

HOOFBEATING

Class of 1963

Table of Contents

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Features | 1,4,8 |
| Bio updates | 10-13 |
| Address changes | 9 |
| Deaths | 6-7 |

Winter-Spring, 2006

Classmate Returns to Bailey as Teacher



THE INDIVIDUAL
IS BEST EDUCATED
WHOSE KNOWLEDGE
IS BROADEST
WHOSE UNDERSTANDING
IS DEEPEST
AND WHOSE SERVICE
IS NOBLEST
IF SOCIETY WOULD JUSTIFY
ITS INVESTMENT
IN EDUCATION
LET IT DO SO
IN THESE TERMS

(Inscription on the front of the Bailey auditorium)



Did Thomas Wolfe have it right: You Can't Go Home Again? But that was September 1940. Forty-five years later, Thad Amacker has been going home again –as the art teacher at Bailey Magnet School, or as the majority of the MHS Class of 1963 knew it: Bailey Junior High School!

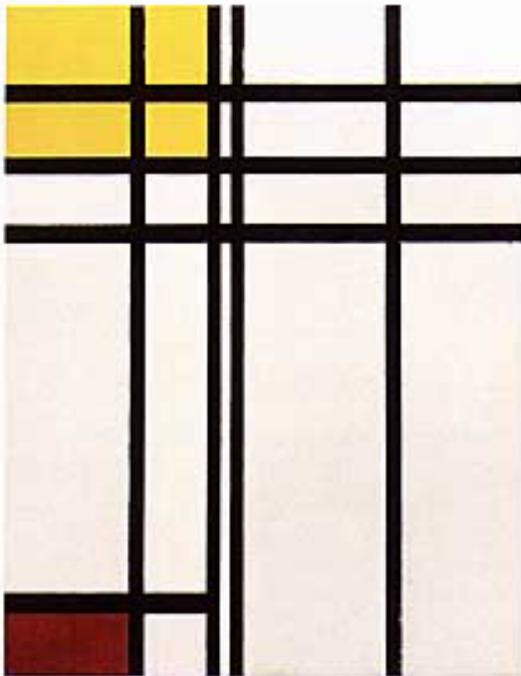
Several years ago, Thad, after having owned and sold a Hattiesburg picture framing shop and then after selling IBM PCs for Entré Computers, communication services for MCI (pre-WorldCom), hearing aides for Beltone, cellular phones for BellSouth, and hospital nurse call equipment for Sound & Communications, realized that he needed to rethink his career. His heart was in art and in teaching art. He completed his education certification in the summer of 2003 and began instructing art classes at Callaway High School in Jackson that fall. Two years later, he truly came back home - to the basement of Bailey and next door to the classroom where Mrs. Dinkins taught art classes in the sixties – the room that once served as a shop class. (Remember the plexiglass letter openers and the bookrack with one's initial on the ends?)

Bailey is challenging because there are only 3 electives these days: band, choral music, and art. Home Ec and Shop/Mechanical Drawing have gone the way of all us dinosaurs. Because 75% of the approximately 500 students at Bailey don't choose to sing or play an instrument, art exists as the default elective. Therefore, when Thad gets these students most don't really care about art. Thad's goal is to change that attitude and get the students engaged in art education.



Brit's name disk

Two projects have been entirely successful: name disks and Mondrian-type studies with horizontal and vertical black lines accented

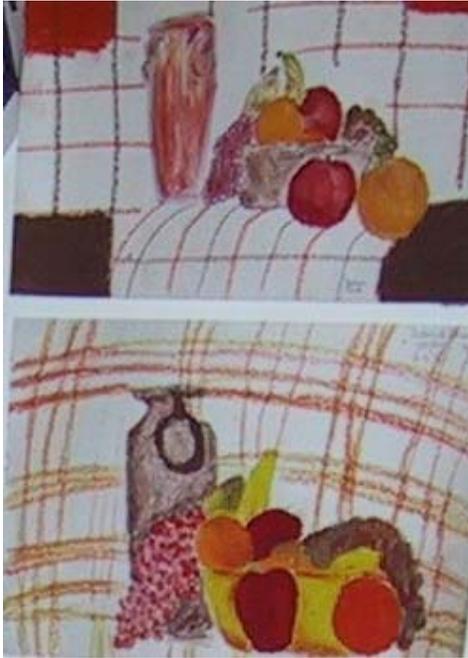


Example of Mondrian work

with primary colors. The name disks are kaleidoscopic in appearance and are made by folding a circle of paper in half repeatedly until you have a wedge that is one-eighth of the circle. Starting at the outside and working in, write your name in any style lettering you like. Then copy it to each of the other wedges and color it in (see the photo included). Thad had one project, which took advantage of the prize-winning exterior architecture of Bailey. That assignment was so successful that he may extend it to include the Art Deco interior features of the building. (It would be wonderful if he could talk the "powers that be" into painting the columns at the interior first floor center of the building their original color – it would re-enforce their design as an Art Deco highlight.) Thad includes lessons in calligraphy, figure drawing, and facial studies. He also makes use of slides to introduce his students to artists like da Vinci, Van Gogh, and Matisse and to their works. He feels that it is important that they have some basic knowledge and awareness of art history and of the artists along with their characteristic styles.

Thad strives to make them realize how interwoven their daily existence and art are whether it be industrial design, clothing design, architecture, or even album (CD) covers. In fact, if he sees a student doodling wheels, he points out that some industrial "artist" designed those wheels for automobiles. And he helps them explore career options, using what they are covering in class. Currently they are working on the structure of faces, and he ties that into *Extreme Makeover* (plastic surgery) and *CSI* (crime scene investigations) since those shows are so popular on TV now and are therefore interesting to his classes.

As this is Thad's first year at Bailey, he is still trying to get a feel for who is really talented and/or interested in art so that he can encourage them to continue for another year and then



Example of student artwork

channel them into further art education at the junior or senior college level.

You may remember that Thad has been married to Alice (Don Holder's sister) since 1986. She has just retired after teaching for 34 years at Brandon Middle School, and as he says "she hasn't looked back"! They have one son Drew who is a junior at Jackson Academy and who like Thad's two daughters is both smart and outstanding (treasurer of his class). The daughters are Petrina, a graduate of Tulane and a New York City architect, and Ariana, also a Tulane grad who lives in Chicago and is associated with Lexis-Nexis as an account representative for such clients as Price, Waterhouse.

In Memoriam: Tommy Roger Wallace, Sr.

Tommy Roger Wallace, Sr., 60, passed away on Saturday, October 15, 2005, at the G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery V.A. Hospital in Jackson after a long illness. A military memorial service was planned for a later date at Fort Rucker, Alabama.

Tommy was listed on the official graduation roster for the Murrah High School Class of 1963. It is our understanding that he was orphaned during his senior year in high school and came to Jackson to live with his aunt, Marjorie B. Williams. He finished his course work for graduation at Murrah and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, later transferring to the Army to receive training on Chinooks and fixed wing aircraft. He served two tours of duty in Viet Nam, two in Germany, and one in Korea. During his distinguished 28-year career he received numerous medals, including the Purple Heart, two DFCs, and the Legion of Merit. He retired as a Major and was most recently living on River Bend Road in Lena, Mississippi. Tommy is survived by his son T. J. Wallace of Cleveland, North Carolina; brother, Bill Wallace of El Paso, Texas; and numerous extended family members in Crystal Springs, Mississippi.

Classmate's Poetry is Published

Imagine my surprise and delight when I received the letter ... the letter that most "wannabe" writers dreams of receiving. Yes, it was the acceptance letter ... accepting one of my poems for publication in an anthology of poetry and vignettes.

I've been writing poetry and short stories for more years than I can count. I have to admit ... most were written as a form of therapy ... as one writes in a journal or a diary. Most were never meant to be read by anyone, except maybe those closest to me. However, when I took some creative writing classes several years ago, I then had to force myself to write things that someone else would read.

That was really a hard thing for me to do ... since everything I had written up until then had been fact, not fiction ... autobiographical, in a sense. But I dug in and used my life experiences to start writing fiction ... or elaborated on my journey to where I am today. It started to be fun ... and the compliments of my fellow students and my professors made me begin to realize that just maybe I should do something with some of what I'd written, that maybe I did have a gift.

That's what led me to submit the poem to Sunpiper Press in the first place. Well, actually the call for submissions is what convinced me. The call was for writings of inspiration, writings telling of an experience that turned your life around or inspired you to do great things. I didn't have to think twice about what poem I would submit.

I had written a poem about 15 years ago telling of an experience I had while searching for an answer to the age old question: "What am I doing here?" I may not have received a definitive answer to that question, but I was given an answer to many unasked questions. My answer came from an encounter with a bald eagle in the mountains outside Salt Lake City, Utah.

*"And in the sky against the blue
With wings of golden tan,
An eagle soared just out of reach
And turned to come again
In its feathered face of white
Its eyes stared into hers
As she turned her eyes up toward the
sky
And spread her arms wide
She felt the touch of the eagle's wing
My God, my god
You've answered me'."*



An excerpt from "The Eagle, Her God", by Kathy B. Hayes

As written by the editors of Whispers of Inspiration, "It's been said that a man must first move himself before he can move the hearts of others. In this diverse collection, each poem not only captures the thoughts of its readers, but aspires to touch their souls, as well. Individually, each piece of the puzzle

proves thought-provoking and heartfelt. Collectively, however, the entire portrait provides undeniable evidence that none of us is ever alone."

I hope you will read this beautiful compilation of novice and veteran contributors ... my promise to you is that you will be touched ... deeply.

www.whispersofinspiration.com

Julia Walter Allen Announces Studio Open House Y'all Come!



POOR JULIA
SCRAP METAL
ART

www.poorjuliaart.com

601 981 3610

Come Celebrate the
Opening of
Poor Julia's Studio
4615 Womack Dr Jackson
Open House
Saturday May 6
10:00-6:00

Come and enjoy:

- Poor Julia's studio and shop
- Artwork of friends:
 - Betsy Liles-jewelry
 - Charles Smith-paintings
 - Bill Peavy-blacksmith demo

Dress is Casual, Cool and Flameproof

Directions to Studio:

- Take I 220 to Exit 5 (Hwy 49/Medgar Evers Blvd)
- Go S on Medgar Evers~ 1/4 mile to Northside Dr; turn R toward Clinton(West)
- Go 1.5 miles (past Country Originals and American Legion Hall) to College Hill Dr. on L
- Turn L and go 1 block; turn R on Womack
- Studio is 4615 Womack- 2nd bldg on L

Classmates' or Teachers' Family Deaths

Carla Barnes Camp's mother, Mary Ellen McWhorter Barnes, 89, died at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in Jackson on Friday, March 17, 2006. Born in Forest, she grew up in Smith County, graduated from Jones County Junior College, and married her childhood sweetheart Silus Hurston (Si) Barnes in 1938. They moved to Jackson in 1940, and she began her career as a model for Kennington's and the Emporium. Later she was employed as the fashion coordinator for Gus Mayer, Maison Weiss, and The Frances Pepper Shoppe. Mrs. Barnes, the mother of two daughters (Carla and Lisa) was an active member of First Baptist Church.

Marsha Burks Megehee's mother, Melva Rester Burks, 85, died Tuesday, March 21, 2006, at Hospice Ministries in Ridgeland, where she had been an Alzheimer's patient for several months. She and her husband Delos W. Burks (attorney, retired Major General of the Mississippi Air National Guard, and former Deputy Attorney General for the State of Mississippi) had twice been residents of Jackson, following World War II. The only female colonel on Governor Bill Waller's staff, Mrs. Burks was a member of the DAR, VFW Ladies Auxiliary, Mississippi Official Women's Club, and First Baptist Church of Picayune. She is survived by her husband of 63 years and her son and two daughters.

Linda Sue Gilmore's mother, Helen Carolyn Lawshe Gilmore, 81, died Tuesday, January 24, 2006, at River Region Hospital in Vicksburg. A homemaker and longtime resident of Jackson, she had lived at the Vicksburg Convalescent Home for the past three years. Mrs. Gilmore is survived by her husband William Rhodes Gilmore and her seven children: Linda, Gay, William R. II, Emily, Becky, Barbara, and Patrick, as well as seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Milly Holmes Wilkinson's mother-in-law, Mattie Leah Carmichael Wilkinson, 93, died Saturday, January 21, 2006, in Jackson. Born in the Bear Creek community near Utica, Mississippi, she was educated at the Carmichael School and Utica High School before attending Hinds Junior College in Raymond, where she met John Wilkinson whom she later married. She also received special training for teaching the deaf. She began her long career in education at Liberty Grove School in Jackson. She moved from there to the Mississippi School for the Deaf from which she later retired. Mrs. Wilkinson was a longtime, devout member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church.

Larry Lewis' father, John Hart Lewis, Sr., 96, died Thursday, March 2, 2006, at his home, which was in downtown Jackson and located between the old Sun 'n Sand Motel and Wright and Ferguson Funeral Home. A lifelong resident of Jackson, he was a retired investor and a member of the Beth Israel Congregation. Mr. Lewis was the father of three sons: Tommy Lewis (deceased – MHS Class of 1962), Larry, and John H. Lewis, Jr.

Glenda Locke White's father Rupert Alvin Locke, 91, died Wednesday, December 28, 2005, at his home in Tracepointe in Clinton, Mississippi. If you remember, Glenda's mother died in April of this year. Col. Locke was a retired military officer who served in World War II and was with the Army of Occupation in both Germany and Japan. Just before his retirement, he

Continued...Classmates' or Teachers' Family Deaths

was Commander for the Mississippi Military District. Following that, he was associated with the State Employment Service in both Kosciusko and Jackson. (Note: Glenda died of ovarian cancer on November 9, 2001.)

Ron Marble's mother, Dorothy Davis Marble, 88, died Saturday, February 25, 2006, at Decatur Health and Rehabilitation in Decatur, Alabama. Mrs. Marble was born March 19, 1917, to Ham Odell Powell and Ruby Emma Davis Powell. She was the mother of three sons: Charles Edward (deceased), James Odell, and Ronald Lee.

June Martin Milam's father, Lawrence Bradley "Foots" Martin, 91, died Sunday, February 19, 2006, at Hospice Ministries in Ridgeland. A native of Lorman, Mississippi, he graduated from Chamberlain Hunt Academy and Mississippi State University. It was at MSU that he earned his nickname, "Foots", since he was always organizing touch football games. He worked first at Jackson State Bank, then at Mississippi School Supply Company before leaving in 1954 to form his own company: Central School Supply Company, which is now doing business as Central Access Systems. In 1941 Mr. Martin married Louise Moorner, who survives him. In addition, to his daughter June, he is survived by his two sons, Dr. Lawrence M. Martin and Karl A. Martin as well as six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Leslie Mathews' brother, Charles Loren (Buddy) Mathews, 73, died of bone cancer in Jackson on Thursday, March 2, 2006. He was the father of three children: Charles L. Mathews, Jr., John H. Mathews, and Lacey Chagnon. In 1960 Charles joined the staff of the Mississippi State Medical Association (MSMA) as assistant executive director. In 1972 he was named executive director of MSMA and served in this position for 26 years. He and his wife Phoebe had retired to Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, and were completely devastated by Hurricane Katrina this past year.

Earl Stubblefield's younger brother Steve, 56, died Tuesday, February 14, 2006, in Jackson. He lived all his life in Jackson, attending Jackson Public School (Special Education), The Little Red Schoolhouse, and the Willowood Development School. He was a resident of Mustard Seed for 14 years. This past summer Steve was diagnosed with a bone marrow disease called myelodysplasia. One of Earl's mother's "heart's desires [was] to be able to outlive Steve so she would know she had always been there for him." The following is a mealtime prayer that Steve learned at Mustard Seed: "God, Thank you for this food and the angels watching over us."

Mary Williams Cogburn's mother, Sarah Holliday Williams, 88, died Friday, January 20, 2006, at Hospice Ministries in Ridgeland. A native of Montgomery, Alabama, she had lived in Jackson since 1952. Mrs. Williams worked with her husband Bob for 25 years in the furniture business as a manufacturer's rep and later as owner of Mid-South Contract Sales. She had two children: our classmate Mary and Mary's older sister Lisa who is married to Albert Davis (**Lucian Davis'** older brother).

What Do “THUNKS” and Hurricanes Have in Common? Answer: Margaret Mendell Thompson



Margaret and husband Larry at home

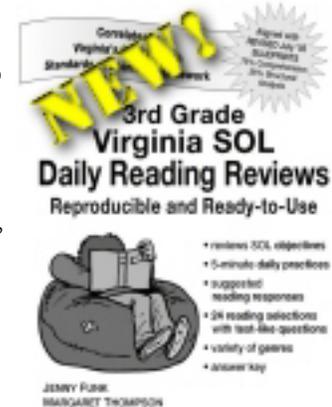
At the end of December Estelle Noel Mockbee decided that it was time to do some clearing out. There was a short stack of *Reunion Edition Resume*'s and a few stamps designated for said book. Also there was the fact that postal rates were headed north on January 8, 2006. The only thing to do was to go through the list of those people who had not bought said book in 2003 and choose a few lucky Class of '63 members to receive a gift from the class. Below is a wonderful response from one recipient:

“We just moved back in July to our home in Deltaville [Virginia] after being hit by Hurricane Isabel two years ago. I can't imagine what people on the Gulf Coast and

in my native city of New Orleans must be enduring. Larry and I count our blessings, chief among them the friends who helped us. As far as FEMA and the Red Cross are concerned, I have little to say. There are still people living in trailers in the Tidewater area of Virginia. Isabel was a mere Category 1 storm, so I'm afraid Mississippi has a long, hard road ahead until full recovery. If there are any classmates in need of assistance, please let me know. If nothing else, maybe I can lend a little moral support. There is light at the end of the tunnel.

There was an error in the info by my picture. I did not graduate from Ole Miss. I did attend MSCW and then Ole Miss while Larry was in pharmacy school. When he graduated, we moved to Virginia. I finished at Christopher Newport College (now a university) and taught in elementary school. I was released from my contract in the December after the hurricane (2003) to concentrate on home repairs, etc. I have not returned to the classroom, and truthfully, I have no desire to do so.

It is funny what paths life takes you. I was in a team teaching situation. As our yearly goal, Jenny Funk and I wrote daily reviews and weekly quizzes for our students to practice for the rigorous Virginia state tests children are required to take each spring. Our scores were so high that our principal suggested we have the reviews printed and that we market them, which we did. We hoped to just meet printing costs, but our little company (THUNKS – combine Thompson and Funk – the name our combined class was called) far exceeds anything we expected. We now have a total of five books and one in the works that we sell to schools and teachers throughout Virginia. We hope to expand to New Hampshire and its tri-state area where Jenny is now teaching special-ed. I am not writing to brag about accomplishments, al-



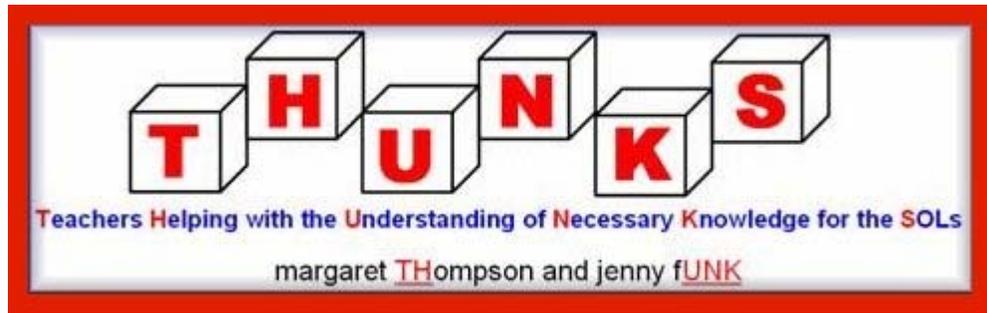
though I am proud of what Jenny and I have done. My point is: Larry and I will never recover financially from the hurricane, but God

gave us a way of getting through the ordeal at this time in our lives. Pass the word on: there is hope!

Although I have never maintained close contact with anyone at Murrah, I will always appreciate the academic foundation I received. In fact, I have not found another school that comes close to it. Northern Virginia schools are supposed to be the finest in the country, but not one of them in my opinion, measures up to good old Murrah!

I was so shy and introverted during those teenage years. I was afraid to talk to the boys and many of the “beautiful” people. I have my husband to thank for breaking me out of my shell and showing me my own self worth. I’m enjoying life now more than ever.

I would love to hear from old classmates and renew friendships. God bless you all.



Address and Email Changes

Atwell, Beverly “Chicki”
310 Crepe Myrtle Lane
Madison MS 39110
601-898-1418

Bruce Davidson
5825 West 59th Street
Chicago IL 60638
630-740-8226

Betty Claire Dees Stockwell
deesbee@bellsouth.net

Walton “Walt” Dunn:
waltjrdunn@bellsouth.net

Bill Locke:
litlok@dejazzd.com

Margaret Mendell Thompson:
mthompson@inna.net

Barbara Miller Marshall:
mouse41245@bellsouth.net

John Morgan
2554 Shavano Peak Drive NE
Rio Rancho NM 87144
505-867-6644

Bill Ross
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Charles Richey (aka Jeremy Wind):
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Larry Sanders:
whiskers52@aol.com

Judy Storey McMillin:
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Jan Tumasz Foregger
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Madison MS 39110

Pat Walton Gray:
kudzu46@aol.com

Susan Webber Rodgers:
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Henry Wooldridge
14114 Northshore Drive
Lenoir City TN 37772
865-988-4235

BIO UPDATES

Doris Blackwell Smith and husband Ron took their annual spring break trip with their children and grandchildren in mid-March – destination New Mexico.

Kit Davis Barksdale's son Edward and his wife Susan presented Kit with her first grandchild, Ellen Eliza, born Sunday, January 15, 2006. Ellen Eliza weighed in as a beautiful and healthy 6 lb., 15 oz. brunette. This is the blessed news; the bad news is that Hurricane Katrina took Edward and Susan's Waveland home, leaving only the concrete slab.

Betty Claire Dees Stockwell sent the following update on January 2, 2006:

I have completed the 25 radiation treatments to my brain. Finished on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. It did a number on me. However, the great news is that the tumor above the left temple shrank ...to pinpoint size. The tumor on the back of my head shrank from 3cm to...7mm. I am to have a boost treatment later this week [January]. [The doctor] believes that should completely eliminate any problems in the brain...I am spending every minute I can with my grandkids. They are so beautiful and precious. What a blessing.

And on March 20, 2006, Betty Claire wrote:

I have been doing well lately, after I made it over a "bump in the road" named pneumonia. Keep the emails coming. I enjoy them: deesbee@bellsouth.net

Hervey Graham Folsom wrote an article, *Curtain Call*, on the Mississippi Theatre Association's annual festival and competition, which was held in Starkville January 12-15. Hervey's item appeared on page 13 of the January/February 2006 issue of *Mississippi Magazine*.

Marc Horn wrote:

Thank you so very much for the *Reunion Résumé*. It arrived this morning, and I immediately poured through the pages and wished very much that I could have shared the [40-year reunion] time with all of you. Maybe the next one will come at a time when everyone isn't going in six different directions at once, and we will be able to attend. Unfortunately we were not spared the wrath of the storm [Katrina] but by the grace of God we were spared. DeRidder [Louisiana] was not flattened like much of the southern part of the state was but there was considerable damage. I have a lot of work to do to rebuild the entire back yard, but that will just keep me busy for the spring and summer months.

Jean Magee Cox, who retired January 31, 2006, writes "my son [John Edward Neal, Jr.] ... told me last week [first week of January] that he and Donna are expecting in August. This is my oldest child. This will make my sixth grandchild. God has truly blessed me."

Barbara Miller Marshall and her husband Charles continue in their "busy mode": their daughter Erin is getting married this June. She has been living in California as a "single" but will be in North Carolina as a "married" with a stop in Clinton for the final planning and the ceremony itself. The only granddaughter (There are 3 grandsons: Matthew, Austin, and Cody) is son

Paul's daughter Hannah. The Millers are the proud owners of two horses now, and nine-year-old Hannah is learning the fine points of horsemanship. Her riding instructor told Barbara that her granddaughter is a "natural".

When **Johnny Morgan** emailed his change of address, he also included the following: "I was planning on moving from my big house in Diamondhead to a smaller place on the coast but Hurricane Katrina changed my mind about the coast. My house was mostly intact and another family bought it. They had lost everything in the storm. But there just were not any properties that I wanted on the coast, so I moved away from Katrina land. The mountains out here [in New Mexico] are really a change of pace for me. My house is a little over a mile high. I watch the sun come up over the mountains most mornings. My e-mail address stays the same."

In January the class received the following email from **Charles Richey**. It serves as a great Bio Update from him.

I am today, introducing a new website to sell my book, "Reflux Gone Forever". I was a sufferer of acute acid reflux syndrome and was addicted to Nexium - it almost killed me. I wrote this booklet to help others who also suffer from this disease. I also wrote this booklet to make money. It seems that at the age of sixty, I'd rather work at home in the company of my two dogs, than labor outside the house. Anyway, they don't shoot many network commercials here in Lackawaxen, PA., and I think that I do have something important to offer the public.

I don't ask you to buy this booklet, but it is important for me to receive as many "hits" as I can. Each extra "hit" on my website increases my chances of being picked up by Google or Yahoo - thus, a greater chance for success. So, when you have a spare moment or two, please just click on www.refluxgoneforever.com Feel free to email this site to all your friends and relatives, particularly those who you might suspect suffer from acid reflux, gerd, heartburn and acute indigestion. This is not a chain letter - there is no bad luck associated with not forwarding this letter to others, but I can use your help. I can use all the help I can get!

Bill Ross and his wife Kathy (Evans) still live in Corinth, Mississippi, but because he ran into Betsy Tumlinson at Callaway's Yard and Garden (where Betsy works), we know a little bit more about Bill and his life. First and foremost, his wife is also a Murrah grad though a little younger than we are. She is a member of the MHS Class of 1966 and has a BIG reunion coming up. Bill is still a physician and specializes in Emergency/Trauma Medicine. Their children are Melinda (34) and John (32). The most interesting feature in Bill and Kathy's lives is that they raise horses. Be sure and go to their website: www.docs-spots.com



Coach Charlie Rugg received quite a testimonial on March 28, 2006: "Charley Rugg is the best coach in America no one has ever heard of," according to LSU Tigers Coach John Brady. "For 30 years he coached as well as [North Carolina coach] Dean Smith. He just didn't have the stage to show it." Brady played basketball for Rugg at Belhaven from 1973-76. He says that Rugg is his mentor and constant influence. "And not a day goes by when Brady doesn't wish the world knows

about Rugg.” Brady made sure that the man who taught him the game of basketball would be right there with him and his Tigers at the NCAA Final Four semifinals at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis.

Charles Safley’s daughter Amy is finishing nursing school this month and granddaughter Ava will start preschool in September. Hopefully pictures will follow (or as *they* say “film at 10:00”).

Larry Sanders sent us the nicest thank you note recently and included an update on his college-age son:

I want to thank you very much for sending me the 2003 *Murrah Résumé*. I enjoyed looking back in time at the faces that I once saw in the halls at Murrah. Back then I didn't care about school, as I should have. I know I should have now. If I had it all to do over again I would do things a lot different. Hindsight is great, isn't it? I am just making sure that my only son now does not make the same mistakes as I did about school. He went to Meridian CC on a baseball scholarship and then signed with Southern Miss for one year and is now at Delta State on the baseball team. He may not play a lot since he had shoulder surgery last March [2005] but is doing great in his rehab. He is a senior this year.

Judy Storey McMillin and husband Harry have moved to Vicksburg, Mississippi, to be near their son Mike, his wife Andrea, and grandson Jeff. Judy has already made the move. Harry is finishing up his career in San Antonio, Texas, and will join her in “river city “ in June. Their new contact information is located elsewhere in this newsletter.

Julia Walter Allen and her scrap metal art were featured in the January/February 2006 issue of *Mississippi Magazine* (i.e., “The Wedding Issue”). The three-page article was beautifully written by Eileen Bailey and illustrated with the creative photography of Tempy Segrest.

Pat Walton Gray emailed recently:

I wanted to thank you for the issue of [*The Résumé*] you sent me; it was interesting to see what some of the folks were up to after all these years. While in Jackson and prior to Mike Power's death, I was able to keep up with some of you. After all these years it is funny how some of us have gone on to much higher ground, and some of us have stayed close to home base. My life has been a simple one. After 2 failed marriages, I finally found my soul mate, and that is in Bob Gray. We have been together since 1989, married in '94, built a house in the country, have 3 wonderful grandkids, 3 dogs and 2 cats; now what more could you ask for?

Pat also indicated that she would try to join the “Mustangs Who Lunch” on the first Thursday of the month at Walker’s when she is able to work it out.

For the seventh year **Tom Watkins** has hosted the major fundraiser, Wilde Game Feast, for Ronald McDonald House Charities at his home, Las Retamas, in San Benito, Texas. This year the feast was held on January 21. Tom’s son Stele and he recently spoke with his daughter Courtney who models professionally. She just completed a Lands’ End shoot in Florida and had a Toblerone* Chocolate assignment on April 10. Once again, hopefully photos will follow. (*A

Google search indicates that Toblerone is “the legendary Swiss chocolate with honey and almond nougat.”)

Jean Smith Vaughan received an email from **Carson Whitsett** the last week in March. He said that he has successfully completed chemo and radiation and has a certificate to prove it! He always sends his thanks for your emails, calls, concern, and prayers:

carsongs@aol.com



Phase Two of Boyd Renovation is Complete

Students at Boyd came back to school after the Christmas 2005-2006 holiday break to find a whole new exterior “look”, a new cafeteria, and a new approach for carpools and buses. In addition, staff moved into the new administrative offices and the media center during the winter break. Landscaping, which will further enhance the aesthetics began on January 5. The \$4 million in improvements represented the completion of two parts of a three-phase renovation. The project entailed demolition of 6,000 square feet of classroom space, added to the building when many members of the Murrah Class of 1963 were fourth grade students at Boyd. This work was necessitated because of foundation problems, which caused structural distress to the addition housing those classrooms.

Construction crews have already begun on the final phase of the project: three additional classrooms off the south wing. The foundation has been poured, and the structural steel work began the week of March 23. Originally scheduled for completion by the end of this month, Ed Van-Sice, director of construction for the Jackson Public Schools, indicates that a more reasonable occupation date is the first of June. The project was carried out in three phases because of the logistics of construction involving an occupied school. Five hundred fifty third through fifth graders attend Boyd this year.

Bailey Junior High School Revisited



“Despite the wear and tear of thousands and thousands of junior high feet and hands, the architectural grandeur that landed Bailey Junior High on the front cover of *Life Magazine* in the late 1930s still shows through.” (Barry Camp, husband of Carla Barnes Camp, for the *Northside Sun* during the 1985-86 school year)

Bailey was designed by architect N. W. Overstreet and his associate Hays Town as a poured-in-place concrete building. This was a ground-breaking construction technique in 1936 when the school was begun. The design was drawn from European Modernism, Art Deco, and Style Moderne, but the building itself owes its power and expression, not to the superficiality of the style-of-the-time but to the uncompromising display of a new building material. Named for Jackson educator Edward L. Bailey, it was constructed to be north Jackson’s first junior high school and was to house 1000 students. The building was completed in time for the 1937-38 school year and existed as a junior high school until the end of the 1985-86 academic year. It is at this time a magnet high school for the entire city. Bailey’s first principal was R.J. Landis followed by R.B. Layton, and Howard J. Cleland who moved on to lead Murrah High School. Dr. Cleland was succeeded by A. L. McCormick, the father of MHS Class of 1963’s Gerald McCormick.

Award winning features of the building include statues at the entrance of the auditorium, bas-relief depictions of Choctaw Indian chief Pushmataha to the south of the main entrance and of Andrew Jackson and Thomas Hinds to the north. There are several other bas-relief designs located on the north side of the building outside the gym, over the exterior door to the cafeteria/gym corridor, and on the upper north and south exterior walls of the auditorium where there is the head of a girl on one side and a boy on the other.

But these special features did not end with the exterior of the building. Inside where the main corridors meet in the center of the main floor, there are magnificent columns, swooping stair rails, concentric ceiling circles framing light fixtures, and inlaid ground-down polished terrazzo floors. Even the classroom doors show evidence of Art Deco design, and the shorter east-west running corridors still boast their original quarter-sawn oak flooring.

Murrah Class of 1963 member, Thad Amacker, who teaches art classes at Bailey Magnet recently updated us on the school. The cafeteria is still located in the same area as it was in 1957-60 when most of us were students there; and it still turns out pretty good food. There are currently about 500 students, including those who participate in ROTC, which was part of Central when we were high schoolers. The teachers' lounge is located on the mezzanine floor below the library in what was Mrs. Terrall's home ec room. The audio visual room on the second floor is now a physics class, but it still has its sloped oak floor which provides great entertainment for the students, because their desk chairs are on casters! The single classroom located in the building's central tower has been used for history, French, study hall (both during and after normal school hours), and until recently for in-school detention. However, it is currently empty except for some stored supplies. Most of the building's windows have been replaced, but according to school rumor many were installed upside down, leading to moisture problems and peeling paint. The JPS District is in negotiations with the contractor over this situation.

As Barry Camp wrote "[Overstreet and Town's] design gave the building character, the kind of character that seems to be missing in the more modern institution-like school buildings of recent years."

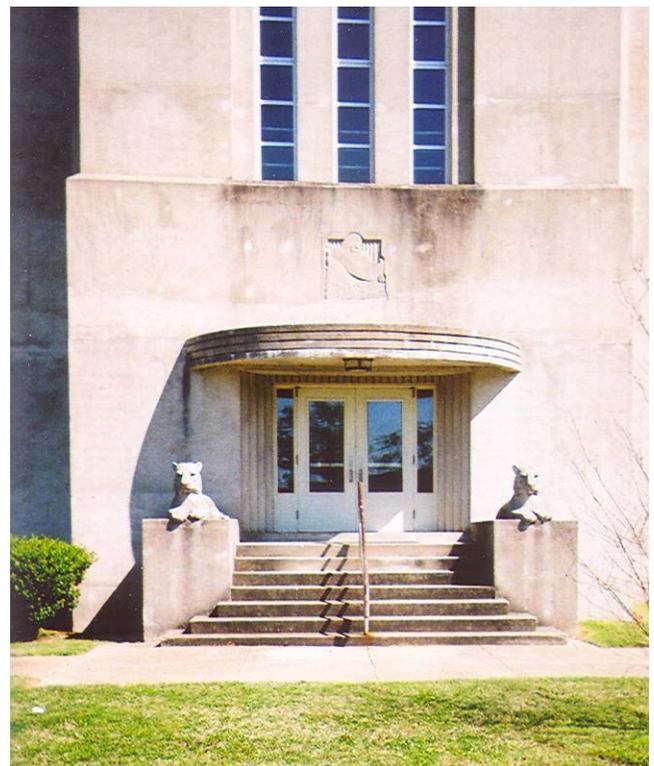
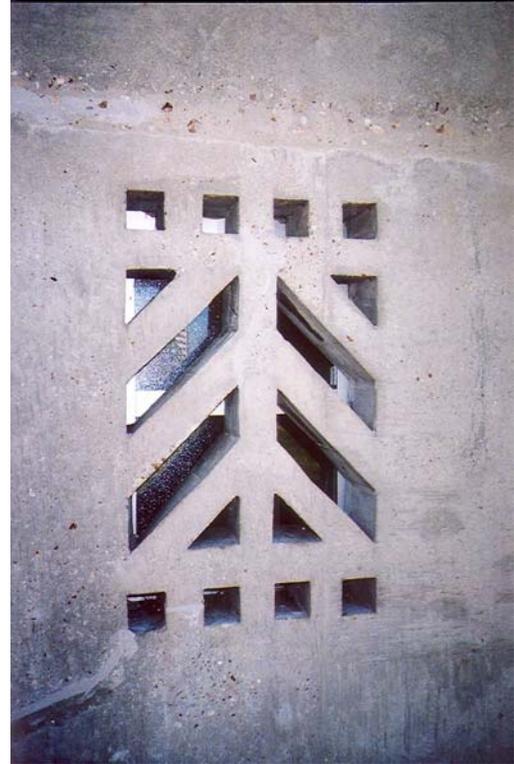


Bailey Gym (2006 pictures)



The main entrance to Bailey celebrates the history of the Jackson area.

A Study In Art Deco



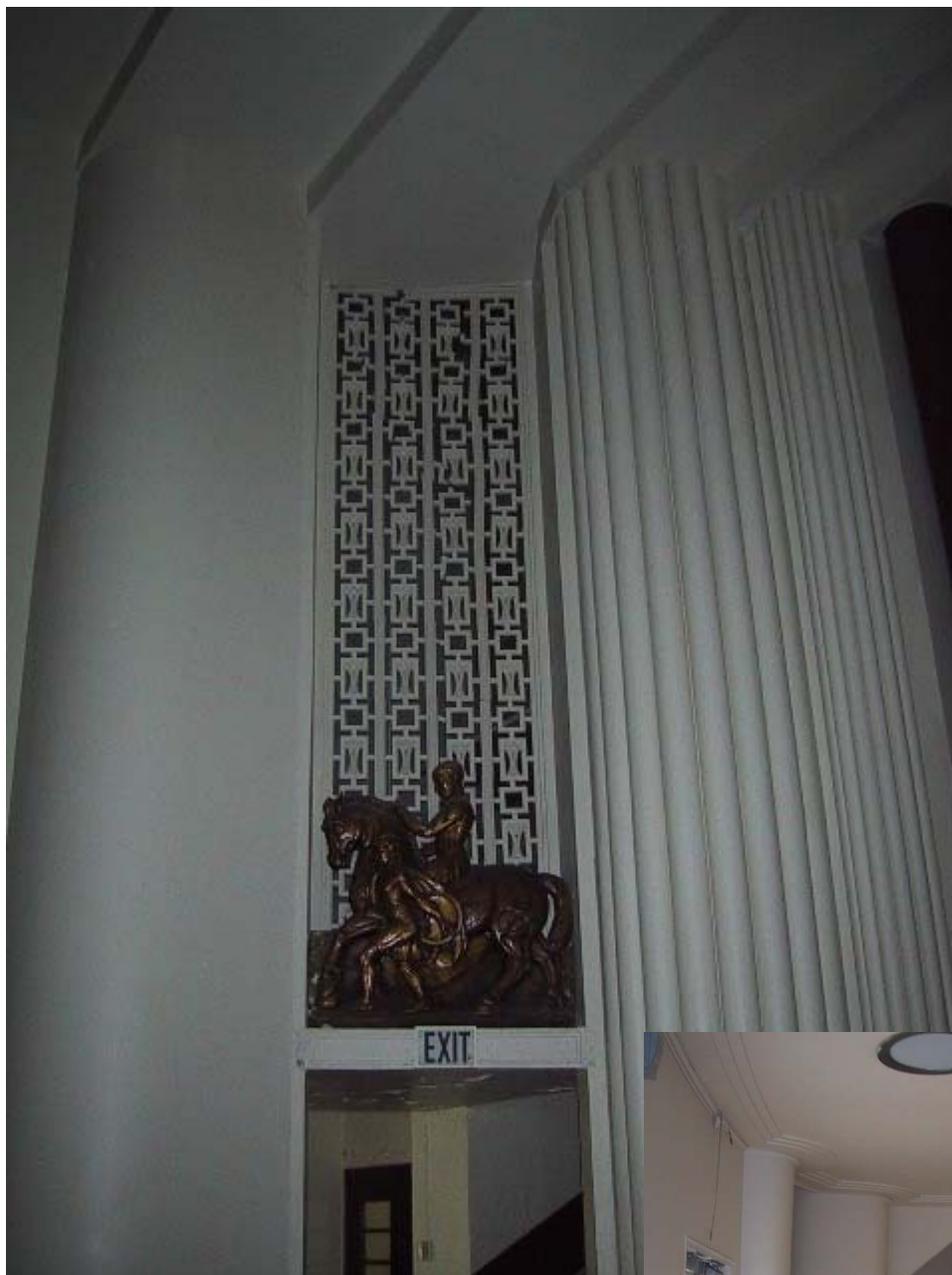
The Auditorium

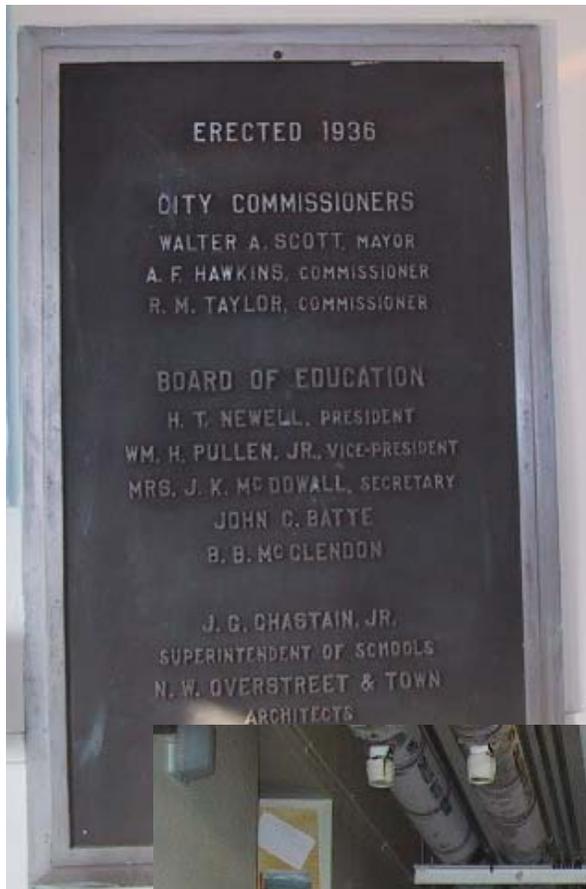


The Interior Hub of Bailey



Auditorium Interior





So Long, It's Been Good to Know You!

Class of 1963 Photo Gallery



**Steve Waldron's Grandsons:
Crittter (Jamison) and Otter (Jude)**



**Sandy Chustz Schreiter's Granddaughters:
Caroline and Corrine**



**Irene Gayden Mangum's Grandchildren:
Holland, Cassidy, Cade, and Katy Keller**

Class of 1963 Photo Gallery



1958-1959 Bailey Football Team

Storey and Barnes



McEuen

HOOFBEATING Memos

If you have an announcement (for example, Poor Julia's invitation on page 5) that you would like to have included in an upcoming issue of this quarterly newsletter, please contact estelle@ongulf.com.

About the Class Website:

www.ongulf.com/mhs

Be sure to check out the new user-friendly pop-up menu.

Remember too that you can access the current addresses and telephone numbers of all class members both alphabetically and geographically by state.

You can pull up any past issue of *HOOFBEATING*.

You can check the "In Memoriam" listings.

Lillian Irene Breland

was born on

April 17, 1907

She will be 99 this year!

**Miss Breland would probably love a birthday card.
If any former student wishes to send her birthday
greetings, her address is as follows:**

**1055 Meadowbrook Road
Jackson MS 39206**

Please add

mockbee@ongulf.com

to your address book
or "buddy" list
or "safe" list
or "approved" list
or "trusted sender" list
or "whatever" list

to insure that
you will continue
to receive
the quarterly
(or "whenever")
newsletter

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

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