free and clean, astride a fine horse or pony. And what are we doing to help make those dreams come true?"

"In most every community, civic groups, churches, and other organizations are busy with youth programs designed to occupy the idle hours of young folks, giving them something to do they really enjoy. There are junior baseball leagues and other athletic groups, craft clubs, Boy Scout troops, garden clubs, etc. But what about horse clubs for those youngsters who love horses and want to ride for pleasure and study horsemanship?"

"Generally, those are the ones left out of the plans – but not so in Lakewood, Colorado, a community nestled in the lea of the Rockies, where people are still Western and where the horse is a noble animal and a companion to many a youngster."

-E. E. Wyland

# CONGRATULATIONS, 2011 SENIORS!

## Red Team

Margaret Blaha  
Kelsey Brown  
Jacque Collins  
Taylor Cooper  
Taylor Crow  
Theresa Dixon  
Zoe Lanterman  
Sara Mackey  
Sarah Morgan  
Kirsten Peterson  
Carly Portenier  
Emilee Shearer  
Haleigh Shipley

## Cavalry

Alex Brooks  
John Distel  
Andrew Fenton  
Eric Garza  
Michael Holmlund  
Will Wagner

## Precisionettes

Claire Eades  
Courtney Haptonstall  
Meghin Kiernan  
Laura Monaghan  
Megan Morrel  
Jessica Reed  
Rylee Rollings  
Alina Stasik  
Ashley Taylor  
Caitlin Trueblood  
Tiffany Wilk  
Daisy Zebarth

## Crimson Rangers

Mia Dalton  
Damara Finger  
Savannah Maynard  
Shelby Montgomery  
Lauren Rullman

## Royal Rangers

Nicole Luchetta  
Rachel Nelson  
Victoria Olona  
Dakota Schatz

## Nighthorse Rangers

Kelby Deges  
Andrea Livo  
Shantel Munoz



## Help Us Find Alumni

**Do you know an alumnus who isn't getting this newsletter?**

If you keep in touch with your fellow alumni, and you think any of them might not be getting this newsletter, please let them know about us! Alumni can use our online contact information update form on our website - [www.westernairesalumni.org](http://www.westernairesalumni.org) - to quickly and easily update their contact information. Alternatively, you can also send us their address, and we'll make sure that they are added to our newsletter mailing list.

Sadly, there are literally hundreds of alumni for whom we have no contact information. Below is a *very abridged* list of just a few of those alumni. Can you help us to get in touch with them?

<i>Alumnus</i>	<i>Class of</i>	<i>Alumnus</i>	<i>Class of</i>
Patty Aemmer	1967	Suzy Coffey	1970
Ronya Anna	1994	Dory Dietrich	1994
Jeanette Baker	1953	Nancy Donaldson	1974
Nicole Blizzard	2002	Candy Easton	1972
Paul Carlson, Jr.	1987	Melissa Essex	1987
Melody Fike	1996	Laura Hutchens	1974
Jacqueline Fritz	1979	Kristy Ireland	1998
Sheila Gunderson	1962	Kris Jones	1987
Rachel Hansen	2006	Jennifer Heinicke	1975
Susan Hildebrand	1976	Lynn Paddock	1981
Nancy Sherbondy	1971	Toby Robinson	1965
Nicole Nicodým	1990	Sherlyn Irwin	1989

**We're on the Web**

[www.westernairesalumni.org](http://www.westernairesalumni.org)  
[info@westernairesalumni.org](mailto:info@westernairesalumni.org)

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# What's Happening at Fort Westernaire?

## White Olympics 2011

### Results of Judging

White Olympics is an opportunity for riders of the White Division (the middle, development division of Westernaires) to compete as a team against their peer teams. Congratulations to all who competed.

#### Trick Riders (trick riders compete individually)

1st Place	Ally Baumgart
2nd Place	Alex Nelms
3rd Place	Courtney Haptonstall

#### Riding Specialties

1st Place	White Dressage
2nd Place	White Horse Roman (tie)
	White Harness (tie)
3rd Place	White Liberty 1

#### Ground Specialties

1st Place	Belle Starr Whips
2nd Place	Ropes
3rd Place	Indian Dancers

#### Single A-Level Teams

1st Place	Trailblazers
2nd Place	Cowboys
3rd Place	Chaparrals

#### Double A-Level Teams

1st Place	White Star
2nd Place	Vaqueros
3rd Place	Gauchos

#### Triple A-Level Teams

1st Place	Glory Riders
2nd Place	Shadow Riders
3rd Place	Indian Braves

## Historic White Olympics Pictures



(Left) Teams line up in the Rodeo Arena paddock at the 1984 White Olympics.



(Center) The White Trick team is presented their 1st place plaque by Red Team seniors at the 1987 White Olympics. Top row L to R: Toni Die-drichs, Jennifer Svendsen (presenting), Misty-Lin Ellis (presenting), Karen Kronauge, Chad Evans. Bottom row: Tim Mundy, Kim Wajerski, Candi Fillmore, Ashley McGhee, Gretchen Fillmore.



(Right) Serpentine weaves its way through Grand Entry at the 1984 White Olympics. Those elaborately-clad riders in the foreground are the Bedouins team.

## "I Met My Mate at Fort Westernaire"

More often than not, the time and efforts that kids spend together in Westernaires lead to life-long friendships. However, a few of us actually met our future spouses while in Westernaires.

Are you married to someone you met in Westernaires and would like to share your story? Contact us!

(Right) The Fear family: 1986 graduate Kim (Hake) Fear and 1987 graduate Curt Fear, with their gorgeous (and precocious) daughters Konnie and Christy.





# Thanks to our 2010 Contributors!



Our sincere gratitude goes out to the following individuals who last year, through their generosity, helped us to meet our goals.

All donations made to the Westernaires Alumni Association are 100% tax deductible.

Copper Level \$1—\$99	Bronze Level \$100—\$999	Silver Level \$1,000—\$4,999	Gold Level \$5,000—\$19,999	Platinum Level \$20,000—\$49,000	Diamond Level \$50,000+
Sarah Butler	Andrea Adams	Karen Kronauge	Joe Bishop		
Travis Sirhal	Samantha Bartling				
Sheila Wajerski Spampinato	Curt & Kim Fear				
Brenda Ferrarro Bergh	Sherry Leggett				
Nikki Reed	Chelsea Willis				
Daniel Lindsey	Melissa Smith				



## Estate Tax Law Changes Charitable Giving Still Plays Vital Role in Estate Planning

# Make a Tax-Wise Gift to Westernaires Through a IRA Charitable Rollover

*Take the opportunity to act before December 31!*

Are you looking for the most tax-effective way to give to Westernaires? Your individual retirement account (IRA) may be the best choice this year. Take the opportunity to act before December 31<sup>st</sup>!

Congress has re-enacted legislation extending the charitable IRA rollover for 2011. If you are 70 and ½ years old or older and act by the end of 2011 you can make tax-free gifts of up to \$100,000 to qualified charitable organizations, like Westernaires and Westernaires Alumni Association, using funds transferred directly from your IRA.

### Your Benefits:

- The transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction. You will receive the benefit even if you do not itemize your tax deductions.
- The transfer may count against your unsatisfied required minimum distribution.
- You'll make an immediate impact on Westernaires!

### How does this work?

If you'd like to make a generous donation, speak to your professional financial advisor about making a gift from your IRA. The gift will help you meet your minimum withdrawal requirements and by making the transfer to Westernaires directly from your IRA, you will avoid paying income tax on the withdrawal.

### We Can Help

Don't let this tax-wise opportunity to give pass you by! If you have questions, need more information or would like to make a gift, please contact Karen Kronauge at 720.530.0603 or [info@westernairesalumni.org](mailto:info@westernairesalumni.org).