

# Bison Spirit Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 5

May 2005

Sunset High School  
Alumni Association  
Board of Directors

### Officers

#### Joe Whitney

President - Class of 67

#### Lynn Bergoon DeWitt

Vice President - Class of 50

#### Shirley Young Sutton

Secretary - Class of 50

#### Steve Levine

Treasurer - Class of 60

### Directors

Weldon Finney - Class of 50

Don Moore ----- Class of 50

Ed Cullum ----- Class of 54

Bill Smith ----- Class of 57

Dan Madden ---- Sunset Liaison

Layne Vincent -- Class of 83

**Michael Hinojosa**, is the new Superintendent of the Dallas Independent School District.

Dr. Hinojosa graduated from Sunset in 1975 and received his doctorate in education from the University of Texas at Austin and has spent twenty six years as an educator.



He has worked as a teacher and coach for the Dallas Independent School District, assistant Principal and office Administrator for the Grand Prairie ISD, Superintendent of Fabens ISD, executive Director of region nineteen Education Service Center and Superintendent of Hayes CISD. Before coming to Dallas he was superintendent of the Spring ISD.

Recognized by the Texas Association of Hispanic School Administrators as a distinguished educator. Named Texas Superintendent of the year, received the Golden Deeds Award from the Texas Association of Midsize Schools.

Married and has three sons.



## Yearly Century Club Contributors \$100.00 or more

The Association would like to welcome new members of the Century Club as of this date. Anyone who makes a contribution of \$100 or more becomes a member of this club. However, no gift is too small and all donations are greatly appreciated by those benefiting from your generosity.

Ed Cullum ..... class of 56  
Henry Dial ..... class of 42  
John Dodd ..... class of 58  
Lynn Bergoon DeWitt ..... class of 50

Weldon Finney .....class of 50  
Steve Levine .....class of 60  
Joe Whitney .....class of 67  
Joey Whitney .....class of 91



The first annual luncheon meeting of the Sunset Alumni is scheduled for June 11 2005, from 12:00 until 2:00 pm El Fenix Restaurant, 1601 McKinney Avenue downtown Dallas.

All are encouraged to come, have lunch, visit with class members and Alumni.

## Where the Buffalo roam



Sunset High School was established in 1925 and was the second high School in Oak Cliff.

There were only 1400 students registered in the initial year of operation.

The Bison was chosen as a mascot, since the students had to cross open prairie and countryside in order to come to the new School.

They compared themselves to the American Bison pioneering the Western Frontier of the barren plains.

# In Memoriam

They will not grow old ... as we who are left behind grow old ... age shall not weary them ... nor the years condemn .... and at the setting sun ... and in the morning ... **WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM.**

Lola Rollins Green	1952
Andybeth Vail	1937
Randall Dean Howard	1976
Zora Chunn Philbrick	1926
Betty Jo Peacock Hay	1948
Carol Gilby Hill	1951
James Edgar Geist	1962
Kirk A. Anderson	1947
Fed Calloway	1940
Dorothy Warrner Hinson	1942
Elizabeth Bartley Biggo	1930
James Benton May Jr.	1970
Landon Wade Morrison	1938



Gayle Scott	1964
David Sanders	1967
Barbara Ann Gochenour	1953
Thelma Lott	1930
Thomas Horton Stanford Sr.	1946
Wayne Lee Dunn	1969
Ralph K. Bloomer	1937
Clyde W. Howard	1937
Shirley Marie Beckman Nelson	1938
John Arthur Pope	1936
Leon Brandenburg	1927
David Pittenger	1946
Gordon Yeargan	1944

## Alumni Donations

The Sunset Alumni Association has donated a total of Eight Thousand one Hundred Thirteen Dollars since November 2003.



\$ 300.00	Science Dept.	\$ 300.00	Bus Transportation to Leadership Training
\$ 600.00	Peer Mediation	\$ 500.00	Peer Mediation
\$ 700.00	Career Connections	\$ 550.00	Accounting Class-Tax for Teens Workbooks
\$ 300.00	New York Field Studies	\$ 700.00	Science/Physics Dept.-Calculators
\$ 800.00	Bisonette Uniforms	\$ 700.00	Business Professionals of America-Contest
\$ 500.00	Key Club Convention	\$ 500.00	Planting of Crepe Myrtles on Median in front of School
\$ 750.00	New York Field Studies	\$ 113.00	Journalism Dept-Computer Equipment and supplies
\$ 800.00	Bisonette Uniforms		



# Thank You

**A** special thanks to all our members and contributors, who have made the donations to Sunset High School possible.

Without your support and contributions of time and money, we cannot exist. We will try to keep you updated of all future involvement at Sunset thru a Newsletter to be published twice annually, in the spring and fall and our WeBSite, [WWW.sunsetalumni.com](http://WWW.sunsetalumni.com).

If you have not joined the Sunset High School Alumni Association or paid this years dues, please refer to the application form on page 7

# Upcomming Events

## Alumni Luncheon

The Sunset Alumni will meet for lunch June 11th 12:00 pm at El Fenix restaurant on McKinney Ave. in Dallas. It's the first meeting of the Sunset Alumni in this area and all are invited.

Dr. Michael Hinojosa has been invited, but we have not been advised if he will be available to attend.

El Fenix Restaurant would like us to provide them with the number of people who will attend. If you plan to come, please call or send an EMail to one of the Alumni listed in the next column



Lynn DeWitt ..... 972-942-8086

dewittlynn@comcast.net

Ed Cullum ..... 972-881-9169

cullum@swbell.net

Weldon Finney..... 817-261-8729

weldonfinney@sbcglobal.net

## Reunions

Class of 1955 is planning their 50th  
October 21 thru 23 rd 2005.

Contact;  
James Rutledge  
214/520-3500

Class of 1950 is planning their 55th  
October 2005.

Contact;  
Duane Starkey  
214/499-2514

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

# Survivor put moniker on city road

What Dallas road is named for a survivor of the devastating 1900 Galveston hurricane?



He was 10 years old when the great storm struck, and the family

quickly relocated to Dallas, where he later served as an assistant district attorney, a U.S. attorney and a city attorney.

He helped found Methodist Hospital and what is now the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce.

The southwest Dallas road is named for Grady Niblo.

*Joe Simnacher*

## Class Websites

Sunset High School Alumni ..... [www.sunsetalumni.com](http://www.sunsetalumni.com)

Classes of 39 --46 ..... [www.home.comcast.net~bolive/sunset.html](http://www.home.comcast.net/~bolive/sunset.html)

Class of 50 ..... [www.bisons1950.org/index.html](http://www.bisons1950.org/index.html)

Classes of 51--52 ..... <http://groups.yahoo.com/sunsetbisonsclass51and52>

Classes of 57--58 ..... [www.theherd.net](http://www.theherd.net)

Class of 61 ..... [www.sunset61.com](http://www.sunset61.com)

Class of 63 ..... <http://www.sunsetbison63.com>

Class of 65 ..... [www.sunset65.org](http://www.sunset65.org)

Class of 84 ..... [www.sunset1984reunion.com](http://www.sunset1984reunion.com)

Class of 94 ..... <http://www.geocities.com/sunsethigh1994>

## Other Websites of interest



Sunset Football Team ..... <http://www.sunsetbison.com>

High School & College Alumni .. <http://www.classmates.com/user/index.tf>



## Echoes



**T**hanks for contacting me. This is the first I have heard of the Association. However, I have enjoyed the Sunset Hi newsletter for years. My Sister Mary Ruth Craps is also an Alumni.

My favorite teachers were the debate coach, Ms. Baker and my home room teacher Miss Beattie.

I graduated from North Texas state with a degree in economics and South American history, taught economics at NT and married my NT debate partner who served in the USMC in WW 11, Korea and Vietnam, became head of the Judge Advocate Division of the MC and served on the U.S Court of Military Appeals before he retired in 1971 as Brig. General. I served 25 years as a volunteer for the Navy Relief Society Governing Committee in Washington D.C.

I have just retired as President of the Orange Co. Calif. Women's Bowling Assn. and devoting my volunteer time to the Methodist Church and the South Orange County Interfaith Council.

### *Lucile*

**W**hat a pleasant surprise to learn that I was working on a project here in Austin with another Sunset graduate, (Richard Robertson) and he even lives on the same street!

Since graduation in 1936, I have never heard a word about Sunset or any of my fellow Graduates.

**Margaret Long Wallace**  
*Class of 1936*

**W**ish I could come see the crepe myrtles and attend other functions but my health keeps me pretty much at home, Austin and San Antonio.

Does anyone have information about Patsy Ridgeway or Anna Jean Prince?

**Pat Manford**  
*Class of 1946*

**E**nclosed are the dues for my Mother Catherine Malcomson Carter, class of 1940. She has moved to assisted living at the Summit at Lakeway. She would very much like to hear from any class mates and continue receiving the Newsletter.

Her Address is :  
Catherine Carter  
1915 Lohmanns Crossing Rd.  
Lakeway, Tx. 78734

*Catherine's Daughter*  
*Megan Murphy*

**T**he purple ink is nice. I enjoyed the article's on Judge Fite and Dr. Warren Shoecraft.

Keep up the great work and enjoy the Bison spirit.

**Troy Johnson**  
*Class of 1969*

**G**ood idea!

Thanks for including me. I am a retired business teacher and would like to hear from Sunset friends.

**Bobbie Morrel Robinson**  
*Class of 1945*

**I** came to Sunset mid-term of my senior year from California but I attended Winnetka Elementary when Mr. Bush was there before he went to Sunset.

**Katheryn Lane Bachelor**  
*Class of 1942*

**D**ear Members

I have appreciated the dedicated work of Katherine Gilmore Fox and others for helping me stay in touch with my class of '43 through the past years. I also appreciate the Alumni Board of Directors for continuing the good work by forming an Alumni Association. I am just now responding, because I have cared for my husband for the past twelve years with Alzheimer's and now Parkinson's Disease. At present, he is enrolled in Day Care and loves it, as I do. I now have a small bit of time for myself.

Last year was difficult for my family. Our son, died of a rare disease, leaving our two grandsons. I am pleased to say we have all done well because of our faith, good friends and many blessings bestowed on us.

I enjoy reading the Sunset Newsletter when it arrives. I enjoy reading names out of the past, which helps me stay in step with old records we love to play on the turntable we recently purchased. What fun!

Best wishes to all for 2005. Let us pray for World peace. Thanks and please keep up the good work

**Mildred King Bailey**  
*Class of 1943*

# A Little Texas Triva



Beaumont to El Paso: 742 miles  
 Beaumont to Chicago 770 miles

Worlds first rodeo was in Pecos ..... July 4, 1883

The Flagship Hotel in Galveston is the only hotel in North America built over water.

The Heisman Trophy was named after John William Heisman who was the first full time coach for Rice University in Houston

Brazora County has more species of birds than any other area in North America.

Aransas Wildlife Refuge is the winter home of North America's only remaining flock of whooping cranes.

Jalepeno jelly originated in Lake Jackson in 1978

The worst natural disaster in U.S history was in 1900 caused by a hurricane in which over 8000 lives were lost on Galveston Island

The first word spoken from the moon, July 20, 1969 was "Houston"

El Paso is closer to California than Dallas.

Laredo is the World's largest inland port.

Tyler Municipal Rose Garden is the largest rose garden in the world's largest rose garden; consisting of over 38,000 bushes with 500 varieties on 22 acres.

The State shell is Lightning Whelk

The King Ranch is larger than Rhoads Island

Tropical Storm Claudette brought a U.S. rainfall record of 43 inches in 24 hours in and around Alvin in July 1979

Texas is the only State to enter the U.S by TREATY, instead of by annexation. (This allows the Texas flag to fly at the same level as the U.S. flag.)

A Live Oak tree near Fulton is estimated to be 1500 years old.

Caddo Lake is the only natural lake in the state.

Dr Pepper was invented in Waco in 1885. There is no period after Dr in Dr Pepper.

Texas has had six capital cities:

1. Washington-on-the-Brazos
2. Harrisburg
3. Galveston
4. Valesco
5. West Columbia
6. Austin

The Capitol Dome in Austin is the only dome in the U.S which is taller than the Capitol Building in Washington D.C. (By 7 feet)

The name "Texas" comes from the Hasini Indian word "Tejas" meaning friends. Tejas is not Mexican for Texas.

The first domed stadium in th U.S was the Astrodome in Houston.

The State animal is the Armadillo \*

\* An interesting bit of trivia about the Armadillo is they always have four babies! They have one egg which splits into four and they either have four males or four females.

Well... I thought it was interesting anyway.

*Smile, life's too short to take serious !!*

# "Tax Bite Too Big?"

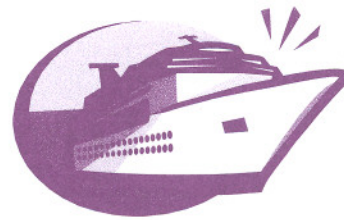
The Alumni Association has been notified by the IRS to expect notification about Tax Exempt status sometime in June or July of this year.

Hopefully, all your donations will then be TAX EXEMPT and may be deducted from your Federal Income Tax.

## Sunset Class of 1950

Regular meeting 12 noon, El Fenix Restauant;  
1601 McKinney downtown Dallas.

Next Meeting July 9, 2005 Same time and place.



## How about a Cruise ?

### Sunset Bison Cruise

**October 30, to November 6, 2005.**

Cabins are still available for Royal Caribbean Lines ' Rhapsody Of the Seas.' Departure from Galveston for seven nights.

Ports of call are:

**Montego Bay, Jamaica, George Town, Grand Cayman and Cozumel, Mexico.**

Fifty people are currently booked.

**If interested, Call:**

**Lewis Menshew at 972-298-5455 or Email at:**

**[yminshet@flash.net](mailto:yminshet@flash.net)**

**or**

**Cecile Ramsey Payne at: 972-475-3196 or Email at:**

**[crp33tp@aol.com](mailto:crp33tp@aol.com)**

----- Be sure to enter **CRUISE** on the subject line of your Email -----

## Remember our Service men and Veterans

It's the **VETERAN**, not the preacher, who has given us freedom of religion.

It's the **VETERAN**, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.

It's the **VETERAN**, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.

It's the **VETERAN**, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to assemble.

It's the **VETERAN**, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to fair trial.

It's the **VETERAN**, not the politician, who has given us the right to vote.

## Sundial Project

### Looking for a few Volunteers:

To preserve part of the history and tradition of Sunset, the Alumni Association would like to transfer all Sundials to CD's beginning in 1925 thru the current years.

The CD's would then be made available for sale and the proceeds donated to Sunset High School for projects.



If you have a little spare time, a computer with CD read-write drive, a scanner and willing to copy your Sundial to CD, we would like to talk with you about the project.

**Contact Weldon Finney at:**

**[weldonfinney@sbcglobal.net](mailto:weldonfinney@sbcglobal.net)**

# Sunset gets new look



New construction of approximately nine million dollar renovation project is underway. Sunset will receive a twenty classroom expansion with renovation to the existing building.

New construction will include, in addition to the classrooms, four new art labs, a computer lab, new band facilities, a dance studio and new space for the drama program.

The old band space will be converted to serve the choir program. A new roof is included in the budget (no more leaks). A new Plaza Pavilion will be constructed to provide shelter for students when outside.

Most of the teachers have moved out of the main building into portable buildings until construction is completed.

The new wing is moving along at a fast pace with partitions for hallways, classrooms, and restrooms clearly visible. The plumbing and electrical have been roughed in and the roof should be finished within a few days.

Plans are in place for all portable buildings to be moved at the end of this school year and the teachers to move back into their classrooms in the main building at the beginning of the next school year.

The Plaza is up and being used. Brick columns, floor pavers, engraved bricks and landscape is yet to completed.

Parking is temporary at the church across the street until the beginning of the next school year.

Hopefully, Sunset will have a new look soon with better and more efficient classrooms and facilities.

Thanks to the dedication of the Faculty and Alumni of Sunset, the School has a bright future to continue it's contribution to Dallas and Oak Cliff.

## Membership Application

**Be sure you are a current member as your membership is the support of the Association**

**Annual Membership Contribution** (Check one)

(Fiscal year begins January 1st each year)

_____ Single Membership	\$ 15.00	New Membership _____	Renewal Membership _____
_____ Couple Membership	\$ 25.00 **		
_____ Century Membership	\$100.00		

\*\* If both members of the household are Sunset graduates, please complete separate applications.

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not wish to contribute, please add my name to the Sunset Alumni database for your records.

**Membership Renewal only; CHECK ONE:** Member information ..... SAME  or CHANGED

Member Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden/Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SHS Grad? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If yes, yr. \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Checks Payable to : Sunset Alumni Association (Please do not send cash)**

**Mail to: Sunset High School Alumni Association**

**P.O. Box 225050 Dallas, Texas 75222**

# Editorial Policy



It is the goal of your Alumni Association to make this an interesting and informative newsletter that will present you with items about Sunset, both past and present. We hope you will find items of historical interest, things that will remind you of your days at Sunset and information about Sunset in the new millennium and how you are helping to make it better.

We will feature a section of letters from the Association members subject to space limitations.

Letters may be edited and only excerpts may be used to tell us about your life after Sunset, memories of Sunset, Oak Cliff, current events at Sunset, etc. Short articles of interest are solicited.

We will not publish phone numbers, addresses, or e-mail addresses without permission.

We consider all information proprietary and will not release it to any outside source. Your continued support is needed by the Alumni Association, Students and faculty of Sunset.

## Annual Membership

To continue your help and support, please contribute for 2005

Single Membership	\$ 15.00
Couple Membership	\$ 25.00
Century Club	\$100.00



Checks made to the Alumni Association but specified for any project will not be counted as membership.

Make Checks payable to:

Sunset Alumni Association  
P.O. box 225050 Dallas, Texas 75222

If "05" is not on your mailing label you need to send your contribution for the current year.



Sunset High School Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 225050  
Dallas, Texas 75222

Were on the Web!!  
www.sunsetalumni.com

To:



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