

GRAPEVINE HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 1966

MARCH 2005 NEWSLETTER

Stop and think....40 years ago to the month we were getting senior rings and anticipating our senior year at Grapevine High School. We thought we had the world by the tail....did you have any idea of the story your life would take 40 years ago? Did you have any idea that you would be where you are, doing what you are doing and still having knowledge of where so many of your classmates are and even seeing them ever so often? It only makes me wonder where today's junior class – soon to be seniors will be in 40 years and what life will be like for them. I almost shudder to think in many ways, but I also have this speculation that many things will come to pass in those years that could make life so different from today. I know you join me in hoping for the best of things to come for today's high school students.

Even though we can speculate and think of all the inventions, diseases, leaders, family members, and vocational aspects that have come our way over the past 50+ years, I know many of you treasure the long term friendships we have had. And, many of those are with classmates we knew from Grapevine High School and even some are from as far back as prior to the first grade. Before I started the first grade, I lived almost within a rock throw of the Dossey, Yancey, Wilkins, Shultz, Thweat, Cox, Baber, Henderson, Buckner, Eidson, Parker, Cason, Starr, Shafer, Hemley, Watters, Lucas, Stark, Lipscomb, and Forshee families...and not much farther to take in the Florence, Ashton, Tenny, Faglie, Box, Moore, Crabtree, Hix, Bickers, Moncrief, Harrison, Highnote, Huber, Young, Deacon, and Dickerson families...I'm sure there were many others if my memory were better! Who would guess that many of these families are still around and that we see each other! Who would have guessed so many of our class is within a fifty mile radius – probably well over 70% - I will try to determine that at some point!

I guess I have gone down memory lane long enough, and I need to stress more of what is going on these days. Well.... many things are going on and any one of our class members has more stories than we would or could imagine.... life goes on and continues to move faster and faster it seems.

Since our last Newsletter, we now have James Peek on our email list! I think he believes riding motorcycles is easier at times, even though he didn't really say that!

We have had a number of first time people show up at Ole Whiskers for the regular once a month Saturday evening of catfish, shrimp, fun and fellowship. David and Darlene Florence, Gary and Jane Cumbie, Kent & Beverly Kennedy, Chris and Mary Ann Ashton, James and Leann Baber, and Butch and Janet Ethridge to name a few. We still have between 18 and 30 people show up each month. I try to make sure all the people within reasonable driving distance to Plano get an email announcing the date for each

month. If you are not getting that email and would like to be sure to be included as to the time/place/etc. for such events, please let me know!

James (Pat) Tiffin and his wife Shellie keep trying to make one of the Ole Whiskers events but have had difficulty in doing so. However, James tells me that March or April should be the date! We hope so. I guess that Butch Tiller may be the only classmate who has actually seen James (Pat) Tiffin since graduation. So, this will be a treat for those who can be at Ole Whiskers when the show up.

Since our last Newsletter, I have gone to work for the Dallas Independent School District. I am working on their 1.4 billion dollar bond program where they are building about twenty new schools and performing additions and/or renovations to almost all of the existing 218 campuses! Everyone in our office is great to work with and it is good to be back in the school business – even though the red tape and bureaucracy here is almost unbelievable. Hopefully, I can hold out here until next spring when Linda and I hope to start construction (late spring or summer) on a new house on the property purchased by Faglie & Oliver Partners in Forestburg, Texas.....we are very excited about that possibility being less than a year away! Linda is ready to find something more fun to do than banking and I am hoping to find something a little less time consuming and stressful myself.

Plans are still on going for the Cruise to Alaska that a number of our class is going on this coming June. Of the cabins we reserved, I believe there is one left if anyone has changed his/her mind and wants to consider going with such a GREAT GROUP of folks: Gary and Jane Cumbie, David and Darlene Florence, Darrell and Donna Faglie, Jerry and Linda Bowden Cox, Ravens (friends of Linda Bowden Cox), Alice Bufford Perkins, Rick and Diane Stacy, Rick's & Diane's children and grandchildren, Rick's Mom and Dad, Diane's Mom, Diane's brother Bill Cherry, Ricks brothers and sister – Randy, Ronnie and Rhonda and their families. Even the lady who worked up the cruise event for us (Sue Moody) is going with us! So – remember, there is still room, but time runs out in March! Let me know if you want to go!

Efforts will begin soon to pick place, time, etc. for our 40th reunion in the late spring of 2006.....so, more coming on that soon.....doesn't seem possible does it?

Next year Grapevine High School will be celebrating 100 years of existence. There will most likely be extensive plans and festivities for Homecoming next fall. I will do my best to keep you posted on those events, dates, and times. I guess that also means that the year of our 40th anniversary of graduation from GHS is the same time that GHS will be celebrating it's 100th anniversary! Glad it is not the other way around!

We still have a number of our class left “unfound”. I would like to once again appeal to each of you to help find some of our missing classmates so that we will have an opportunity to invite them to the 40th reunion next year. We need to find them soon so that we can give them as much time as possible to make arrangements to attend our class festivities in the spring of 2006. At the bottom of this Newsletter I will list those we are

still seeking and any help or leads or assistance of any kind that you could provide to us would be most appreciated.

This past three months, I've not heard much from classmates in terms of "things going on to share". With a number of losses of family members and friends this past year, I guess maybe that is a good thing.

I hope that this newsletter finds everyone well = considering our age and the world situation, economy, and what appears to be a lot of evil around these days. Maybe that is what makes remembering the days gone by so refreshing – we were not bombarded with new strange and deadly diseases and so many conflicts and so many people trying to tell us what is "right" and what is "wrong" and why there way is better and why this person or that person is leading us down the wrong paths! It is amazing how simple and easy to see and feel how things were back in those days between 1954 and 1966!

Please keep us posted with any changes in address, phone numbers and the like. Please help us find those of our number we've yet to locate. Those of you with email/internet access, please help keep those without email informed. And, most of all keep in contact with one another. We have always had a special bond, as we grow older – not a good time to give that up!

HELP FIND THESE CLASSMATES:

Jerry Bates	Pat Bates	Hank Biggers
Jill Carlson Williams	Gail Defibaugh	Randy Doty
Dobie Evelyn Gill	Quentin Hix	Ken Hughes
Doris Jean Jones	Betty McQuade	Janice Jordan McElroy
Jackie Morgan	Bill Tutt	

Let me hear from you if you need to have something sent out to those of our class with email addresses or if you have something that should go out in the Newsletter in June (after the cruise).

May God continue to bless each of you,

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Oliver