



Reunion Picture Info on Pgs. 5 & 12

Summer, 2004

## Reopened Campbell's Bakery Run by Classmate's Niece

For those of us living in Jackson, the absence of the delicacies found at



Campbell's Bakery left a

bitter taste. Fortunately, the bakery has now reopened, and what makes it "extra sweet" is that it is owned and operated by the niece of one of our former

Doris Smith, Lisa, Judy Bruce and Gerald McCormick stop by Campbell's after the Lunch Bunch dined at Walker's.

classmates, John Tanner. So, if you have a hankering for something sweet and really good, drop in Campbell's and be sure to say "hi" to John's niece, Lisa.



Connie Barefield, Charles Simmons, Judy Bruce, Page Goodrich, Eleanor Kirk, and John Tanner's niece pose outside Campbell's Bakery.

## Estelle Found Them! More Resumé Updates

*Demaris (Taffy) L. Anderson*

Taffy reports that for most of her adult life she has been working as an artist, painting portraits of people and animals, or sculpting, although she has also produced a series of landscapes of different Southern states. Quite successful, a series of Taffy's flowering gardens were collected by Coty Perfumes of New York, and her North

## John Phillips' Family Needs Your Help

John Phillips sister-in-law, Susan, died in February from cancer. She was married to John's brother, Bill, who was a 1966 Murrah graduate. As most of you are aware, cancer not only takes a terrible toll on the body, but it also takes a big toll on finances. In Bill and Susan's case they had medical insurance through Bill's employer, as so

Continued on page 2

Continued on page 4

Carolina paintings reside at First Union Bank. She has painted the niece of Fidel Castro and the nephew of President de La Madrid of Mexico.

Taffy graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1968, with a Bachelors in Business Administration. She started her career in Kitchen and Bath design and sales. She says that her career moved her into remodeling and later into being an assistant job supervisor for a large residential home construction company. However, all during this period, she continued to work on her art. Today, she works as a sculptress in Philadelphia and is hoping to own her own studio there since the location is so close to the major areas of art. Of course the lure of the south is never far, and she says having a home in south Alabama with a sculpture garden is also a heart's desire.

Taffy, who now goes by the name of Demaris, can be reached at  
537 N. Eleventh Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19123  
215-514-0590

### Meredith Thompson Jones

Meredith apologizes for a "tardy" Resume' response and wishes that she could have been with everyone at the reunion. She sends the following information about her life over the past 40 years.

*I graduated from Mississippi State College for Women in 1967 with a B.A. degree, after marrying in October, 1966, a Mississippi State University graduate, Bill Jones. Bill grew up in Belzoni, MS, and had graduated with a degree in Accounting. He joined IBM after graduation.*

*Bill and I have been married for 37 years and have lived in Huntsville, AL, Binghamton, NY, Poughkeepsie, NY, and finally Gaithersburg, MD, where we have been for the past 31 years. We have two*

*sons, ages 31 and 34. Our oldest son, Todd, after working for a number of years, has been called into the ministry and will graduate from Golden Gate Seminary in San Francisco (Baptist seminary) this June. He is looking for a church to pastor in the North-eastern part of the United States. Todd is married and his wife, Aimee, works as an operating room nurse. Our youngest son, Mike, has worked for a number of years and is now pursuing a business degree while working full time. He dabbles in landscape design in his spare time. Mike is single and lives in the Gaithersburg area.*

*I worked at the University of Alabama in Huntsville in Library Administration for a number of years. I have also held many part-time positions over the years. My real pursuit and passion, however, has been raising my children as a stay-at-home mom. During those years, as well as now, I have engaged in many volunteer functions at my local church. Volunteer work is my passion at this time. My husband, Bill, is the corporate controller for a 5000 employee engineering corporation located in the Washington and Boston areas. His company provides system engineering services to the Department of Defense, Federal Aviation Administration,*



Bill and Meredith Thompson Jones

*Department of Homeland Defense, and to the IRS. We love to travel and enjoy hiking very much. We have traveled in Colorado, Nevada, California, Canada, Alaska and in many of the New England states. When my*

*husbands retires, we plan on traveling to both Europe and Australia.*

*We live 25 miles from downtown Washington, D.C., in the Maryland suburbs. We have had a very good life and enjoy living near our nation's capital. If any of you travel to this area, I would love to hear from you. My telephone number is 301-977-1914 and my email address is jonesmere@aol.com.*

### Patti Sullivan

Patti's information about her 12 acre ranch, Roundball Ranch, failed to reach us in time for the Resume' printing. She did want everyone to know that they have 13 miniature horses, two regular horses, 14 pygmy goats, 10 Sebastapoole geese, 40 ducks, 30 guineas, one sheep, and one turkey.



Patti Sullivan Coffman with her family

### Sammy Graham

Sam and Vickie have four children, Stephen, Stephanie, Heather and Eric, and seven grandchildren. Since 1984, Sam has been employed with Auto Zone Development, a construction company. Sam says that with his spending habits, he can't afford to retire. Among his listed accomplishments are raising children and grandchildren who know right from wrong, and a wife and partner who "keeps me in line." Sam enjoys golfing, hunting, fishing, photography and traveling. He has lived both in the Jackson and Memphis

areas, traveled to all 50 states, Mexico and Canada.

Sam was looking forward to seeing all of Boyd Beaver classmates and his old band member classmates. His favorite songs were "Turn on Your Love Light" and anything by the Temptations. His best memory at Murrah was being a band member, and he lists as his "not so happy memory" that of being a tall, fat, shy kid who stuttered.

Classmates can reach Sam at

162 Singing Trees

Byhalia, MS 38611

Ph: 662-895-7317 (H)

901-495-8754 (O)

901-277-6897 (C)

Samuel.Graham@AutoZone.com

### Anne Tull Blackmon

Ann has "left the country life" in Hazlehurst and moved to Brookhaven to be in the "city". Her son, Wayne Schilling, moved back home from California in February, 2001. He lost the majority of his eyesite due to strokes in both optic nerves. The doctors are still puzzled over how and why this debilitating event occurred. However, the good news is that he is working at STAGE and is currently on the Manager Training Program. Anne's daughter, Laura Rebecca Shilling Thompson, recently moved in with her. Anne's parents have died; however, her two brothers are living in Louisiana.

For the past three years, Anne has been working for First Franklin Financial Corporation in the Hazlehurst office. While there is no "man in her life", she enjoys her children, working and keeping house.

Anne's email address is jr81rt@telepak.net

# Wallace McMillan's Son's Restaurant Is Off to A Great Start

Jackson's Roly Poly Sandwich restaurant has been notified that they enjoyed the 7th highest sales record of all franchise stores during the month of January. The local shop's sales figures had ranked them 8th in the country as of December, 2003. Roly Poly was the site of a February "Mustangs '63" lunch gathering and is owned and operated by Wallace McMillan's son, Hayes and daughter-in-law Blake. Several Mustangs have been spotted dining at Roly Poly, and they are due special "thanks" from the management. Roly Poly has approx. 210 stores nationwide, so this is a great accomplishment for our local folks.

## Lost

Does anyone know the new address and phone number for Carol Williams Parvin? She has moved from Copper Cove in Ridgeland to a new home (we think) in Madison, MS.

John Phillips cont. from page 1

many of us do. However, a couple of months into Susan's illness, his employer declared bankruptcy. Although Bill found other employment, they were still dependent on the insurance coverage from Bill's previous employer. Shortly after he began to file insurance claims for Susan's medical expenses, he was notified that Bill's previous employer had a self-insured insurance plan and that there was NO money to pay claims.

A bank account at BankPlus in Madison, MS has been opened in the name of Susan Phillips Memorial Fund to help the family pay expenses accrued during Susan's illness. John is soliciting donations to help his brother. If any of you would like to contribute to this fund, send your donation to

Susan Phillips Memorial Fund  
BankPlus

2020 Strawberry Hill  
Madison, MS 39110

Attention: Shelton Kennington

If any of you would like to contact John direct, you can reach him at

315 Eastwood Avenue  
Ridgeland, MS 39157-3515

Ph: 601-856-4984

cjloghead@aol.com

# Reunion Pictures Still Available

If you haven't gotten your reunion pictures from Gale Johnson, it is still not too late. Just send him \$4.00 to cover the CD and mailing cost.

Gale Johnson  
1018 PR 2427  
Terrell, TX 75160  
972-563-4670 (Home)  
972-824-9537 (Cell)

Carla BarnesCamp and Mary Frances Sample Stanton pose during reunion festivities.



## Bundles of Joy Arrive For Classmate Grandparents

Jean Magee Cox's first grandchild, Jacquelyn Bailey Neal, was born on November 7, 2003. She weighed 5 pounds 9 ounces. Her second grandchild, Jennifer Leigh Neal, was born November 25, 2003, weighing 8 lbs, 12 oz.

Lynda McLelland Walker has a new grandchild, James Denver Moser, born on March 16, 2004, weighing 8 pounds, 11 ounces.

Genrose Mullin Lashinger's latest granddaughter, Lily, was born in November.

Bryant Boswell's daughter, Ana, gave birth to a son, John Alexander Schepens on March 29, 2004.



## A Page From The Past

## Deaths

### Classmates

Jobie Payne Ramsey died January 5, 2004, of complications from a malignant brain tumor.

Mike Spann died on February 22, 2004, at home in Arlington, Texas of stomach/esophagus cancer. (See tribute on pages 10 and 11.)

### Teachers

Wayne W. Walley, 10th grade biology teacher died of heart failure on July 28, 2003.

Nancy Lee Granberry, Bailey Junior High social studies teacher, died at age 100 on April 4, 2004.

Mary Hogan Davis, wife of Coach Kermit R. "Rosey" Davis, died in March in Auburn, AL.

### Classmates' Family

Carolyn Cowan Columbus' father, Zane S. Cowan, died March 11, 2004.

Lynda Finley Gary's husband, Michael J. Gary, died March 28, 2004, at their home in Gulfport.

Leslie Mathews' sister, Pamela Jackson Mathews, died April 9, 2004, of a brain tumor in Galisteo, New Mexico.

Jean Magee Cox's mother, Mary L. Cox, died April 29, 2004, in Jackson.

---

## Weddings

Steve Miller's daughter, Meredith, was married on April 17, 2004.

# Classmates Meet Monthly To Maintain Close Ties

With a memorable reunion behind them, many '63 Mustangs living in the Jackson Metro area soon began experiencing withdrawal symptoms. For almost a year, these hard-working, fun-loving classmates had dedicated countless hours to meetings and work sessions, planning and preparing for the event. Just when they had gained an appreciation and respect for every classmate, something they didn't have the capacity to have in high school, it was over, and there was a void in their lives. In late October, many in the group could stand it no longer, and Kathy Butts Hayes spear-headed lunch at Walker's. Unfortunately, because Kathy took a "real job" shortly before the scheduled date, she was unable to attend. For those who could be there, the lunch

was somewhat like Calamine lotion on poison ivy. It soothed for a brief while, but soon the itch was worse than ever.

Because November and December are busy months when the demands of family, friends, business, and community leave little time for pining, it was February before classmates living in the Jackson area again gathered for lunch. This time the group met at Roly Poly,

It was at the February lunch that "First Thursday Lunch" was conceived.

Everyone agreed they wanted to get together on a regular basis, and it made sense to set the meetings on the same day of each month.

On the first Thursday of March, the group met at the Hilton. Mike Mockbee then



Estelle Mockbee, Doris Smith and Don Holder



Don Holder, Linda Sue Gilmore, Mary Frances Sample Staton, Judy Bruce, Gerald McCormick, Estelle Noel Mockbee, Tom Lowe



Mike Mockbee, Don Holder, Mary Frances Sample Staton, Judy Rainer Bruce, Gerald McCormick



Wallace McMillan, David Edmonds, Hal Dale, Cela Bates, Mike Mockbee



Estelle Noel Mockbee, Charles Simmons



Eleanor Kirk Walker, Page Goodrich



Ladene Butts Strong, Doris Blackwell Smith, Elaine and Roger Bunger

made arrangements for lunch during April, May, and June to be at Walker's. The response was outstanding. Twenty-eight members of the MHS Class of '63 showed up and talked and laughed together for up to two hours. "First Thursday Lunch" was a hit.

The plan is simple. '63 Mustangs begin arriving at 11:30. Those who can't come until later are fine, because there are plenty of friendly classmates to keep them company for as long as necessary. Walker's allows the group to use the private dining room, which is located in the brick building in the middle of the parking lot.

The primary means of communicating information about "First Thursday Lunch" is email. The lunch is recommended for any

member of the Class of '63, especially those who live in the Jackson Metro area. Spouses and friends are welcome, but not required. When possible, classmates who live outside of the area are encouraged to arrange their visits to Jackson so they can join classmates for lunch.

As one '63 Mustang says, "Long before the meal is over, you'll be glad to be there. No matter what your recollection of our school days together may be, the memories will be sweeter after sharing 'First Thursday Lunch' with former classmates."

Submitted by Doris Blackwell Smith

## Bio Updates

### Jane Alexander

Jane was recently chosen as top teacher of the week by Fox 17 News and the Department of Education. She was also nominated by a student to the Who's Who of American Teachers. Congratulations, Jane.

### Dianne Allen Graham

Dianne, who lives in Monroe, LA, qualified at the Ridgeland Tennis Center in April to play on a Jackson 4.0 USTA tennis team.

### Ellis Haddad

Ellis emailed that he will be glad to send updated information on his family. He wrote that he has always felt that "I was able to make some contribution [to Murrah] through my membership in the 'Mustang' Band. We had very good leadership under the direction of Mr. Roger Dollarhide. These were the happiest times for me at Murrah, and I will always remember this fellowship with former classmates and friends. I was able to make a very good life for myself with a loving wife, a wonderful daughter and our first grandson born on February 24, 2004. I know now why they say that 'Your life will change forever'."

### Gayle Maddox Eiland

Gayle came to our "First Thursday" Lunch Bunch meeting at Roly Poly in February. We all had a great time seeing and visiting with Gayle after so many years. We might have had way too much fun though, because Gayle had to have quadruple bypass surgery shortly after. She is recuperating at home now and doing well with her therapy. Gayle and her husband moved shortly before the reunion last July and, therefore, they have a different address than the one listed in the directory that came with the Resume'.

#1121

711 Lake Harbor  
Ridgeland MS 39157  
601-573-5692

### Jan Tumas Foregger

Jan currently describes herself as "age 58, 140 lbs. (Whoa), bottle blonde, green eyes (they don't change, MUCH), use treadmill faithfully". She teaches special education in Water Valley, MS. She says she is very happy now after a life of turmoil for about three years: a November,

2001, divorce; the loss of her 1897 Victorian cottage home in Aberdeen to a house fire; and treatment for alcoholism. Jan has applied for an Earthwatch Grant and hopes to be traveling this summer. She says that before all the "mess in my marriage, I was a teacher consultant with the MS Geographic Alliance and National Geographic Society. I hope to get involved again. I met so many wonderful people and got to travel a lot." Jan's contact information has changed to

11 LaRhonda Drive  
Oxford MS 38655  
662-801-1943  
jforegger@yahoo.com

### Email Changes Continued from Page 9

Johnny Jones:  
jrandfejones@highstream.net

Susan Marland:  
fortson939@bellsouth.net

June Martin Milam:  
june@centralaccess.net

Genrose Mullen Lashinger:  
glashinger@cox.net

Billy Overby:  
woverbynt@cfl.rr.com

Ann Snowden Evers:  
eversann@comcast.net

Cathy Stephens Estes:  
cathyestes@bellsouth.net

Judy Storey McMillin  
work: judymcmillin@randolph.af.mil  
home: judymcmillin@satx.rr.com

Earl Stubblefield:  
estubb@aol.com

Mike Yarbro:  
golfer601@bellsouth.net

# Classmates Submit Address and Email Changes

Chicki Atwell  
PMB #421  
P. O. Box 7063  
Ocean View HI 96737  
chickiatwell@aol.com

Beth Cleland Harper  
15323 Springhill Bend Lane  
Cypress TX 77429  
281-516-2408  
charper35@houston.rr.com

Bruce Davidson  
#202  
7951 Tamarron Court  
Memphis TN 38125  
bdavidson@midsouth.rr.com

Jean Ann Doughty Fairly  
333 Highleadon Court  
Madison MS 39110  
601-856-7847  
jfairly@belhaven.edu

Eddie Harper  
(Since he and Beth Cleland are married - see above.)

Charles Kelly  
227 Valley Ranch Road  
Weatherford TX 76087  
817-599-5402  
cwkelly@charter.net

Gerald McCormick  
132 Glenway  
Jackson MS 39216  
601-368-9890

Linda Lou Smith Smith  
#2 3 Courtland Drive  
Hattiesburg MS 39402-8697  
601-543-2026

Gayle Smithson Poole  
4618 Maurey Road  
Jackson MS 39211  
601-982-8818

Ann Turnipseed McMurtry  
6078 Palomar Circle  
Camariollo CA 93012  
gcm@earthlink.net

Mary Lu Wells Cummings  
22403 Inverness Way  
Foley, AL 36535-9387  
251-970-1197

Sylvia Womack Nicholson  
Apartment 624  
11025 Larkwood  
Houston TX 77096  
832-248-8305

Lyle Bates: lbates@bottrell.com

Al Brady: jabrady@magellanhealth.com

Bill Buckley: w.buckley@comcast.com

Ladene Butts Strong: jebstrong@msn.com

Edsel Caine: edsel.caine@verizon.net

Carol Caldwell Sparks:  
d\_sparks@sbcglobal.net

Connie Dunn Overby:  
woverbynt.cfl.rr.com

Hervey Graham Folsom  
herveyfolsom@yahoo.com

Marc Horn:  
sandmarcs@bellsouth.net

(Continued on page 8)

# *To Honor My Father*

By: Julie Spann

We can't possibly capture the love, life and laughter that was Mike Spann during our short time together today...but I wanted to try to honor him through writing a few words.

Dad loved to laugh. If laughter does good like a medicine – we had plenty of medicine at our house! He used to say that he said things for his own amusement – and if others wanted to join in the fun – that was great!

Dad also loved his wife - he literally loved her from the first day he met her...and six weeks later he married her and spent the next 38 years loving her. He loved his kids from the day he found out they were on the way – and loved them with everything he had. He loved his sweet sister and had an incredibly special, close relationship with her.

He loved football, America, and Coca-Cola. He loved reading to children and getting up early in the morning.

He loved hearing his children sing songs and doing his Cowardly Lion impression...

He loved hot dogs and Jonathan Winters,  
Sunny days and Rich Mullins,  
Big Dog clothes and the Texas Hill  
Country,

Dr. Seuss and Rush Limbaugh...

Above all, though, Dad loved our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, with all his heart and soul. He took a little long way around to find our Lord – but he found him all the same. Through Dad's illness he would raise his hands in praise and in prayer asking for strength, peace, deliverance – and the Lord answered his prayers. Our sweet, gracious Lord has answered all our prayers.

When Dad had his heart attack in 1987, Psalm 121 was of such comfort to him and Mom...“I lift my eyes to the hills, from where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and

earth. He who watches over you does not slumber. Yea – he who watches over Israel does not slumber nor does he sleep...”

Dad may seem asleep to us – but the Bible says to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord – so that's where he is. He just went on ahead of us a bit. Dad said several times over the past few weeks, “It's all true. Every word in the Bible is true.” And it is. So read it. Read the Bible – the Word of the Almighty God who loves my Dad and is laughing with him right now.

Honor my Dad by reading and treasuring the truth...I challenge everyone here to do that – to read the truth, to learn the truth. What could be more worthwhile than a pursuit of truth? It is, after all, the very truth of God – not the invention of any man...



Mike Spann shortly before his death.

There's so much more about Dad that I thought his classmates at Murrah might want to know.

At Mississippi College, Mike Spann (Dad) gained some radio broadcast experience at the radio station and went on to broadcasting school. His career in radio gave him the pleasure of interviewing some wonderful and famous people: Jimmy Stewart, Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter, Nanette Fabray, and Henry Kissinger. Dad's favorite assignment was covering the 1977 Dallas Cowboys and obtaining signatures from Roger Staubach, Tony Dorsett, and

Preston Pearson. He even got O.J. Simpson's autograph when the Cowboys played the Bills one week!

Several of his local reports were also picked up by the Associated Press and were broadcast nationally. Dad also worked for several years behind the camera as an operations technician for Fox Sports and for American Tower Corporation (satellite uplinks).

My brother, Shane, is a firefighter and a songwriter/guitar musician. I work at a large police department as an administrative analyst in the office of the chief. My mom, Ann, is a craft designer and custom desktop publisher.

We were privileged to love and know Dad. We miss him terribly. I'm so glad you knew him when he was younger and would LOVE to hear any story – no matter how insignificant it might seem to you. Mom and I are compiling a special scrapbook and would love to include anything at all.

God bless you!

Julie Spann  
mgspann1965@aol.com

**Did you know that Mike Crowell's niece is married to Coach Carlisle's son?**

## **Coach Carlisle Honored**

**By Wallace McMillan**

Legendary Murrah Mustang football and track coach, Jack Carlisle, was inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in ceremonies Friday, April 2 in Vicksburg, MS. Carlisle was recognized for his achievements at Murrah High School, Jackson Prep, Ole Miss, Madison-Ridgeland Academy and other venues during his outstanding coaching career. Carlisle is still a favorite of many Murrah alumni, and many joined him at a pre-ceremony celebration sponsored by Friends of Jack Carlisle. The reception honoring Carlisle's career, was held in a private room at the Vicksburg Convention Center from 4:40 until 6:30 p.m. on Friday April 2.

## **Classmates Remember Mike**

Mike and I went to church together for many years and we were always in the same Sunday School class. Our long-time nick-name for him was Spike Mann.

Wallace McMillan

He lived a block away from me growing up, and I remember how fascinated Mike was in about the sixth grade or younger with a gyroscope, which he readily demonstrated for me. Now that sounds minor, but I remember how interested he was in scientific matters. Besides, he was a fine person and a good friend.

Jean Smith Vaughan

I remember Mike so fondly. We really did have fun in the color guard. Mike had a great sense of humor.

Bryant Boswell

I remember Mike well. It is so sad to see classmates leaving us.

Steve Miller

Mike and I were pretty good friends in high school. We had a lot of classes together. He was a great guy.

Hal Dale

# What's in A Name?

Our plea for a name for our Murrah Class of '63 newsletter did garner a few suggestions. To wit:

*The Echo of Hoofbeats* – Jim Ford  
(Was that a play off of the “Echoes” in the Reunion Resumé?)

*Mustang Silver Shoe Hoofbeat* – Gale Johnson (Rationale: When we were young we went barefoot, just like Mustangs. But now that we are older we have to wear shoes. Gale suggested changing *Silver* to *Golden* when the time is right. Should we give him an award for being the most associative thinker?)

*Hoofbeaten* – The Jackson Thursday Lunch Bunch

*Horse Since* – John Johnson  
(Clever play on words.)

*Hoofbeat* – Dave Edmonds  
(He definitely should win most original suggestion!)

Thanks to all of you who contributed your thoughts. However, the editors have taken the liberty of building on the “Lunch Bunch” suggestion, and the name will be *Hoofbeating*. This name should at least alert you to the fact that it is your Murrah email newsletter and that there is still news about which we should be beating (as in tom-tom).

---

---

*Hoofbeating* is published quarterly on-line by the Murrah High School Class of 1963.

**Editor-in Chief :**

June Martin Milam

**Managing Editor:**

Estelle Noel Mockbee

**Associate Editor:**

Doris Blackwell Smith

**Contributing Editors:**

Other classmates featured or noted in this edition

**Graphic Design:**

June Martin Milam

**On-Location Photographer:**

John Johnson

**On-Line Publisher:**

Mike Mockbee

Send information to be published in

***Hoofbeating* to:**

Estelle Mockbee

1404 Roxbury Place

Jackson, MS 39211

email: reunion@gulf.com



Cartoon submitted by Sandra Black Eubank.

---

---

**Cover Picture: Linda Sue Gilmore, Julia Walter Allen, Mary Agnes Keeton Hall at Reunion at Walker's**