



# NEWSLETTER

Sunset High School Alumni Association

Summer 2016

## Officers

**Barbara Martin Flint** 1962  
President

**Doris L. Murphy** 1970  
Vice President

**Cindy Womble Billman** 1967  
Secretary

**Dixie Thomas Laney** 1966  
Treasurer

## Directors

**E. John Ward** 1962

**Ed Hilscher** 1962

**Donna Thompson Johnson** 1968

**Alma Valdez Rubio** 1983

**Bob Castillo** 1997

## Faculty Liason

**Michelle McCutcheon**

### **MEMBERS EMERITUS**

**Stephany Pitt White** 1968

**Peggy Tomlinson van Wunnik** 1969

**Bruce Nance** 1974

**Jerry Boyd** 1976

**Laura Schuller Lockwood** 1985

## Co-Founders

**Lynn Bergoon DeWitt** 1950

**Joseph D. Whitney** 1967



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*A few words from Barbara Martin Flint, SHSAA President*

Hello Sunset Alumni,

Here we are in the middle of 2016; this school year is almost over. Seniors are looking forward to graduation, college, and new beginnings. Can you remember what you were thinking about after graduation? We thought we could save the world and nothing could stand in our way. We all know obstacles come our way. It is how we meet those obstacles. We hope they have been given the tools to meet their futures. "To Accomplish Anything You Must Expect It of Yourself". Anonymous.

The graduating seniors will soon be Sunset High School Alumni and we hope they continue their education in the words of Ms. Kathleen Hood "the marvelous alumni who carry the name of Sunset High School into every nook of the universe".

As I walked the halls of Sunset last week, the memories of my years, the teachers, and activities came flooding back. It was nice knowing I could always come back and enjoy the friendship with new teachers and students. My motto this year is "Reconnect to Stay Connected".

Don't forget to stay connected to your classmates. Class reunions, our Alumni Newsletter, Sunset Alumni Facebook, and the Sunset Alumni Web site. If you don't know your class contact, check our Web Site.

Remember, Sunset continues to be the fine school we all remember and continues to be because of your continued donations and support.

Again, I look forward to meeting and greeting you along the Bison Trail. Come to our Mix and Mingles monthly. Our next one is scheduled Saturday, July 16, 2- 4:30, at El Fenix, 120 E. Colorado in Oak Cliff.

Please feel free to contact me with your suggestions and concerns at [sunsetbisons@gmail.com](mailto:sunsetbisons@gmail.com) or [Bflint41@aim.com](mailto:Bflint41@aim.com)

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.

# 2016 Year To Date CONTRIBUTORS

*All gifts no matter the size are greatly appreciated*

## **Diamond \$2500. +**

## **Platinum \$1000. - \$2499.**

1959 – Myra Nichol Williams

1967 – Buddy Ham (Delmar Disposal)

Jeffrey Price – Supporter of Sunset

## **Gold \$500. - \$999.**

1967 – Dr. Ron Luke

## **Silver \$250. - \$499.**

1951 – Ronald Garrett-Roe, PhD.

1956 – William Marvin Sams

1967 – Mark G. Snyder, CPA

## **Century Club Donors - 2016**

1941 – Truett Huffstutler

1946 – James P. Bolton

1949 – Ann D. Hogue

1954 – Eugenia T. Williams

1954 – Thad Woodruff

1958 – Bill Melton

1959 – Jean Park Remley

1960 – Alice A. Mount Ramsey

1964 – Mitch Womble

1967 – Cindy Womble Billman

1967 – Betsy Everitt Taylor

1970 – Doris L. Murphy

## **Corporate**

Methodist Health Systems

## **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.

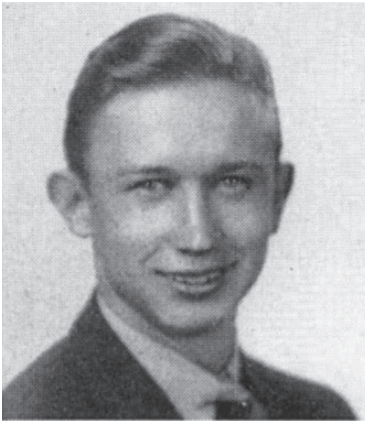


Alumni,

If you are a former Sunset student, that means you are already a member of the Bison team! Your Alumni Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit and supported entirely by volunteers.

After covering our newsletter postage and email service costs, your generous donations go back to supporting the students, faculty and school through grants each year. We would not be successful without your continued support. Please visit our 'HOW TO HELP' pages to find out how you can support your Alumni Association!

## World War II Memoriam



**T/Sgt. Charles B. Cothran**  
**Class of 1940**

### **Charles Buford Cothran** **Class of 1940**

Charles Buford Cothran, Technical Sergeant, United States Army Air Corps. He was a member of a B-17F, #42-5893 "Sad Sack", that was assigned to the 336th Bomb Squadron, 95th Bomb Group. The aircraft was shot down near Hanover, Germany on July 26, 1943 and all members survived and were placed in POW Camps. It was during a forced march that Sgt.

Cothran was killed by German soldiers for allegedly trying to escape. Below is a copy of his obituary when his remains were returned home.

"Dallas Morning News – June 26, 1951

Reburial services will be held in Paris, Texas at 3 p. m. Saturday for T/Sgt. Charles B. Cothran, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl B. Cothran of 607 West Brooklyn.

The Rev. James B. Riley will officiate at services in the Brown Rodes Funeral Home. Reburial will be in Evergreen Cemetery at Paris.

Mr. and Mrs. Cothran received word last week that their son's body was being returned from Belgium. Sergeant Cothran's plane was shot down over Hanover, Germany on July 26, 1943. He was taken prisoner by the Germans, and the date of his death was not definitely established until March of this year. The Army recovered his body from a mass grave in Stein, Austria, and established officially that his death came during a march from one prison camp to another on June 1, 1945.

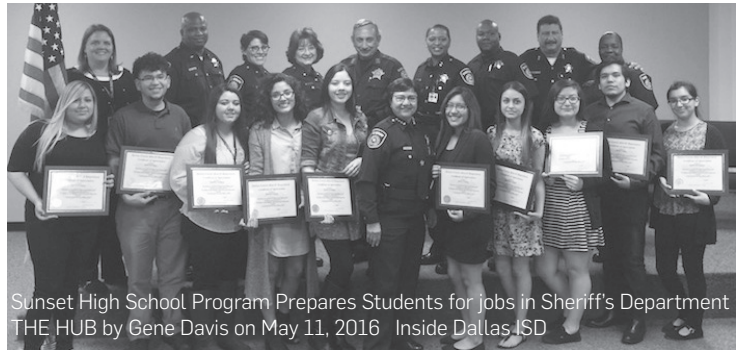
Born in Grant, Oklahoma in 1921, Sergeant Cothran lived briefly in Paris and moved to Dallas in 1929. He was a graduate of Sunset High School. Before he enlisted in the Air Force in January 1942, he worked for Western Union here. He was a member of Cliff Temple Baptist Church.

Surviving besides his parents are a sister, Betty Cothran, Dallas, and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Ford of Paris.

Pallbearers will be Ford Griffith and Thomas Ingram of Paris; Harold Cothran, Hugh Pettigrew, and Dr. J. P. Sutherland of Dallas; and James Bloxom of Frankston, Anderson County. "

Our sincere appreciation to Ron Harris, Class '56 for his dedication to preserving the memory and the service of Sunset's WWII boys who gave their service and their lives.

## CONGRATULATIONS



Seven seniors from Sunset High School are expected to start well-paying, full-time jobs with the Dallas Sheriff's Department after they graduate later this month.

The students are already on their way to being trained as detention service officers, which start at \$18 an hour, thanks to a program Sunset High School offers with the Dallas Sheriff's Department.

The Dallas County Sheriff's Law Enforcement Preparation Program (LEPP) acquainted the students with the nature and complexity of law enforcement. The program in many ways mirrored the basic training a recruit goes through to become an officer.



Four students from the Sunset High School Dance Company have danced their ways into full-tuition scholarships at the University of Texas at Permian Basin.

Diego Campuzano, Eduardo Quinones, Mariya Cano and Verenice Uribe have received full-tuition scholarships for ballet folklórico, a style of dance that celebrates Mexican history and culture. Leah Huggins, the dance company director at Sunset High School, said the students cried when they heard the news.



# Gathering *of the*



# HERD

## Reunions

### Class of '66 It is that time. Our 50th Reunion!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 15th ; plans are underway for a great event at the totally redesigned Tower Club in downtown Dallas. We were there ten years ago and the feedback was that this venue was 'our best ever'. They have a fresh, new contemporary look, wonderful conversational areas and the same wonderful service. The view of the Dallas skyline is spectacular! The party will be 8-11 pm.

The Tower Club address:

Thanksgiving Tower, 1601 Elm Street, Ste.4800,  
Dallas, TX 75201 214.220.0403

The dress for the party will be 'casual'. There will be music from those years of our youth playing in the background, along with heavy hors d'oeuvres. Parking in the garage downstairs will be complimentary. For those who wish to enjoy an "adult beverage", we will have a cash bar. The cost is \$75 per person.

Please note that we are NOT having a formal event on Friday night this time around. We are very sensitive to keeping the cost down and making the 50th a huge success. We encourage you to reach out to fellow classmates to meet informally on Friday evening or Saturday for brunch or lunch and make the most of your time with old friends. There are several wonderful hotels, restaurants nearby where you could meet. Please contact Jack Miller at [jack@mgroupinc.net](mailto:jack@mgroupinc.net)

**Class of '56...**The Dallas Arboretum is hosting the 60th Reunion of the Sunset High School Class of 1956.  
October 22, 2016 from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm.



SHSAA is in need of a webmaster. If interested contact Barbara Flint at [bflint41@aim.com](mailto:bflint41@aim.com)



## Lady Bison Basketball

I would like to share some wonderful news about our Lady Bison Basketball team. Coach Kelan Jones let me know today that all eight of his seniors have been accepted to the college of their choice---notice they are wearing their new school colors!! Coach Jones is another one of those wonderful teachers who is totally dedicated to our Baby Bison and pushes them to succeed not only on the court but off. **Great news!!!!**

# Thank you

A special thank you to the Class of 1965 for making a sizeable donation to help defray some of the 2016 Sundial printing costs.

Thank you to Rita Harden for pushing this forward to her class. We appreciate each of the class of 65 who made this happen and I know the Sundial staff does too.



## Another **BISON** Band?!

Brian Clem, Class '66 and David Yeargan, Class '67 are in a band called "Loose Change". They play locally and if you would love to go out and support them as well as listen to their music, below is their schedule for the rest of the year!

### **Lone Star Roadhouse**

NW Corner Northwest Hwy & Jupiter  
11277 E Northwest Hwy #124  
214-341-3538  
Dallas, TX 75238

Friday, Aug 19th  
Friday, Sept 30th  
Friday, Nov 18th  
Friday, Dec 16th

### **El Arroyo Patio**

5024 S. Cooper St.  
Arlington, Tx 76017  
817-468-2557

Saturday, October 8th

### **Band Members:**

Brian Clem (Sunset Class of '66)  
David Yeargan (Sunset Class of '67)  
Hagan Bush  
Jim Capers  
Gary Burford  
Terry Moore

Their web page has current dates as well as samples of their music: <http://www.loosechangebanddallas.com>

Check them out on Facebook at: [loosechangebanddallas](https://www.facebook.com/loosechangebanddallas)

KATHLEEN HOOD PRIZE



for ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The Sunset Alumni Association held the reception to honor the recipients of the Kathleen Hood Prize for Academic Excellence on May 18th at the La Calle Doce Restaurant, 415 W. 12th St., Dallas, TX. The prize recognizes the outstanding graduating seniors and each recipient will receive a \$1000.

### **2016 PRIZE RECIPIENTS**

Jorge Guerra – Humanities

Jose Quintero - Social Sciences

Michelle Garcia - Natural Sciences (Valedictorian, 2016)

Didender Yanez - Mathematics



Also in attendance at the reception was Ms. Jennifer Knight granddaughter of Mrs. Kathleen Hood. The awards are made possible because of the Prize Endowment established by Dr. Ron Luke, a 1967 graduate.





## Sunset CENTENARIAN

a person who is one hundred or more years old.



Mary McGowen, Class of January 1932 and her son, Richard McGowen, Class of '62

MARY ETTA MCGOWEN was born on March 30, 1914 in Mineral Wells, Palo Pinto County, Texas to Ben Aga McGowen and Sarah Jane Tompkins. The family moved to Dallas when Mary was a small child and resided on Arizona St. She attended Rosemont, Greiner & Sunset. While at Sunset she received the Everts Award, Special Linz Pin, P.T.A. and Taber Awards, member of the National Honor Society and the Editor-in-Chief of the Stampede. Mary's other remarkable achievement is that she was the Salutatorian of the graduating Class of January 1932 with a GPA of 94.7. The Valedictorian had a GPA of 94.85, Mary remembers exactly that she missed out by .15 but she did have the highest GPA for the entire four years she attended Sunset with a 92.82 and received a Perfect Attendance for the four years she was there. Amazing!

It was a pleasure to sit down with Mary and talk about her days at Sunset. Her favorite teacher was Agnes Edwards who taught Latin and English. She shared her favorite song as "God Bless America" and her favorite hymn, "Eye of the Storm".

Mary eventually married Tennyson Oliver Perkins and they had three children Ben Fred, Class '55, Martha Lou, Class '57 and Richard Edwin, Class '62.

Barbara Flint, myself and Maria Maldonado (who took the photos) had a great time at her house, where she has lived since 1950. It is a treasure trove of mementoes, collectibles and a deep love for her youngest son, Richard, who is now her caregiver. But even at 102, although a little deaf, she is still as sharp as a tack. Mary even did a little song and dance for us as you can see in the photo with her hat and cane! The comedic bantering between son and mother was humorous as well as loving. You could clearly see the love and how she refers to Richard as her 'Sugar Precious'. Now when I see Richard at our Mix & Mingles I can't help it, but I have to call him 'Sugar Precious'!

## Sunset NONAGENARIAN

a person who is from 90 to 99 years old.



LESTER KEESEE was born on September 26, 1920 in Dallas, Texas to Earl Newton Keesee and Della May Curtis. Les grew up on Turner Street and then on N. Montclair. While at Sunset, Les was a member of the Student Service Council, Office Helper, baseball, but more importantly, Les was President of the Hunting and Fishing Club that he was instrumental in assisting in the organization and founding of the first club of its kind in the United States. We were so pleased to have Les attend our May Mix & Mingle and share not only his stories but his memories of days gone by. Les brought his original Hunting & Fishing Club jacket (see photo) and it was in remarkably good condition. Les will be 96 this coming September, what changes he has seen in this world!

*Thank you Mary & Les for sharing your memories with us!*

## 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.	

Do you want your contribution to go to a specific area, sport, Dance Team, JROTC, Science, Theatre Arts, etc.?

If so, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

\* 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](http://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? \_\_\_\_ 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 newsletter. 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](mailto:newsletter@sunsetalumni.com).

For a complete list of Departed Bison, please visit our website at [www.sunsetalumni.com](http://www.sunsetalumni.com)

1934 Ruth Lucretia (Donnell) Newman Coke  
1937 Dorothy (Anderson) Osborn  
1939 Leo Burkes Ravitt  
1939 William Coleman Huber  
1941 Jane (Dunlap) Wren  
1941 Dorothy Louise (Allen) McAnally  
1941 James Aaron O19Neal  
1943 John Robert Adcock  
1944 Robert Lee Whitten, Jr  
1944 Mary Kathryn (Allen) Beazley  
1944 Herbert Neal Wigley  
1945 Ann (Gullick) Worley  
1945 Patricia Kay (Stephenson) Searight  
1945 George Edward Blake  
1945 Mickey Jo (Cates) Abbott  
1946 Julius Thomas Hayles  
1947 James Robert Bookout  
1948 Bettie Jean (Morrison) Campbell  
1948 Peggy (Lewis) Marrs

1948 James Wiley Phillips  
1948 Ora Mae (Sellers) Irby  
1950 Jennie Jane (Bard) Harvey  
1950 Ann (Riddell) Mark  
1950 Brooksie Jeanne (Carnes) Penland Agnich  
1950 Alan York  
1951 Jan Louise (Helm) Craig Wright  
1952 Woody Don Blacketer  
1952 Carole Jeanne (Bigelow) Seay  
1954 Eddie C. Pelt  
1954 Homer Martin Underwood  
1954 Terry Bigelow  
1954 Wallace Allen Mayne  
1958 Ralph Gordon McClendon  
1959 Jimmie Nell (Burdett) Shepperd  
1959 Garland Wayne Gibbs  
1961 Tommy Jack Staley  
1962 Charlene Annette (Adams) Tolar  
1963 Charles (Chuck) Richard Gunderson

1964 Ralph Craig Black  
1965 James Russell Moreland  
1965 John Lawrence Anderson  
1966 John Joseph Brehm  
1966 David Glenn Tinsley  
1966 Brian Raymond Davis  
1967 Mickey Carroll Whitney  
1968 Danny O19Neill Milburn  
1969 David Elton Horsley  
1970 James Lawrence Sitten  
1971 Robert King Bennett  
1972 Lucille (Perez) Barrientos  
1973 John Wesley Horton  
1973 Jacky Lloyd Kersey (Est.)  
1974 Randy Neil Harrod  
1982 Juan A. Salazar, Jr.  
1988 Marco Antonio Davila

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](http://www.sunsetalumni.com)**

### *Summer 2016 Bison Spirit Newsletter*

## Editorial Policy...

Have an article for the newsletter?  
Send it to: [Newsletter@gmail.com](mailto: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.



## Sunset is Going Green!

If you have an email please visit our website  
[www.sunsetalumni.com](http://www.sunsetalumni.com) Click on "About Us" for the  
drop down and then click "Contact Us" and then  
click "Add to Email List". With rising costs of postage,  
printing, etc. we need to find ways of reducing our  
expenses. Also, with email you will receive it sooner.  
And remember, if your email or address changes,  
please let us know.

## *Sunset's New Principal*

SUNSET'S OWN...CLAUDIA VEGA, CLASS 1996

Claudia Vega has been chosen as Sunset High School's new Principal  
beginning this fall. Claudia was principal at Eduardo Mata Elementary  
School in East Dallas for four years before coming home to Oak Cliff  
and her alma mater.



**Alumni Website**  
[www.sunsetalumni.com](http://www.sunsetalumni.com)