



NEWSLETTER

Sunset High School Alumni Association

Winter 2012

Officers

Jerry Boyd President	1976
Joseph Contreras Vice President	1999
To Be Determined Secretary	
Dixie Thomas Laney Treasurer	1966

Directors

Lynn Bergoon DeWitt	1950
E. John Ward	1962
Mitch Womble Co-Chair Project SOS/ Sundial CD's Project	1964
Cindy Womble Billman Historian/Newsletter Editor/ Co-Chair SOS	1967
Joe Whitney Project SOS	1967
Doris Murphy Special Projects/Resource Advisor to Classes	1970
Janelle Chandler Bates Sunset Faculty Liaison	1971
Roy Burchfield	1973
Luis Palomo Project SOS	1996
Bob Castillo	1997
Jaime Contreras	1999

Members Emeritus:

Weldon Finney ('50)
Don Moore ('50)
Shirley Young Sutton ('50)
Bill Smith ('57)
Ed Cullum ('58)
Steve Levine ('60)
Stephany Pitt White ('68)
Peggy Tomlinson van Wunnik ('69)
Bruce Nance ('74)
Laura Schuller Lockwood ('85)



in the
SPOTLIGHT...
**William
Walter Bushman**

Many wondered why this man at 41...would want to enter the war, his simple answer has been echoed through the ages **"I could not ask these boys to join without going myself."**

Sunset Principal, William Walter Bushman was born on April 23, 1901 in Missouri. He was married to the former Janice Yarbrough, also, a teacher with DISD. Their daughter, Billie Jan was born in 1941 and graduated from Sunset, Class of '58. He was much loved and much respected by students and faculty. Many wondered why this man at 41 with a small child would want to enter the war and his simple answer has been echoed through the ages "I could not ask these boys to join without going myself."

Major Bushman left his post as principal of Sunset HS and served in the US Army with the 312th Fighter Wing, 14th Air Force in the China Burma Theater of Operations. He died of unknown causes on August 23, 1944 at Kunming, China. Major Bushman is buried at the National Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii. He was the first and only faculty member at Sunset to die in WWII and was principal from 1941-1942 before entering the war.

His wife, Janice never remarried and lived at their home located at 2051 Marydale until her death in 1998. Their daughter Billie Jan Bushman Meade, "BJ" died in 1984.

This newsletter is prepared and printed courtesy of Curry Printing in Euless, Texas. Sincere thanks to **Cody Curry ('67)** and **Larry Curry ('70)** for their generous support.



In Recognition: Buddy Ham, 1st to Platinum



Congratulations to BUDDY HAM – he is the first to donate at the PLATINUM LEVEL \$1,000.00!!!

Delmar “Buddy” Ham graduated in 1967 then spent the next 4 years in the Navy as an aircraft electronic tech. After his service (and we thank you for your service!) he worked for a steel company and attended ETSU where he obtained his BBA and completed his training for his pilot’s license, all the while working 50 to 60 hours per week at the steel company.

In 1981 he left the steel company and began a construction company, Delmar Development Company, Inc. building mini-storage facilities. He built facilities as a General Contractor in Texas, Virginia, Maryland and Delaware.

In 1988, while he was still building storage facilities when he began a new venture, Delmar Disposal Co., Inc. He started with 1 vacuum truck servicing grease and sand traps. Today, he has 15 vacuum trucks 14 employees and doing environmental evacuations and clean ups for all the major oil companies, Quik Trip, Race Trac, Exxon, Chevron, 7-11, Valero, Etc.

Last spring a friend from A&M visited and wanted him to invest in a new energy drink venture to compete with 5 hour energy. After many hours of research and testing they have come out with the new energy drink - Body Slam, with 3 flavors - wild berry, fruit punch and pomegranate.

“I loved my time at Sunset and hope to help as much as possible to support the Alumni Association. Keep up the good work and thank you for the T-shirt and mug. I will really enjoy them.”

Mission Statement

We exist to preserve Sunset’s place as a significant educational and social place in northern and western Oak Cliff while recognizing achievements through its students, graduates, faculty and staff.

We promote an ongoing interest in Sunset High School as one of Dallas’s important institutions and recognize and support the historic significance through its students, graduates and physical facilities.

We exist to ensure a continuing place of public education for the people of Dallas, particularly in northern and western Oak Cliff and an ongoing pride in attendance at Sunset High School to celebrate its place in the growth of Dallas.

We continue to preserve and ensure ongoing academic, social and athletic opportunities while developing funding for scholarships and unique co-curricular activities.

Sunsets’ getting a new BO!



Juan as Bo Bison

The Alumni Association was made aware, during the grant process that the BO Mascot needed to be replaced. In appreciation for support given during the SHSAA’s first major fundraising activity, the SHSAA is using proceeds from the fundraising to replace

the 15-year old BO! BO (Juan) is one happy Bison!

Special thanks to Joseph and Jaime Contreras Class ‘99, Luis Palomo ‘94 & Robert Castillo ‘97 for their hard work on fundraising!

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAM



2nd Lt. William Ormand Wisner was born on August 1, 1924 in Dallas, TX to Ralph and Ida McCue Wisner and grew up at 1619 Melbourne Avenue in Oak Cliff. He was a member of the ROTC at Sunset High School and after graduation in 1941 he attended North Texas Agricultural College in Arlington, TX. In March 1943, Billy completed his college prerequisites

for pilot training and his military career officially began.

He served with the 71st Fighter Squadron, 1st Fighter Group, XV Fighter Command, 15th Air Force stationed in Foggia, Italy. On October 20, 1944, while escorting a bomber stream to the oil storage facility in Regensburg, Germany. The 4 P-38's were hit by German flak. Two of the P-38's collided together and debris hit Billy's P-38 causing him to spiral out of control and nose dive. His plane crashed somewhere near Bolzano, Italy. Billy was 20 years old.

Billy was reported "missing" then one year later was declared "presumed dead." 54 years later, Billy's niece, Diana Thompson Dale went on a two year search to find her missing uncle, an uncle who had died before she was born. Billy's remains were found buried near his crash site and positively identified by DNA. The local townspeople had buried Billy, but the wooden cross they had placed disappeared after all of these years. Through Diana's doggedly determination and the internet, she uncovered the mystery. Billy was finally brought home to Texas and was ceremoniously buried in the Veteran's Section II at Laurel Land Cemetery in Dallas, TX on November 21, 2001. Billy was awarded the Purple Heart and Air Medal. Unfortunately, Ralph & Ida never knew that there only son's remains had been recovered as they had both died before the discovery. Diana Thompson Dale wrote the details and published her book in 2003 "Finding Billy: An Internet Odyssey." Sadly, Diana passed away in 2010 and her mother, Maxine Wisner Thompson, Billy's only sibling and older sister, passed away this year.

Again, our sincere gratitude to Ron Harris, Class '56, for his dedication and hard work on our WWII Boys and for sending me the book "Finding Billy."

2012 Year To Date CONTRIBUTORS

All gifts no matter the size are greatly appreciated

Diamond: \$2500+

1964 Mitch Womble
1967 Joe Whitney
1996 Luis Palomo

Platinum: \$1000-\$2499

1967 Buddy Ham

Gold: \$500-\$999

Silver: \$250-\$499

1952 Ronald Garrett-Roe
1964 E. John Ward
1971 Cynthia Rambo Mitchell
1997 Robert Castillo

Century Club: \$100-\$249

1944 Ruby Mirl Neal Kerr	1964 Keith Hoover
1944 Inez Hunter Amirkhan	1965 Dr. Steve Haley
1947 Don January	1965 Mark Laney
1947 Don Weempe	1966 Bob Mayo
1947 Joyce Gober Poth	1966 Dixie Thomas Laney
1948 Charles B. Morton	1966 Tyler Anderson
1949 Peggy Thompson Learner	1967 Cindy Womble Billman
1950 Lynn Bergoon DeWitt	1967 John Roger Warden
1953 John Wagner	1968 Anna Lyle Barclay
1955 Bob Golden	1968 Cheryl Carson Cassidy
1956 James R. Daffron, P.C.	1968 Kathy Kempfer Lee
1957 Andrea Davis Daffron	1968 Stephany Pitt White
1957 Donald R. Burden	1968 Steve Riley
1957 Maxine King Burden	1969 Jana Ryan Riley
1957 Peggy Starling West	1970 Paula Roe McCown
1958 Bill Melton	1971 Janelle Chandler Bates
1959 David A. Haymes, M.D.	1971 Ruth Ann King Cook
1959 Grace Nuel Willingham-Ledford	1972 William "Bill" Velasco
1959 Zachariah Ellis Coombes III	1974 Bruce Nance
1960 Michael Jenkins	1974 Nan Suggs Nance
1961 David A. Bowers	1974 Suzy Thweatt Allouju
1961 Dr. Joseph Finley	1975 Paul M. Barnes
1961 William Roten	1977 Beth Morgan Whitaker

Corporate/ Community Sponsors:

Belmar Staffing & Unloading Services
Domingo Garcia, P.C.

Gathering of the



HERD

Class of 1963

50 YEAR reunion

Saturday, October 12th

The 1963 Sunset High

School 50th Anniversary Reunion is Saturday, October 12, 2013 in the 4th Floor Great Hall at the Old Red Court House in downtown Dallas.

For more information and additional events please visit www.sunsetbison63.com

Classes of '38 thru '45 meet the 3rd Saturday of the month at Texas Land & Cattle Restaurant on Lemmon Avenue and Cole Avenue. Contact Roy Kinslow '42 for more info at (972) 661-1941.

Graduates of the 50's and 60's for more information contact: Mike Dunn at dunnjwc@hotmail.com

Class of '49 plus a few spouses gathered for lunch at La Calle Doce in Oak Cliff on November 10. Members came from as far away as Oklahoma City, San Antonio, and Conroe, TX. These are some fine looking Bisons!! *Go 49ers!*



Class of 1949

2nd Monday Lunch Bunch Crowd

The classes from the 1930's and 1940's---better known as the 2nd Monday lunch bunch have been meeting once a month for a number of years starting after their 50th reunion. Cornelia Chancellor Spencer is on top of the group and keeps the communication going. They had many wonderful stories to tell about their days at Sunset, the dances, the teachers and even Bettye has her own personal account of getting in trouble on Senior Day when she got caught chewing gum---the first time she ever got in trouble at school! They reminisced over their fondness for that time and how once a Bison---always a Bison. They were all given Bison spirit wristbands and they wore them proudly!

They meet 2nd Monday at El Fenix in OC at 11a.m. Contact Cornelia Chancellor Spencer at: (214) 339-9671 for more details.



From Left to right: *Cornelia Chancellor Spencer-1935; Bettye King Adin - 1936; Marian Westbrook Busbee - 1941; Evelyn Holzheuser Richardson - 1936; Robert Campbell - 1936 & Caroline White Campbell- 1938*

**If your class is having a reunion,
please contact us at
newsletter@sunsetalumni.com**

2012 SUNSET GRANTS

Each year the alumni association reviews and awards grant requests by the faculty based on need. Through the generosity of our alumni, we have been able to grant back more than \$70K to the students, faculty and school over the past decade.

\$500	Patricia Dailey	Anat. & Phys.	Feline Cadavers	SHSAA
\$200	Ellen Vuong	Math Dept.	Projector Mount	SHSAA
\$250	Bernard Pierce	P. E. Dept (Gym 2)	Volley & Basket Balls	SHSAA
\$310	Virginia Brenes	Softball	Weight & Plyometric Equip.	SHSAA
\$500	Baber	Tennis team	Tennis Nets	SHSAA
\$500	Laura Cervera	Bisonettes	Uniforms	SHSAA
\$475	Leon Chapman	Physics	Centripetal Force Apparatus	SHSAA
\$250	Ginger Holt	Theatre/Dance	Costume Material	SHSAA
\$250	Cody Meador	Sunset Stampede	Enter in ILPC & Supplies	SHSAA
\$300	Jeff Yerger	Fine Arts	Consumable Supplies	SHSAA
\$400	R. Benavides	NHS	T-Shirts	SHSAA
\$250	Jerry Howland	Academic Decathlon	Competition Materials	SHSAA
\$300	Goergen	Art Club	Sketchbooks	SHSAA
\$470	Jon Sarver	Music	Music Software	SHSAA
\$464	Jim Kirkpatrick	AVID	Tripods	SHSAA
\$460	Ms. Cabrera	Biology	DNA Supplies	SHSAA
\$350	Adam Amland	Library	Sony CD Players	SHSAA
\$300	Paula King	Career & Tech	Classroom Copier	SHSAA
\$300	Tonya Johnson	Career & Tech	All in One Copier	SHSAA
\$250	Glenda Simmons	Counseling	Journals	1971*
\$250	Victoria Farris	Counseling	Journals & Workbooks	1971*
\$270	Angela Williams-McGill	Counseling	Books	1971*
\$225	Angela Williams-McGill	Counseling	Postage for ACT/SAT	1971*
\$250	Connie White	Counseling	DART Day Passes	1971*
\$250	Connie White	Counseling	Wal-Mart cards	1971*
\$362	Janelle Bates	The Sundial	Supplies for The Sundial	1971*
\$105	Mariseal Lopez	Girls' Soccer	Tournament Ball Bags	1971*
\$300	Mr. Spring	AP Committee	Achievement Plaques	Robert Castillo '97*
\$500	Karen Bradford	Freshmen Mentors	Fish Supplies	Luis Palomo '94*
\$878		School	New Mascot - GO BO!	Alumni Assoc.

***1971 - We want to sincerely thank the Class of 1971 for their generous donation of \$2,000 leftover from their 40th reunion.**

***Robert Castillo, '97 and Luis Palomo, '94 are Alumni Board Members.**

Bison in the News...

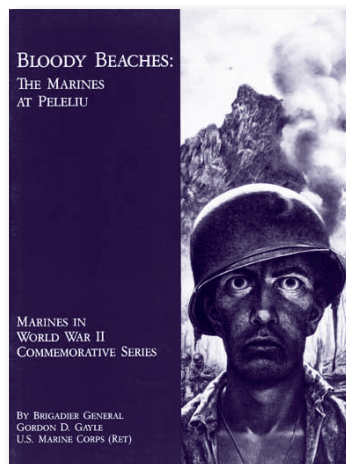


*Brigadier General
Gordon D. Gayle,
U.S. Marine Corps (Ret)*

Gordon Donald Gayle

(born September 13, 1917) is a retired United States Marine Corps brigadier general and historian. He was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Gayle graduated from Sunset High School, Dallas Texas in 1934. Gayle briefly enrolled at SMU before transferring to the U.S. Naval Academy.

He graduated from the academy on June 1, 1939 and received a commission in the U.S. Marine Corps as a second lieutenant. Gayle served in WWII in the Battle of Guadalcanal, New Britain campaign and the Battle of Peleliu. He also served in the Korean War in the Battles of Inchon and Chosin Reservoir. For his military service he received numerous awards including the Navy Cross, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He retired from the military in 1968. Among Gayle's other accomplishments, he is also a published author about his war experiences at Peleliu. Gayle currently resides in Virginia near his children.



== Important Links ==

newsletter@sunsetalumni.com – Articles for the newsletter

saveoursunset@sunsetalumni.com – Project S O S

www.goodsearch.com – Use this to help earn money for the Sunset Alumni to benefit the school

www.sunsetalumni.com – To access our website

www.gooddining.com – Earn donations for Sunset Alumni and save money, too!

www.cafepress.com – Order items with the Sunset and support the alumni association

ROTC MEMBERS - CAMP DALLAS website:

<http://rotccampdallas.shutterfly.com/> – Thanks to William T. “Dub” Thomas ‘54 for sharing this link where you can view photos and videos.

newsletter@sunsetalumni.com – Newsletter article deadline is February 1, 2013 for spring edition.

You can help support Sunset High School Alumni Association (Dallas - TX) when you search the web, shop online or dine out. Find out more about GoodSearch.com <http://bit.ly/pnwg> . Support our cause when you search or shop online! Download the new GoodSearch/GoodShop toolbar at <http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/sunset-high-school-alumni-association/>

It does NOT cost you anything and all donations come directly to the Sunset High School Alumni Association (a 501(c)(3) organization) for the benefit of the students. We would really appreciate your support. Thank you!

BISON SPIRIT

Sunset Alumni Association Contribution/Contact Info Update

Your annual contributions is 501 (c)(3) Tax Deductible and our only source of funding

Contribution year is January 1st to December 31st

This is a: ☐ New Contribution ☐ Renewal ☐ Current Member Info Update

Annual Membership Contribution (check one)

☐ Individual Membership.....\$25.00 ☐ Silver Level\$250
☐ Couple Membership.....\$40.00 ☐ Gold Level\$500
☐ Century Club Membership*.....\$100.00 ☐ Platinum Level.....\$1000
☐ Other Amount..... \$ _____ ☐ Diamond Level.....\$2500
☐ I do not wish to contribute at this time, but please add my name to the Sunset Alumni database.

* If both are Sunset Alumni, please complete separate forms

A reminder, many employers will match employee contributions 100% and especially to an educational organization.
Just check with your Human Resources/Personnel Dept.

Donations can also be made using **PayPal** on our website at www.sunsetalumni.com

FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ONLY: (Check One) Member information SAME CHANGED

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

Year of Graduation: _____ Spouse Name: _____ Spouse SHS Grad? ☐ Yes If Yes, Year? _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email Address _____@_____ Phone (_____) _____

May we send you Alumni newsletters by email? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Make checks payable to Sunset Alumni Association (**Please do not send cash**)

Mail completed form to:

Sunset Alumni Association, P O Box 225276, Dallas TX 75222-5276

In Memoriam

The following are names of Alumni whose deaths have occurred since our last newsletter or of whose deaths we were made aware of since the last newstetter. If the graduation year is not known, it is shown as "est". If anyone knows of the correct year, please contact the Editor at newsletter@sunsetalumni.com. For a complete list of Departed Bison, please visit our website at www.sunsetalumni.com

Class '31	Mildred Catherine (King) Beaudry	Class '47	Betty Alice (Day) Robbins	Class '57	James Arvin Shanks
Class '33	Eleanor Dale (Sparks) Marshall	Class '48	Randal Giles Rockett, Sr	Class '59	Larry Hayden Dumas
Class '34	Grace (Reeves) Townsend	Class '50	Don Van Meter	Class '62	Sterling D. Williams
Class '35	Lenora Elese (Howard) Noel Dalton	Class '50	Lane Kaye Hintz	Class '73	Mike O'Grady
Class '37	Virginia Lea (Clarke) Johnson	Class '50	Richard Autry	Class '73	Deborah (Herd) Edwards
Class '40	Thomas Harold Cox	Class '52	Anne (Jobe) Fanning	Teacher	Kirby D. Watkins
Class '42	Dan Thomas Simpson	Class '54	Alton Oliver		
Class '45	Patsy Jo (Jones) Bishop	Class '56	Edith Pauline (Ritter) Sheppard		

They will not grow old, as we who are left grow old...

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn...And at the setting of the sun, and in the morning...

We shall remember them.

Our sympathy and caring are extended to the families of these Sunset alumni.



Sunset High School Alumni Association
P.O. Box 225276
Dallas, TX 75222-5276
Supporting Sunset Students is Our Mission

POSTMASTER: RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

All donations are tax deductible!

**We're on the Web!
Check us out at
www.sunsetalumni.com**

Winter 2012 Bison Spirit Newsletter

Editorial Policy...

Have an article for the newsletter? Send it to: Newsletter@gmail.com We will not publish phone numbers, addresses, or e-mail addresses without permission.

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



Golf Tournament 2013

Golf nut? Why not join us for a great fundraiser for the Alumni Association in 2013? If you are interested in playing, volunteering or sponsoring, email us at: sunsetbisons@gmail.com. All proceeds benefit the Alumni Association.

sunset trivia

**What class year hung a likeness of their
assistance principal at the top of the flagpole?**

Answer will appear in the Winter Newsletter

Answer to Fall Trivia: The first Bison Football squad was coached by Harold Higgins.
What was their nickname? Answer: the Baby Buffs because of their size
and inexperience Congratulations if you got this right!

Website Changes

A new look and feel is coming soon to
www.sunsetalumni.com!