

GRAPEVINE HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 1966

DECEMBER 2004 NEWSLETTER

Merry Christmas & Greetings Classmates, it is December 2004....some 38 Christmas Seasons have passed since we celebrated Christmas the last time as high school students! Time has gone by quickly, and it seems to be picking up speed - hourly. Before trying to update you on things over the past three months, I want to take a moment to wish each of you and your families the Best Christmas ever. Christmas is a time of celebration. A time to celebrate the birth of Jesus....a time to truly Thank God for all the blessings we have and have had and will have...a time to celebrate family....a time to give.....a time to appreciate.....a time to bring special joys to children....a time for so many wonderful things. However, it is also a time of depression for many. With all the joys of Christmas, many people get depressed. A feeling of loneliness can easily creep into thoughts. So, I challenge each of you to help make this Christmas a special time for those who may not see all the joys of Christmas. Be mindful of those you see and greet during this holiday season...help make this Christmas as special as the GHS Class of 1966. The true joy is in remembering what we truly are celebrating and giving – giving can be a smile, a touch, even a knowing look. So share Christmas from your heart this year - that is always the best gift to those you meet, those you care for, and especially those you love.

Over these past several months, our class has continued to feel sadness in the loss of a number of our extended class family. Thanks to everyone who has taken the time to pray and lend a kind word to those in our class who have suffered these losses. From experience, I know what a comfort it was to hear from classmates and feel their prayers. Over the past months, Mary Lynn Millican Fuller lost her mom. Gary Cumbie lost his mom. Roger Hardin's wife, Ann, lost her father. There are a number who have had medical problems. I know that we want to continue to pray for James (Pat) Tiffin's wife who broke her leg and is having problems recovering from that break. Terri Greg Spann is continuing to recover from back surgery. Continue to keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.

I know that each of you is continuing to pray for the leaders in our country. We need to continue to pray for our young men and women (old ones too) who are serving in the armed forces. Christmas without being with family and family without a husband or wife or child is also a difficult time.

I am sorry that the first part of this Newsletter is in spots rather depressing. However, there were and continue to be good things happening as well. I know that each of you joined in celebrating the inclusion of Bobbie Jo Benson Mitchell into the GHS Hall of Fame, as a distinguished alumni, in October. It was an honor to attend (at the GHS Tea) the induction ceremony at Grapevine High School. A number of our classmates were in attendance. And, the five of our class who have been inducted

as distinguished alumni of GHS were there, and had our photo made for the event. Rick Stacy, Larry Oliver, David Florence, Barbara Curry-Childress and Bobbie Jo had a group photo made. We also had one made of our classmates who were still around, besides those mentioned above, Gary Cumbie, Darrell Faglie, Ellen Van Deventer-Hamlett, and Alice Bufford Perkins were there for the celebration and photo. Congratulations to Bobbie Jo again!



We continue to make plans for the Alaskan Cruise that a number of our classmates are going on in early June 2005. Thus far the following have signed up to go on the cruise: Jerry & Linda Bowden Cox, David & Darlene Tillery, Darrell & Donna Faglie, Gary & Jane Cumbie, Rick & Diane Stacy, Brad & Martha Raven (friends of Linda Bowden Cox), Stacy grandchildren (Richard, William, James Sims and Parker Smith), William Richard & Dorian Stacy Sims, Scott, Loren, Payton and Baby Smith, Robert & Ashley Stacy Rodriguez, James Richard & Erin Stacy Jr., MOM & POP Stacy (RJ and Merrill Stacy), Bill & Glenda Cherry, Larry & Rhonda Stacy Highberger, Ronnie & Barbara Stacy, Randy & Cathy Stacy, and Larry & Linda Oliver. The Florences & Cumbies are also taking an inland excursion into the Denali wilderness area from Anchorage to Fairbanks. The Stacy Clan (about 400 people, I think) along with Darrell & Donna Faglie will be flying on the same plan with Linda and me...so; we have plans to be in charge of the flight. We are all excited about the trip. I feel reasonably sure that Cumbie is going to night school to attempt to fill each day with a series of new jokes, puns, and general word spins to entertain the entire ship. The funny part is that I have heard from Bob Havran that Cumbie has been going to another weekend study course to learn to speak Canadian for the short time we will be in Vancouver.

December 11th at Ole Whiskers we had a group of our class get together for some food, fellowship, gag-gift exchange, and lots of talking and laughter. I hope that more and more of our class can make it to one of these monthly times of fellowship...I do keep sending stuff out about them to those in the area. At the December event the following were in attendance – Darrell & Donna Faglie, Van & Joy Morrison, Doug & Carolyn Moore, Lavoy & Jeanette Grider, Mary Lynn Millican Fuller, Barbara Ethridge, Johnnie Mae Washington Braddock, Randy & Pat Flanagan, Ric & Darla Eubanks Cooper, Gary Cumbie, Terry & Donna Stephens, Chris & Mary Ann

Ashton, Pat Tillery Weeks, David & Darlene Florence, Billy Moore, and Larry & Linda Oliver.

This group (at Ole Whiskers) brought “gag” or “white elephant” gifts to exchange and there were a few that were extremely “one of a kind”....check with Darrell Faglie and Gary Cumbie as to these specialty gifts they received. There was also a sort of “hillbilly teeth” drawing that was won by Mary Lynn Millican Fuller, Linda Oliver, Mary Ann Ashton, Ric Cooper, David Florence, Van Morrison, Pat Tillery, and Donna Faglie....unfortunately the photo was unable to be processed...however, I am suspicious that it could show up on a segment of MOST WANTED.

The next OLE WHISKERS event is scheduled for Saturday, January 15, 2005 at 6 p.m.more information to come in early January of 2005!

We’ve also had some strange visitors at our ghsclassof1966.com website. One strange person named “777” made some strange threat of some sort about not providing the same comment in the future....hopefully not. Another new millennium entrepreneur came up with a large ad for Levitra with numerous websites to click on. I feel certain no one in our class had a need for such! Anyway, I guess you never know who is going to sign in! Then we received comments with website links to numerous adult websites. I guess we are going to have to eliminate this feature on the website. It’s unfortunate people ruin things for others.

FOP (Faglie & Oliver Partners) had a limited number of Christmas Cards, but decided to send only to the poker group for the most part....however, I wanted to share this with those who received the newsletter via email. It was a card with **NOEL** and a wish to have a **Merry Christmas** and to **share that time with family and old friends!** Seemed pretty appropriate:



This photo also prompted numerous comments. Lynda Yarbrough put this card up at the cash register at her restaurant and that got all sorts of comments – “father &

son?”, “nice couple”, “brothers”, “rodeo clowns”, etc. However, the most common was something referencing “all hat and no cattle”...even from our friends!

As we turn the page from 2004 to 2005, we get closer and closer to our 2006 Reunion (tentatively scheduled for late spring 2006). That means that I need everyone’s help in making certain that we have as many good mailing addresses and especially email addresses as possible. So to everyone who receives this December Newsletter, if you move, please let me know, and I am asking for your help in finding those of our class we do not have mailing or email addresses that enable us to keep all posted on events.

Below is a list of classmates that I do not have mailing or email address for making contact.

Please, please help me verify and get these addresses:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Jerry Bates | Pat Bates | Hank Biggers |
| Clyde Bryce | Jill Carlson Williams | Billie Creamier |
| Wilhelm | | |
| Gail Defibaugh | Randy Doty | Quentin Hix |
| Dobie Gill – Lindsey | Ken Hughes | Janice Jordan |
| McElroy | | |
| Betty McQuade | Jim Stockton | Bill Tutt |

And, if anyone receives this Newsletter via mail and has an email address, please notify me at LAR001@aol.com (those are zeros, not the letter “o”) with your email address so that you can receive more notes, notices, information and lots of stuff rather than having to wait and read about it via the mailed out quarterly newsletter.

Also, if you believe that there are classmates that we have failed to try and include, please send me name(s) and address(es) and email address(es) of those folks so we can include them.

In closing the December 2004 Newsletter, let me once again say to each of you and your families and loved ones, “Have a Merry Christmas and a Great and Prosperous New Year.” And, I want to again thank each of you for being a part of my life and how much being a part of the GHS Class of 1966 has meant to me over the years. God Bless each of you and your families!

Respectfully,
Larry Oliver