



June 2006 Issue

SUNSET HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Address Change?

To continue receiving your newsletter and notices from the Alumni Association, please let us know of any address or e-mail address changes.



Sunset High School Alumni Association

Bison Spirit Newsletter

The Times, They Are a'Changin'

Sunset High School has had a rich and varied history. Over the past 80 years, countless thousands of young men and women have walked its hallways, complained about its lunchroom food, played on its athletic fields, and studied and learned in its classrooms.

In its earliest days, Sunset offered extracurricular activities in Public Speaking, Health Club, Girl Reserves, and One-Act Play. The A-Z Club stated as its motto "The purpose of this organization is to have a good time." The next year, not only were there six R.O.T.C. companies - there was an R.O.T.C. band! By the time the 1927 Sundial was published, the school boasted trophies for Dallas Morning News Economic Essay contest, Spanish Poetry Contest, Camp Fire Girls Award, State Press Association Award to the Stampede, Denton Track & Field Meet award, and two trophies for rifle marksmanship, as well as several awards in Debate and Extemporaneous Speaking. The 48-member graduating class of January 1926 could scarcely have imagined today's Small Learning Communities, grandparent training and mentoring programs, Marketing Program, and so on. But programs and activities such as athletics, academic competitions, mock trial, journalism, band, and choir have been present since the school's inception.

The 291-member Class of 2006 was awarded \$1,944,450 in scholarships. Year-end academic and extracurricular tallies are not available in time for this newsletter, but in the past couple of years, the College Board named six AP scholars from Sunset; its students placed third in district-wide Academic Decathlon competition. Last year's boys varsity soccer team was undefeated in district play, and the District Champions made it two rounds deep in State playoffs. Sunset has boasted the district's Cross Country Champion, and the tennis star/district champion who played in the national Oahu, Hawaii tennis tournament. Sunset students were represented in a U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl regional competition, and won second place. We are confident that Sunset students will continue to display these types of positive accomplishments.

The times, they are always a'changin.'
The world outside the school's walls may change, what doesn't change is the fierce pride and loyalty felt by Sunset's students to their alma mater. Once you become a Sunset Bison, that heritage belongs to you. It is a fine indeed!

But no matter how the



heritage



Alumni Donations



As of May 2006, the Sunset Alumni Association has made the following grants to Sunset clubs, organizations, and projects :

\$ 1,812.90	Advanced Accounting	\$ 750.00	Ladies Athletic Dept	\$ 1,750.00	Science Dept.
\$ 500.00	Art Department	\$ 300.00	Leadership Training	\$ 1,536.92	Stampede
\$ 2,400.00	Bisonettes	\$ 500.00	Median Crepe Myrtles	\$ 500.00	Tennis Team
\$ 750.00	Business Dept.	\$ 750.00	National Honor Society	\$ 200.00	Theater Dept.
\$ 255.00	Cheerleader Banners	\$2,050.00	New York Field Trip	\$ 250.00	Trophy Restoration
\$ 500.00	Student Council	\$ 700.00	Peer Mediation	\$ 350.00	U.I.L.
\$ 1,000.00	Key Club	\$ 300.00	PTSA (plaza brick program)		



Each Fall, we solicit grant requests from each teacher and organization sponsor. Grants are made based upon the requests submitted and the amount of money available to contribute. Donations received from Alumni go towards our actual expenses (office supplies, bank accounts, etc., with the bulk of those expenses being for printing and postage), and grant awards are made from the excess over those actual expenses.

As shown above, over the past three years we have been able to contribute more than \$17,000 to school activities, **due solely to the generosity of our Alumni.**

We welcome your contribution! Please know that if you donate above the membership amounts shown on page 8, that excess will go into the general fund for grant awards. We cannot accept contributions earmarked for specific projects. Donors of at least \$100 per year are recognized as Century Club members.

The Sunset High School Alumni Association has been designated by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) organization, which means that your contributions are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Thank you so much!

If you graduated from or attended Sunset High School, we consider that you are a member of this Alumni Association. We do not compete with any class alumni groups; we support their efforts to maintain communication within their classes, and gladly share information about class groups. **We exist to support Sunset in areas that might not otherwise be funded.** We also provide a means by which classes and individuals can join with others to make their financial support more effective. **To learn more about the Sunset High School Alumni Association, see our website at www.sunsetalumni.com.** If you are receiving our twice-yearly newsletter, we hope that you will become a contributing member of the alumni association by using the application form on page 8. If you don't want to cut up your newsletter, you can also download a form from the alumni website.

We welcome new Board members **Edwin Mole** (1966), **Peggy van Wunnik** (1969), **Doris Murphy** (1970), and **Laura Dorenbecker** (1985). Board members serve as volunteers.



Ribbon Cutting at Sunset

In January, Sunset hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new 49,000 sq. foot addition, which added 20 core classrooms, four art classrooms, offices, band hall, practice rooms, storage rooms, a dance studio, and a drama classroom. The new wing is part of a \$1.37 million bond program approved by Dallas voters in 2002.

The ceremony was attended by DISD Superintendent (and Sunset alum) Michael Hincjosa. State Representative Roberto Alonzo presented the school with a proclamation and a Texas flag. Quite a few alumni were present for the ceremony and received a tour of the new building afterward.



Alumni Events Now and to Come

Reunion News

The **Classes of '51 and '52** scheduled a reunion for May 6 in Arlington, with guest speaker RoseMary Rumbley, a fount of knowledge about Oak Cliff history. Ivan Greenhaw, the chairman for the classes, attended and gave the welcoming speech. The classes have a cruise planned to Alaska in September. For those who haven't heard, Ivan passed away on May 20 and his funeral was on May 23 in Mabank.

The **Class of 1953** is beginning plans for its 55th reunion in 2008.

The **Class of 1956** will hold its 50th reunion October 20-22. More info can be found at www.sunsetspirit.com.

The **Class of 1960** is making tentative plans for its 46th reunion this fall. Contact Hazael Taylor at haztay@swbell.net, or 214-941-1490, for information.

At their Oct. 2005 reunion, the **Class of 1969** had so much fun that they're now planning casual get-togethers annually, and will have larger reunions in the milestone years. Their 37th reunion is planned for October 14.

A combined **1975/1976** 30-year reunion will be held on July 8 at Eddie Deen's Ranch in Dallas. A golf tourney will be held at Stevens Park on the same day. For more info, see www.greatreunions.com.

The Sunset Foundation is making plans for the **Sunset Lettermen and Friends Golf Tournament** on October 21 at Buffalo Creek Club in Rockwall. Complete details will be posted at the Foundation's new website: www.sunsetfoundation.org.



Change of Address?

Don't miss an issue of the
Newsletter!

Please let us know if you move.

Class Get-Togethers

Classes of 1935 and 1936 meet at 11:00 a.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month at Luby's Cafeteria, Hampton Rd. and Fort Worth Ave.

Contact:

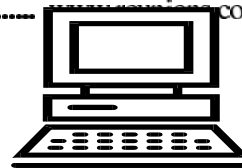
Cornelia Chancellor Spencer 214-339-9671
(all class years welcome!)

Classes of 1938 through 1946 hold a joint meeting the 3rd Saturday of each month at Texas Land & Cattle Co., 3130 Lemmon @ Cole.

The **Last Saturday Group** (formerly the '42 Girls) meets for lunch on the last Saturday of the month at Celebration Restaurant, 4503 W. Lovers Lane.

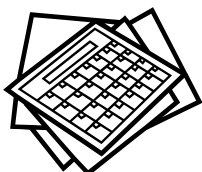
Class Websites

Sunset High School Alumni	www.sunsetalumniassociation.homestead.com
Classes of 39-46	http://home.comcast.net/~bolive/sunset.html
Class of 50	www.bisons1950.org/index.html
Class of 56	www.sunsetspirit1956.com
Classes of 57--58	www.theherd.net
Class of 61	www.sunset61bison.com
Class of 65	www.sunset65.org
Class of 67	www.sunsethighschool1967class.org
Class of 69	www.sunsetclassof69.com
Class of 70	www.shs70.net
Class of 89	(link through alumni assn.)
Class of 94	www.geocities.com/sunsethigh1994
Sunset Reunions	www.sunsetreunions.com



Other Websites of Interest

Sunset Bison Band	www.membersaol.com/thesunsetband
Sunset Foundation	www.sunsetfoundation.org
High School & College Alumni	www.classmates.com
Old Oak Cliff	www.winnetkaheights.com
Old Oak Cliff	www.oakcliff.com





Alumni Echoes . . .



From **Cornelia Chancellor Spencer, Class of 1935:**

As soon as your newsletter arrived, I dropped everything and read it. I enjoyed it very much, and appreciate all the time and effort that go into it. My annual dues are enclosed.

From **Reba Shelton Walker, Class of 1940:**

Enclosed please find my check...please use it in any manner the association sees fit to maintain the teaching-learning environment supportive of good scholarship. Special congratulations to those AP students and to their teacher.

From **James P. Bolton, Class of 1946:**

Enclosed is renewal...would you please let me know if anything is planned for the 60th anniversary of the Class of 1946.

From **Marian Smith Odell, Class of 1947:**

Enclosed are my '06 dues. Yeah Bisons!

Sincere thanks to Vicki Robison, daughter of **Constance Faye Meek ('58)**, who made possible the donation of her mother's 1957 Sundial to the archives of Sunset.

. . . and Student Voices

Sunset Alumni Association,

Thanks for helping us get to our annual Key Club Convention again...This year has been great, thanks for everything...We greatly appreciate it!...Thank you for giving us this opportunity...

- Key Club members

Dear Sunset Alumni Association,

Thank you for funding our R.O.P.E.S. course training this year. We learned about teamwork and leadership, and encountered thrilling (but frightening) personal challenges along the way. We have enclosed some photos taken during our training session...We believe this leadership training will help us develop as school and community leaders. We greatly appreciate your help in making it possible.

- Sunset High School Leadership Class

SUNSET STUDENT TRAVELERS - Eight Sunset choir members and one former student, along with their chaperones, visited several cities in Germany last summer, staying at youth hostels and spending some time in a castle. The students were caught by surprise by all the walking and hiking that the trip required, and also learned that the German language doesn't sound at all like English!

The group visited Mozart's birthplace, and also went to Dachau, notorious World War II concentration camp. Student Melissa Mares was particularly moved by the monument at the camp's entrance, with its dedication to all those who died in the camp.

The trip was underwritten by FedEx-Kinko's generous donation of \$6,000. The students presented a dinner-theater performance of "Oliver" with three other schools, and also held several fund-raisers to raise the remainder of the money required for the trip.

Sunset's Wilderness Club members made a trip out west, visiting Yellowstone, Glacier, Bryce Canyon and Canyonlands National Parks, Grand Canyon, Lake Mead, and various other destinations. The group, with science teacher-sponsor Cynthia Hall, made the trip for the purpose of seeing ecosystems, geology, and animals, and to have fun investigating science.

The journey took the students and sponsors more than 7,000 miles. Throughout the year, the Wilderness Club studies science in locations outside the classroom.



What's goin' on with your class?



The Alumni Association has compiled a partial list of class representatives to keep you informed of events of those classes. **Listed below are some of those representatives:**

CLASS	CONTACT PERSON	EMAIL	PHONE
1938-1942	Roy Kinslow ('42)	rkinslow@flash.net	(972) 661-1941
1943-1946	Bettye Brewer Olive	bolive@comcast.net	(972) 438-1983
1950	Denese Arnold Hinde	deneseh@comcast.net	
1951-1952	Sandra Young Julien	sj34ok@aol.com	(972) 709-7832
1953	Yvonne James Fritz	YJFritz@aol.com	(972) 235-1718
1955	James Rutledge	jamesmaryrut@yahoo.com	(214) 520-3500
1956	Ron Harris	Ronald.l.harris@comcast.net	(972) 224-8762
1957	Nancy Pierce Barber	hotdot57@hotmail.com	(214) 333-4230
1958	Edward Cullum	ed.cullum@comcast.net	(972) 881-9169
1961	Raylene Wright	rae13gad@hotmail.com	
1962	Judy (Terry) Hanson	hansonjats@sbcglobal.net	(817) 516-9356
1962	Melinda (Leath) Kocian	kocian@iqcisp.com	(972) 814-1124
1964	Penny Peters Wilson	misspenny03@aol.com	(972) 437-3568
1965	Rita Harden	rita.harden@denbury.com	
1966	Jack Miller	ejack.mgroupinc@att.net	(972) 867-1235
1967	Jim Cox	info@SunsetHighSchool1967class.org	
1968	Anna Lyle Barclay	annabarclay@hotmail.com	
1969	Harry Harper	drharper@grandecom.net	(972) 384-1450
1969	Claudine Crater Witcher	claudinewitcher@netzero.com	(903) 664-2714
1970	Doris Murphy	bisons@shs70.net	
1971	Bill Vansyckle	billvansyckle@hotmail.com	(972) 470-3595
1972	Steve Holleman	6xchamps@cox.com	
1974	Rita Ray Clemons		(972) 222-3688
1976	Greg Powell	gregpowell@aircanopy.net	
1984	Linda Renteria Ali	ali@buz.net	(972) 248-1622
1985	Laura Schuller Dorenbecker	ldorenbecker@crai.com	(214) 599-8345
1994	Daisy Gonzales	sunset94@sbcglobal.net	(214) 315-7009
1997	Sandra Guerrero/Priscilla Navarro	shsbison1997@aol.com	

If the contact person for your class is not listed, please send us their information and we will add them.

Bruce Nance.....bruceance@sbcglobal.net

Peggy Tomlinson van Wunnik.....soprano1225@comcast.net

Looking for Sundials

Several Sundials are missing from the archives of Sunset High School. The Alumni Association would like to find and replace the missing volumes for the years of **1951, 1958, 1979 and 1997**. If you have a Sundial to spare, or know anyone who would like to donate their yearbook to the school, contact:

Weldon Finney (817) 261-8729, weldonfinney@sbcglobal.net or Lynn DeWitt (214) 942-8086, dewittlynn@comcast.net

Alumni in the News

J. R. Fain, Class of '43, was the subject of a lengthy article in the Lubbock Avalanche Journal in December, recounting his 43-year career as a country doctor in Littlefield.

Mike Schroeder, Class of '70, was profiled in the Oak Cliff Tribune recently for his portrait work. Mike's work includes landscapes and still lifes, as well as portraits of people and animals.

Robyn Graff Koskella, Class of '69, was featured in a Dallas Morning News story about her eclectic east Dallas home, which she describes as "contemporary with a touch of bohemian chic."

Lots of exciting things have happened in Oak Cliff the past few years, with more on the horizon. The creation several years ago of the Fort Worth Avenue Development Group resulted in many positive changes along Fort Worth Avenue. The Bronco Bowl was replaced by a Home Depot. The former Travelodge at the intersection of Ft. Worth Avenue and Sylvan has been transformed into the Hotel Belmont, with rooms restored to 1940's glamour and the addition of a pool. Adjacent to the west, ground has been broken on the Villas at Dilbeck townhomes. Interstate 30 has been widened and the Edgefield Avenue bridge reconstructed. Once an exit was constructed for I-30 at Cockrell Hill Road, development quickly followed, with construction of a Lowe's Home Improvement Center, a Chili's Restaurant, Wal-Mart, and numerous other retail sites in what is now known as Pinnacle Park. There's even a Starbucks!

The Bishop Arts District at the confluence of Bishop, Davis, and Seventh Streets is a lively mix of retail, dining and artistic outlets, and offers lots of activities for all ages. Several of the old multi-plex apartment buildings in the area have been renovated and are proving extremely popular housing. The old fire station at Davis and Bishop has also been renovated as office space.

A very active Friends of Oak Cliff Parks has spent countless hours renovating the Memorial Garden in Kiest Park, planting flowers and planting the first 15 of a planned 34 magnolia trees which will ring the garden when the project is completed. The park's walking/jogging trail is well used year-round. And speaking of Kiest Park - if you haven't been there in a few years, you might be surprised to discover that there's a tournament-quality softball facility there now. Do you remember the old Hampton Road drive-in movie theater that was across Hampton from the park? Now that site is occupied by Renaissance Hospital and an apartment community for senior citizens. Adjacent to that, the new Hampton Illinois library is under construction, as is a new elementary school to handle Oak Cliff's booming elementary-age population.

The dilapidated Westcliff Mall was demolished and replaced by a shopping center anchored by an Albertson's grocery store, Washington Mutual bank building, Blockbuster, and other retail outlets.

After many years with new houses seldom seen in Oak Cliff, now there's housing under construction everywhere you look. The Trinity Townhomes under construction will offer a great view of the downtown skyline, and will sell from \$300-360,000. Another development near Stevens Park Golf Course offers starkly modern single-family homes at prices approaching a half-million dollars. Across from Lake Cliff Park, The Lake Cliff Tower, which has

been vacant for some years, is being renovated as condominiums.

Ground has been broken on the new 264-acre University of North Texas Dallas Campus in Oak Cliff, which will be the only public university inside the Dallas city limits, and which is expected to eventually enroll 25,000-30,000 students annually. Dallas Baptist University has added buildings and increased enrollment. Mountain View Community College has expanded its buildings and programs.

Methodist Hospital has done extensive renovations and additions to its site on Colorado, and Methodist Charlton to the south is expanding as well. Dallas Executive Airport (formerly Red Bird Airport) has received \$11 million in refurbishments including a new control tower, terminal, conference center, restaurant, and improved runway. An air show is in the planning stages for 2007.

The Texas Theater Foundation continues to work actively towards funding the renovation of that historic site as a performance venue.

The exclusive Dallas National Golf Club, designed by Tom Fazio, is located near Mountain View College.

Oak Cliff offers numerous churches, with several new ones constructed over the past few years, and others growing by leaps and bounds. Our churches are outstanding in service and outreach to the community. The acclaimed North Texas Food Bank is located in Oak Cliff.

Our growth, economic development, community service, and community spirit are exciting to witness. If you haven't been to Oak Cliff in a while, it's high time you came for a visit!



Oak Cliff institution **Norma's Cafe** on Davis St. was in the news recently. In celebration of its 50th anniversary, the prices on certain menu items were rolled back to 1956 prices - meaning that a chicken fried steak cost all of 95 cents! Folks lined up all day for that good home-style cooking.

Norma's was founded by Sunset grad **Norma Smith Manis, Class of 1950**. She sold it some years ago, but her daughters are following in her tradition with Mama's Daughters Diners in several locations.



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.

The names on this list are of those alumni whose deaths either occurred since the last newsletter, or which occurred previously and were brought to our attention since the last newsletter:

William Robert Ransone	1926	Gretta Stuart	1942	Ivan Greenhaw	1951
Andrew Francis Reitz	1931	Paul Brooks Adair	1943	Barbara Thompson Fisher	
Effie Lorraine Harris Nelson	1933	Jerry Nelson Arrington	1943	1953	
Modyne Sheppard Baity Boatright	1935	Larry E. Haby	1943	Joy Fleetwood Lunday	1956
Alice Johns Brown	1935	James Buchanan Harris (est.)	1943	Betty Jane Perkinson Weiss	1956
R. Earl Price	1935	Johnnie Miller Reed, Jr.	1943	James Duncan Caldwell	1957
Roy D. Sikes, Jr.		Jimmie Jo Arnspiger Jester (est.)	1947	Sharon Ann Bunn (est.)	
1936		Bettie Jane Tennison Franklin	1947	1959	
Mildred Boyd Davis (est.)	1937	Donald King	1949	Jerry Eugene Moffett	1960
Claudia Jocyle Harris Smith	1939	Jerry T. Nitsche	1949	Heather Ross Dundas	1964
Pauline Carroll Phillips	1939	Lanell Baskin Christopher		Darlene Lancione Stanley	
Floyd Edwin Cook	1940	1950		1967	
Alton Jackson	1940	Patsy Joann Harrison Golden	1950	Stephen Orlan Smith	1968
Margaret Gurley Seay (est.)	1940	Joy Elane Day Green	1950	Janey Haynes Gesino	1970
Harold Lee Morrill (est.)	1942	Thomas Rivers Lovelace II	1950	Lance Ray Dimsdale	1972
Sherley Gardener Boone Park	1942	John R. (Bobby) Nolen	1950	Fred Mignone	1972

January saw the passing of Theda Louise Irwin, who taught at Sunset from 1965-1985.

Membership Application

(Please Print)

Be sure your membership is current, as your membership is the support of the Association!

Annual Membership Contribution (Check one) (Membership year is January to December)

- _____ 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 cannot contribute at this time, but please add my name to the Sunset Alumni database for your records.

Membership Renewal only: (Check one) Member information _____ SAME CHANGED

Member Name: First: _____ Maiden/Middle: _____ Last: _____

Year of Graduation: _____ Spouse Name: _____ Spouse SHS Grad? _____ If yes, yr _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

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, recent events, things that will remind you of your days at Sunset, as well as information about Sunset today, and how you and other Alumni are helping to make it better.

When possible, we will feature letters from the Association members. Tell us about your life after Sunset, your memories of Sunset, Oak Cliff, current events at Sunset, etc. Short articles of interest to alumni are solicited. Letters may be edited to meet space limitations and excerpts may be used.

Your privacy is important to us. We will not publish phone numbers, addresses, or email addresses without permission.

We consider all membership information proprietary, and will not release it to any outside source.

Your continued support is needed and appreciated by the Alumni Association, students and faculty of Sunset.

Annual Membership

To continue your help and support, please contribute for 2006. Awards made are dependent upon the grant proposals submitted to the Alumni Assn. Board. We cannot accept contributions designated for particular projects or purposes, but welcome contributions above the membership levels shown.

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



Make Checks payable to:

Sunset Alumni Association

P. O. Box 225050 Dallas, Texas 75222

If "06" is not on your mailing label, please consider sending your contribution for the current year!



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

We're on the Web!!
www.sunsetalumni.com

To:



Return Service Requested

Please check your mailing label. If "06" is not on the label, we have not received your contribution for this year.